

# BBS

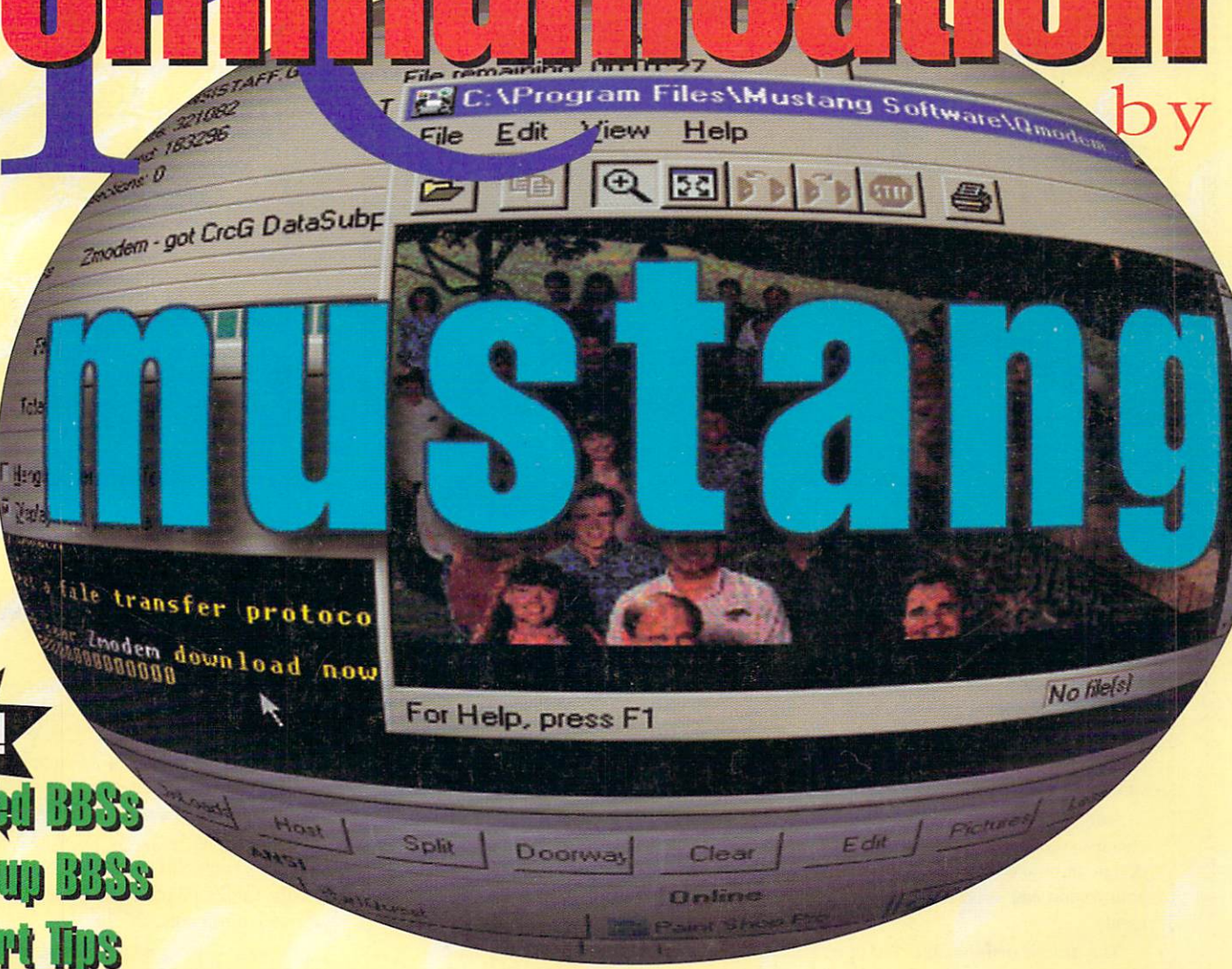
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Qmodempro.windows95

# Qomunication

by



More!

- Netted BBSs
- Dial-up BBSs
- Expert Tips

Constructive Surfing: Oxymoron no more  
 Computer Horror Stories?  
 Cry to Lazlow/win a prize



# Wow! You can do this

Users easily manage their mail online or offline with distribution lists, file cabinet, address book, in box, out box and more.



Create stunning menu screens, complete with hot spots, customizable buttons, list boxes, moving ticker displays, animation, sound effects and more.



Offer surveys, applications, tests, data collection forms and more, and allow users to immediately view tallied results online.



Configure up to 10,000 discussion areas or Internet newsgroups for users to exchange ideas on a variety of topics.

## A Powerful Client/Server Online Environment

Extend your workgroup environment to the outside world. Run your own graphical online service on one computer. Add multimedia presentations. Support up to 256 users on a single computer. With Worldgroup, it's easy.

Only Worldgroup, Galacticomm's premier client/server online platform, allows you to design an online system that's customized to your vision and configured to your requirements.

The freely distributable Windows client provides an exciting graphical interface and brings application-specific intelligence to your users' PCs. And your server can run on a single DOS or UNIX computer.

Animations, 24-bit graphics, hypertext links, digital audio — any look and feel you envision can easily be created for your Worldgroup interface.

## A Secure, Full-Featured Platform

Offers users a rich suite of interactive applications — with e-mail, group message areas, teleconference, polls and more.

The server manages all security issues through its Locks and Keys architecture, ensuring rock-solid system integrity. Users can access your service via modem, LAN, ISDN, the Internet and X.25 networks.

For non-client users, ASCII, ANSI and RIP terminals are also supported, bringing you the widest possible audience.

## A Single Internet Solution for DOS or UNIX

You can become an Internet access server with the Worldgroup Internet Server for DOS or with Worldgroup for UNIX. Provide SLIP/CSLIP/PPP accounts to authorized dial-up and LAN users so they can browse the World-Wide Web.

Allow your users to exchange Internet messages with SMTP e-mail, NNTP newsgroups and POP3 mail delivery capability for cross-platform compatibility.

Promote your products and services over the Internet with a stunning multimedia Web site. Forms, imagemaps and secure Web pages are all supported on this standard HTTP 1.0-compliant Web server.

# over the Internet?!!

Users can chat, whisper, sketch diagrams and exchange files with each other in the multiuser teleconference.



Set up your own Web site to promote your products and services over the Internet.



Users can browse through full-screen file listings and easily download files of interest.



Online help is available at every window, with explanations on how to use Worldgroup's services.

You can even create a hypertext link for Web callers to download your client program so they can enjoy Worldgroup's fully interactive services.

## A Gateway to the Internet and a Site on the Internet

Take advantage of the Internet as a global TCP/IP network for workgroup applications. Give your users access to the Internet with telnet, rlogin, ftp, finger and IRC client capabilities.

And, you can let Internet users access your system's services with telnet, rlogin, ftp and finger server support.

## Visual Basic and C Extensibility

With the Worldgroup Client/Server Developer's Kit you can customize your sys-

tem to suit your needs — and even create your own add-ons — using Visual Basic on the client side and Borland C++ for the server side.

But you don't have to be a developer to benefit from Worldgroup's open architecture. You can plug and play dozens of add-on applications from Galaticomm and our network of Independent Software Vendors.

Offer online shopping, voice/image teleconferencing, group schedulers, document management, fax servers, SQL databases and more.

## Make the Connection to Worldgroup

You can make your service accessible via modem, LAN, serial link, TCP/IP, ISDN and

X.25 networks. Only Worldgroup gives you this flexibility.

Discover for yourself the most open, cost-effective way to provide a successful online server. For more information, call your favorite Galaticomm dealer or call us direct today.

**1-800-328-1128**  
(outside the U.S./Canada, 954-583-5990)

Or browse us at  
<http://www.gcomm.com>

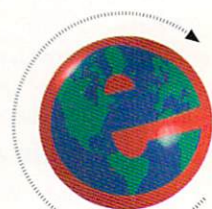


**GALACTICOMM**  
Bringing your vision online

**Excalibur BBS lets you do more things** like download a file and play a game and hit the Internet and preview a photo of a hot redhead and preview a photo of a red hotrod and design a menu using TrueType fonts and object-oriented or bitmapped graphics which according to **BBS Magazine** "make the likes of America Online pale" and chat with an attractive sysop who's impressed with the size of the new online database and the fact that you got the terminal for free and you're really glad you can keep on chatting while you download yet another file and think to yourself no wonder **Windows Magazine** named Excalibur to their Top 100 list because after all what other BBS lets you do so many tasks so well **at the same time.**

## **Excalibur** BBS For Windows

Modem into the Excalibur BBS HQ at **918.496.8113**. **Voice** 800.EXCAL BBS.  
**Web** [HTTP://WWW.EXCALBBS.COM](http://WWW.EXCALBBS.COM), **Email** [SALES@EXCALBBS.COM](mailto:SALES@EXCALBBS.COM)  
**Excalibur Communications, Inc.**, 2530 East 71st St., Suite E, Tulsa, OK 74136



**excalibur**  
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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JANUARY 1996

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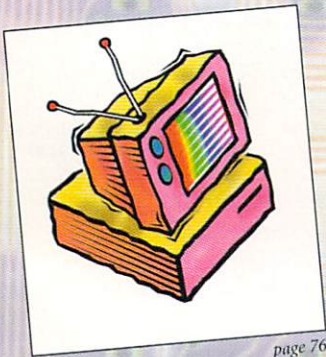
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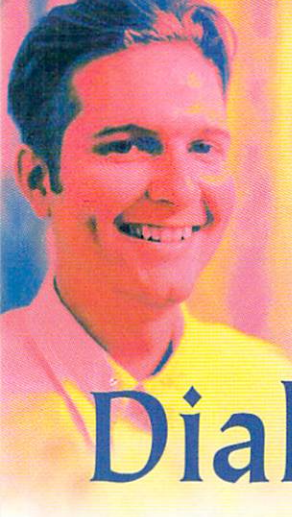
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# readme<sub>to</sub>txt

## Dialing TOMORROW



**G**ood planning and great technology have put Mustang Software ahead of the other guys on the "For Windows 95" telecommunication bandwagon. They did it with QmodemPro for Windows 95 (released last August) and they did it seemingly without cutting corners to beat the rush.

This consistently reliable communications program that has cycled through DOS, Windows and now 95 — turning thousands on to BBSing along the way — is more equipped than it ever was, with cool new entries like Telnet, TAPI, OLE 2.0, drag and drop handling, and 35 terminal emulations. For details and a critical look, check out author David Wolfe's review on page 12.

Call it "hype in the pan." This one came and went just like that, though it will probably be sparking up again — and soon. I'm talking about something called Web TV. And if you think you know about it, guess again. Jacqui Kramer (Future Tense) did, and wound up with lots of answers — and perhaps a few more questions. Stay tuned to page 76.

Lazlow (Technoraves), in case you missed it on his radio broadcast, is running a little contest. He's looking for your nightmares — the real ones that include your computers. You say you slipped and dropped your new Pentium down two flights of stairs where it bounced, smashed through the front window, flew past mom on the lounge and came to rest with a "kerplunk" at the bottom of your swimming pool? Too bad. Cry to Laz with the others and maybe win a prize (page 22).

Speaking of whining, to all those doubters and general complainers who say the Web's nothing but a vast playground for the non-constructive, money-grubbing, ego-stroking and over-indulgent, I say you're only part right. Actually, there's as much excellence as excess on the Web. And on page 18, Dave Kramer (Webwise) proves it with some cool places your head will thank you for.

Oh, and don't miss the "contest" we're helping get off the ground. It's a kind of callers' choice awards for the top 20 BBSs on the SBI List of Telnettable BBSs (probably the most comprehensive list of such boards). Read a little more about it on page 68 at the start of the monthly run of "Netted Boards."



**Web BBS?** — Things move fast in our business. Make that both of our businesses — media and online technology. It's a double whammy that keeps the adrenaline pumping and the fact-filters up past their bed times.

It almost calls for clairvoyance, this craft of putting it all together in the hope that your premise holds past presstime and pans out in exactly the pattern you foresaw.

There are times when this prescience conflicts with converging forces, however, as was the case a couple of issues back when we used the convenient phrase "Web BBS" to describe an element of a product we were reviewing. For shortly after deadline that month, Dan Linton over at Linton Enterprises, Inc., made strides toward trade-marking the term for his own product ("Web BBS" reviewed in the November issue).

Unfortunately, we'd already gone to press. So to those who caught all this and were confused by it, I'll try and be less accurate next time in my coining of phrases. For those who've no idea what I'm addressing here: nevermind.

Rick Robinson, editor@bbsmagazine.com

# BBS

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# APDI – The Nation's Largest Service Bureau

With over 500 simultaneous connect lines (and growing fast!) APDI is the nation's premier Service Bureau providing customized on-line systems for corporate and professional organizations nationwide.

APDI will work with you to design your on-line system and then implement and operate it at our state-of-the-art Service Center located just outside of Washington, D.C. We provide all hardware, software and communication facilities required to make your system a success. We also provide a professional Help Desk to assist your users in connecting. You are free to concentrate on the data, APDI takes care of all technical details!

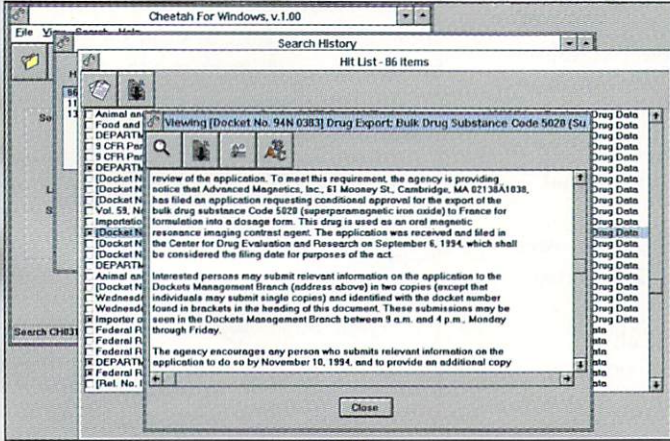
## Your Choices

APDI offers you a wide range of options for your on-line system including:

- **User Interface:** MS Windows Client, RIP, ANSI, Terminal
- **Connect Method:** Toll Call, 800 Number, Local Call Nationwide, ISDN
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- **System Design:** Customized to present your unique image

## On-Line Applications

APDI has implemented systems for some of the nation's largest organizations. We have developed service bureau applications for **publishing, associations, university courses, customer support, software distribution, CD-ROM order processing**, and more! If your project doesn't fit a standard application, we can develop a custom on-line system to fit your needs.



Screen shot from APDI's new Cheetah for Worldgroup Product

APDI's Cheetah product is the on-line industry's fastest and most powerful full text search and retrieval program. Search one or multiple databases using Boolean and proximity search phrases. Megabytes of data can be searched in fractions of seconds. You can take advantage of Cheetah on your system running at APDI's Service Center or you can buy the package to run on your in-house system. Cheetah is compatible with virtually all popular BBS programs including a new version for Galaticomm's Worldgroup!



President Mark Burnett in one of APDI's Computer Rooms

## What Makes APDI Number One?

### Our State-of-the-Art Service Center and Secure Environment

- USRobotics 33.6Kbps modems on all phone lines
- ISDN, Packet Switching, Frame Relay
- Fully redundant hardware systems
- Independent backup power facility
- Automated data backups daily
- Complete virus scanning
- 7 by 24 system monitoring
- Continuous technology refreshment

### Our User Support

- Professionally staffed Help Desk for your users from 9 a.m. to 12 midnight EST

### Our Customers and Alliances

Some of the largest and most progressive corporations, associations and even major online services have selected APDI to implement and operate on-line systems for them. Additionally, many manufacturers and service providers have chosen APDI as a business partner. Among these are:

- Galaticomm, Inc. • Mustang Software, Inc. • CompuServe Network Systems

### Our Reputation and Demand for Excellence

...having worked with APDI in setting up the PTO's on-line information system we continue to be impressed with their high quality of service and professionalism.

**Jim Moriarty, United States Patent and Trademark Office**

...we are very impressed with APDI's excellent support and operation of mission critical Worldgroup based on-line systems.

**Scott Brinker, President, Galaticomm, Inc.**

...CompuServe is excited about the benefits that APDI can bring to our existing and future client base.

**Jeff Kiely, CompuServe Network Systems**



**APDI™**

Application Programming & Development, Inc.  
6805 Coolridge Drive, Camp Springs, MD 20748

Ph: 1-800-785-APDI Fax: 301-449-1224 INFO@APDI.NET  
Worldgroup BBS: 301-449-1835 APDI Wildcat BBS: 301-449-6100

## WebSite Pro: Locking Security

O'Reilly & Associates is back with another World Wide Web server, this one called the WebSite Professional. What separates the newcomer from its predecessor is improved security: digital signatures and "privacy for the exchange of payment information, personal identification, and intellectual property."

WebSite Pro, which was scheduled for public release this winter, supports both Secure Hypertext Transfer Protocol (S-HTTP) and Secure Sockets Layer (SSL), the latter of which holds a cryptographically strong random number source. Translation: pretty darn tight security.

"I paid close attention to WebSite's random number source from the beginning," said Robert Denny, WebSite developer.

"Its design has been discussed with expert cryptographers, and the implementation has been validated."

According to O'Reilly, Denny developed Pro's security features with Enterprise Integration Technologies (EIT), creators of Secure HTTP.

WebSite Pro will also include other new features and upgrades from the earlier v1.0. One in particular is WSAPI, WebSite Application Programming Interface with enhanced logging, post processing and other features.

The price is yet to be set, but O'Reilly said there will be a special upgrade program for holders of versions 1.0 and 1.1 — 1.1 was released in December.

Give a call to 800.998.9938 for more information.

## Multi-Tech's DSVDs

MultiTech Systems has begun shipping internal and desktop V.34 versions of its own patented MultiModemPCS Digital Simultaneous Voice and Data (DSVD) modems.

# NEWS

If you're not familiar with these, in a nutshell you're looking at the ability to pass data and voice communication at the same time through your modem.

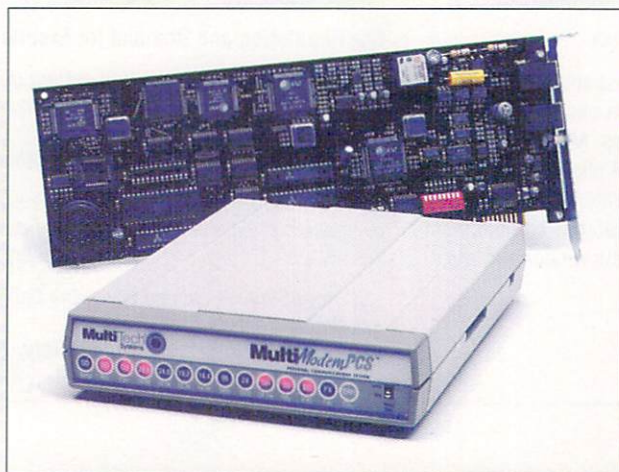
Applications are obvious, like telecommuting and desktop video conferencing — talk vox to the sysop while downloading files, etc.

The new modems operate with MultiExpressPCS answering machine software with the "Virtual Modem" driver, MultiExpress fax and data communications software, and TALKShow document conferencing software from Future Labs of Los Altos, California.

The PCS is \$899 (U.S.) for the desktop model and \$499 for the internal version.

MultiTech has also released a lower priced DSVD model, a V32bis version, for \$249.

For more information call 800.328.9717 or 612.785.3500.



## Turnkeys to the Web

They may be the hottest thing going. Their advertising boasts of taking all that technical, complicated stuff usually required for a complete Net presence and packaging it in a neat and simple, non-threatening, user-friendly, newbie-nice, one-stop Web box solution.

They're so-called "Turnkey Web Servers" and if you are in the market for a World-Wide Web server to run alongside your BBS, or need such an animal 'cause the boss says the company needs it, check these collections out first.

Two of the latest ones crossing our desks are from eSoft Inc. (known for TBBS software) and Beyond 2000 Systems, Inc.

With one of eSoft's \$6,995 Turnkeys, expect to find all the hardware (486DX2\66 or better) and software (WindowsNT and WebSite from O'Reilly) necessary for a complete Web site. Combine this with the company's \$3,995 Internet Protocol Adapter (discussed elsewhere in Newswire this month) and a leased line Net connection — both available from eSoft — and you're set to launch.

"Our customers want to be able to write one check for everything they need to set up a complete Internet site," said eSoft President Phil Becker.

The IPAD "integrates a router, terminal server, and an Internet client/server software suite," he said, concluding that "now, with our pre-configured Web server, specialized



# WWRB

## PCBoard, Salt Air Files on CD

Clark Development Corp. is now offering the best of its best on CD-ROM. Specifically, that's the best of Salt Air (the company's BBS) and a complete commercial version of its two-node PCBoard BBS software.

The CD, called "Best of the Salt Air BBS CD-ROM," includes thousands of shareware, demo and freeware programs — plus all the bulletins.

CONTINUES...

expertise is no longer needed to install and operate any part of a full-service Internet presence."

The Turnkey from Beyond 2000 (\$9,995), called WebWerx, includes hardware, WindowsNT-based software, Web page construction, documentation and technical support.

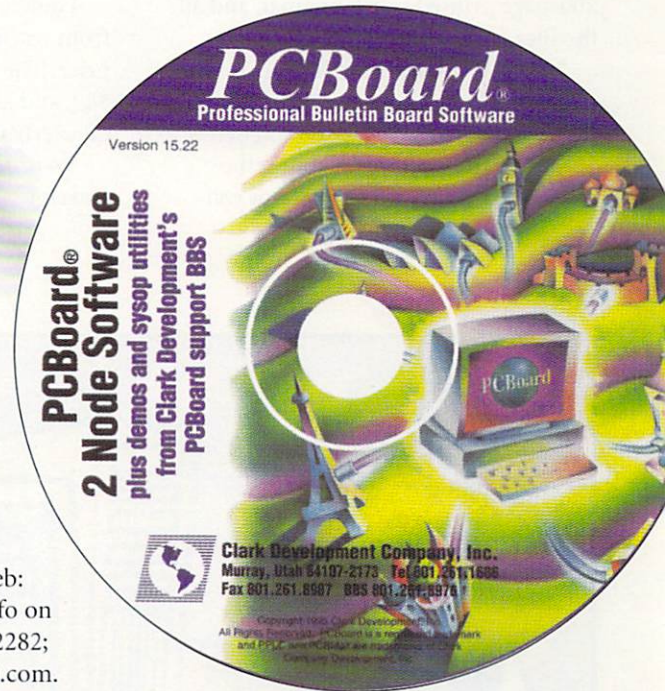
According to 2000, WebWerx arrives at your doorstep configured and pre-loaded with your Web pages (designed by 2000 and you) and ready for wiring to the Net.

The Pentium 100 comes jammed with Web server software supporting image maps, forms handling, Web-wide text searching, scripting, password

security, and the ability to incorporate CGI scripts that work with programs like Excel, databases and Visual Basic. The system will also track usage for different Web pages.

Beyond 2000 Systems says it also helps customers connect to an Internet access provider.

For more information on eSoft's Turnkeys, call 303.699.6565, or check the Web: <http://www.esoft.com/>. For info on WebWerx, call (CA) 800.441.2282; Web: <http://www.beyond2000.com>.



## Happy Holidays, Heather

Six-year-old Heather Shade knows what she wants in a Web page, and she knows just how to get it: Daddy.

"I code the pages, she orders me around," jokes Gary Shade. He's the dad who also happens to be sysop of Shades Landing BBS and a Web designer/Net provider in Apple Valley, MN.

After seeing the attention 13-year-old brother Jason got when he launched his "Snakes and Reptiles" page back when

she was five (local TV news came calling and over 3,000 hit the site in short order), she decided that was for her.

Unfortunately, Mattel gave a rather lukewarm reception to Heather's idea of a Barbie page (nice public relations, Mattel), so she moved on, undeterred, to bigger and better things — namely the holidays.

Now the Southview Elementary School kindergarten's running Heather's Happy Holidaze Page. It

began as the "Scary Halloween Page — Kids Only!!!" last September, and soon became a place where youngsters around the world went to reveal

what they were gonna be for Halloween via a neat Halloween Wall. There were also safety tips for kids and their parents.

Now Heather's getting

more email than Dad, and she's pretty insistent on responding and trying to do things herself.

"She's very independent," Gary said.

After Halloween came the Thanksgiving page, then Christmas and so on.

Heather's site has not gone unnoticed by adults, either — it was honored in October as the "Pick of the Week" by BBSONE.

To check out what holiday she's up to now, point your browser or Navigator at <http://www.shadeslanding.com/hms/>.



"We introduced the Best of Salt Air CD-ROM at our Conference last September and the response has been terrific. We quickly sold out of the first batch, then updated our master with all the latest files and bulletins from the BBS as of November first," said Steve Klingler, vice president of Clark Development. "We will update the CD-ROM every quarter, so it always has the latest files, bulletins and product information available."

The other disk carries the BBS software for DOS, including a fully indexed 700-page printed user's manual, and all the files and bulletins from Salt Air.

"The CD-ROM is a great way to distribute PCBoard because it allows us to include thousands of shareware, demo and freeware programs right on the disk," Klingler said. "New sysops can

easily try out all the latest doors and utilities without having to first download them from our BBS."

The CD-ROM version of the BBS software also comes with 30 days of free voice technical support; however, there are no free upgrades.

Look for the PCBoard CD-ROM from resellers, likely under the \$129 list price. The "Best of" CD is available for \$49, and an annual subscription (four quarterly updates) runs \$99.

To order directly, call Clark Development at 800.356.1686.



## eSoft's Launch-PAD

Say you've heard or read good things about eSoft Inc.'s IPAD, (Internet Protocol Adapter), but still can't quite put your finger on what it'll do for you?

Take some advice from eSoft itself and check out the "enhancements" to their Web site at <http://www.esoft.com>.

Among other things, eSoft presents here a cool guided tour of IPAD, giving scenarios designed to help exactly those who answered "yes" to our question at the top.

IPAD, for instance, can be used to establish a full Net presence without a lot of techie know-how.

Additionally, eSoft has included written articles on the Web site designed to take the mystery out of all the Net-connection options. (They're based on eSoft President Phil Becker's classroom programs.)

"Existing customers and prospects alike have made it clear they want more information available via the Web," said Alan D. Bryant, eSoft's marketing chief and Webmaster, "and we're working hard to respond."

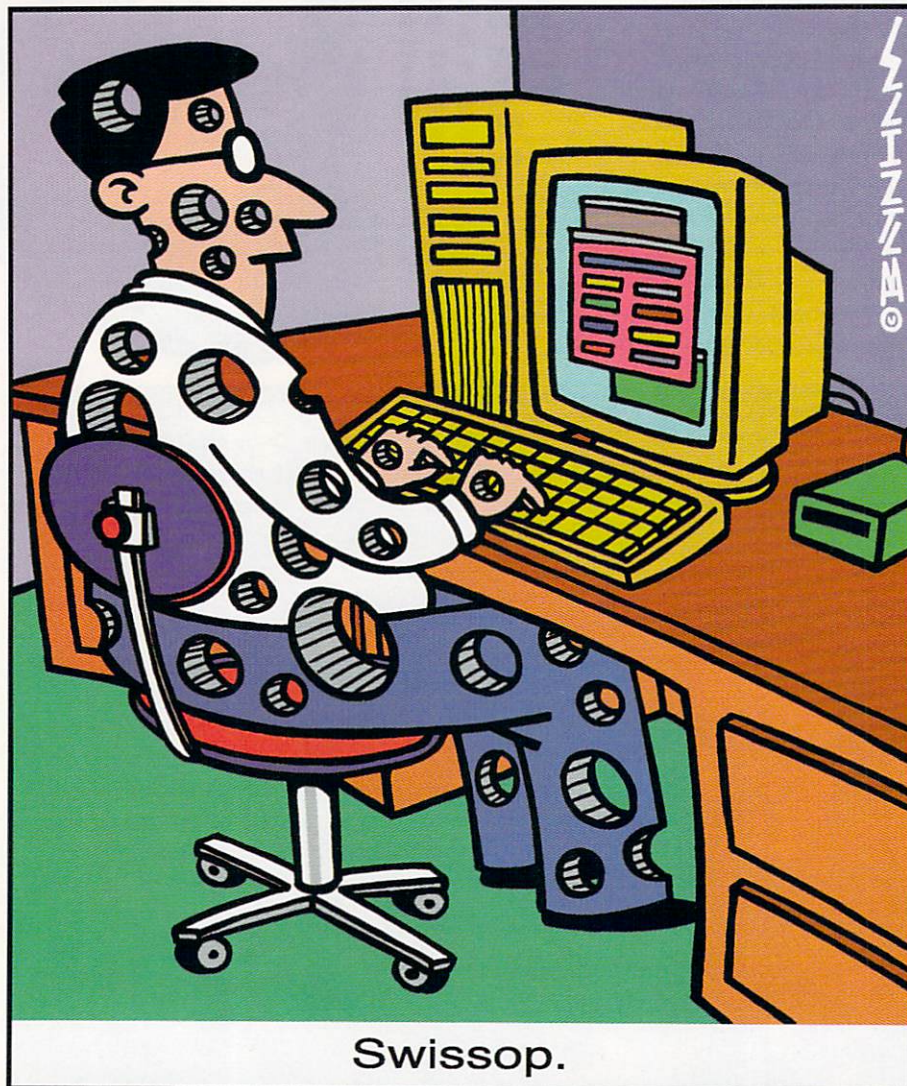
In other eSoft news, the company has taken over development of Durand Communications' DC Term — the communications package supporting the cool Windows Interface Protocol, or WIP. The software will now be known as WIP Navigator. Hmm.

Durand (MindWire for Windows) and eSoft formed an alliance of sorts in '95, the benefits of which are now becoming evident.

"WIP Navigator and the WIP protocol will allow sophisticated Windows-based client/server interfaces on conventional BBSs," said eSoft's vice president of R&D Robert Hartman. "With the release of TBBS version 2.4

Offline

by John Baynham

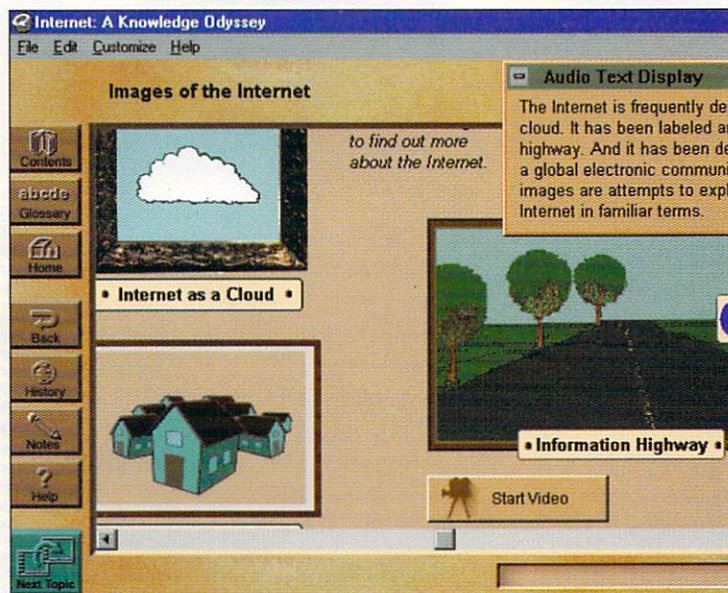
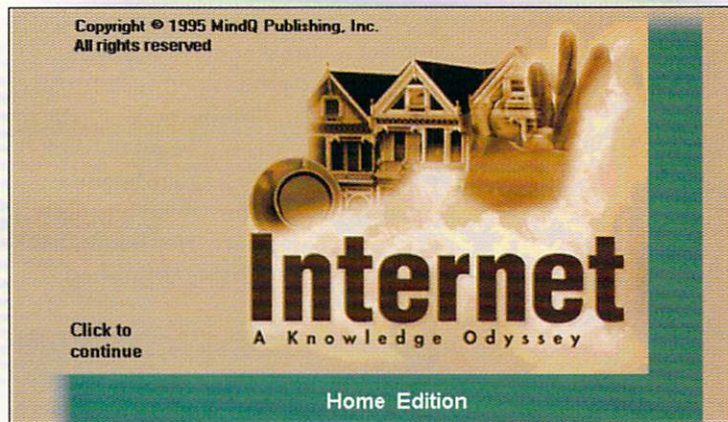


next year our customers will enjoy the benefits of a full-function graphical interface, through both direct dial and Internet connections.”

In an effort toward standardization, the WIP Navigator software and WIP protocol specification are both free: “We believe strongly that WIP is the protocol our industry has been waiting for, and we are ensuring its availability to everyone.”

## The Internet and the Odyssey

The Internet, A Knowledge Odyssey — it’s more than just another guide to the Net. This one from MindQ Publishing, Inc., packs a single CD-ROM (at least with the Home Edition we tried) with loads of tours, instructional features, helpful little movies and a database that’ll let you seek out topics of interest and connect



them with a Web site. Slap the icon with your mouse and you’re launched to the page. Don’t have a Net connection? The Odyssey provides one through PSI — free for the one-week trial period.

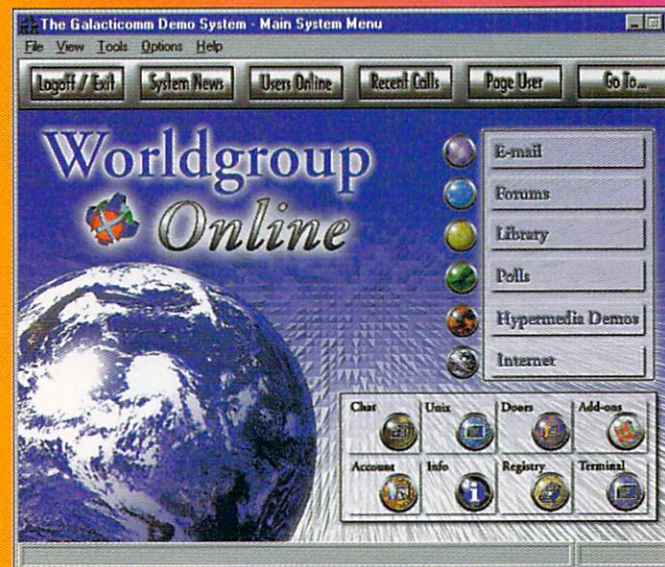
Much of the CD appears to simulate the online experience so you can get up to speed on the Internet without even logging on, cracking a textbook or calling that neighbor kid.

CONTINUES...



## MEDIA HYPE

If you haven’t seen Hypermedia from Galaticomm yet, it might be worth skipping Mystery Science Theater for a look. The Hypermedia multimedia extensions are distributed free to Worldgroup sysops (version 2.0 was set to ship last month) and the results of these rather simple-to-use tools speak for themselves. Take a look here at the Galaticomm demo board (above) and the main screen of New Mexico Online from ProDesign, Inc. Slick-ola. Some have argued this Hypermedia — with its “Hot Spots,” animations and buttons — makes BBSs look even more like Web pages. That it does, my friend, but how much interactivity do you have on that Web page again? Check out the Gcomm demo at 954.583.7808 or call voice to 800.328.1128.



# BBS Spotlight

**WHO:** the Realm

**WHAT:** Family-oriented BBS

**WHERE:** Ventura County, CA

**SOFTWARE:** Worldgroup

**ACCESS:** 805.639.2120; Telnet: castle.therealm.com

With the Web and big-time commercial services getting so much attention as the place to do business online, it may come as a surprise for some to find an independent BBS doing the very same thing, if only better.

You can call it the "fully interactive entertainment and multimedia service" or the "one-stop info shop," as sysop Lee Ladisky does, but Ventura County, CA's "the Realm" is at heart a family-oriented BBS with a business acuity and a penchant for nice graphics — all atop a simple-to-use custom Worldgroup interface.

Ladisky takes the board quite seriously, especially from a business standpoint: "We have already signed eight local Domino's Pizza locations, Sub Express, Dog Food Direct and many other merchants," Ladisky said, "including travel agencies and gift stores."

And each has a storefront on the Realm's virtual mall.

Hungry for pizza? Place an order and the Realm will auto-fax the request to the nearest Domino's. Don't want to leave Spot out? Order up some Science Diet chow right online.

Ladisky said this is especially convenient for BBSers with just a single phone line, as they can order pizza while gaming, downloading or chatting — no need to hang up.

(Uh, might we need to change that "couch potato" metaphor to PC Spud?)

Ladisky said the board grew out of the merger between his Beyond the Realm BBS and the smaller, neighboring Coastline bulletin board. But much has changed since the merger, including the addition of full Internet access (including SLIP), and a free two-week trial for all new callers.

"We guarantee to save CompuServe and America Online customers money, which is why we are growing at a tremendous rate," said Ladisky, who noted the board now has 1,400 members.

"Our least expensive membership can save an AOL customer over \$140 per month."

That's based on the Realm's \$7.50/month 90 min./day rate.

But the Realm's not just access to business, online games, and files in a supervised atmosphere. The board also offers in-person training seminars on topics such as the Internet and BBSing.

To contact the Realm, dial the 28.8 line at 805.639.2120. Or Telnet to castle.therealm.com and download the free client software. ■■■■■

Get it for \$39.95 at your favorite book/computer store or call 800.646.3008. Keep in mind there's also a Basic and Business edition with info specific to those kinds of users. For info on all three, check out their Web at <http://www.mindq.com>.

## Stamp Out Anonymity

File this one under "cybersilly." OK, so maybe it's not so silly — after all you can use this matchbox-size Cyberstamp marker to plaster your name and email address, Web site, or BBS number on any printed matter, such as all that letterhead that was printed up before you became cool and got a virtual address. But who wants to waste the ink on such frivolities when with a simple press of two fingers your vitals can be on the company bathroom door, your buddy's forehead... heck, just about any fairly dry, fairly flat surface. Hey honey, have the kids finished drying the dishes?



The Stamp from Copestone, Inc., is available in recycled plastic, too, and comes in different colors with your company logo or name printed on top.

Look to spend about \$17.95 a pop. Check out the Web site at [cyberstamp.www.com](http://cyberstamp.www.com) or call them (vox) at 800.880.CYBER.

## Concentric: Intuit Gets Into It

For those of you following such things, Concentric Network Corp. (formerly CRIS), the provider of network communications and BBS Direct, has teamed up with big-timer Intuit, Inc., to offer Quicken for Windows users free access to Intuit's new Web site (the



CONTINUED ON PAGE 74

## ***Offer SLIP/CSLIP/PPP Connectivity through your BBS!***

Major TCP/IP by Vircom is the first TCP/IP solution to provide Pass-Through SLIP directly on The MajorBBS and Worldgroup. Now you can offer your users accounts which can directly provide them with Full SLIP/CSLIP/PPP connections allowing them to use their favorite WEB Browsers. MajorTCP/IP is a proven solution being used by over 750 systems worldwide. It also offers your users Telnet, Rlogin, FTP, and Finger. Users can also telnet into your BBS from anywhere in the world! An SMTP gateway allows your users to send and receive Internet E-Mail virtually instantly. Major TCP/IP also supports DMA which allows you to create virtual BBS's composed of several systems. Call and ask us for details.

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Trade-Wars 2002 (multi-user).....	\$400.00
AutoWars.....	\$ 59.00
StoryLand.....	\$ 50.00
First Class Mail (mass mailings).....	\$ 99.00
Let's Get Personal Dating Registry....	\$ 79.00
GTEK Blackboard-4 (w/Cables).....	\$215.00
GTEK BBS-550 (w/Cables).....	\$395.00
GTEK Blackboard-8.....	\$515.00
BOCA-16 Port (w/Cables).....	\$349.00
ISK 115K - 16 port.....	\$ 1650.

## **COMPUTONE** Corporation

The IntelliServer is an expandable asynchronous communications server that combines the functionality of a high-performance terminal server with the extended communications capabilities of an Internet access device. It can be connected directly to a TCP/IP Ethernet LAN, and requires no special operating system device drivers. It is actually a compact, self-contained RISC workstation complete with 20MHz MIPS-R3000 compatible CPU, 2-4 MB of RAM, resident multi-tasking operating system, and menu driven interface. The IntelliServer has an impressive list of security and configuration features. Users can be automatically logged onto a specific host, offered a menu of host connections, or given access to the menu and shell. If desired, passwords can be defined for specific users and for administrators. IntelliServer's standard feature list includes full PPP, SLIP, and CSLIP support permitting IP devices to be connected over RS-232 serial ports at up to 200Kbps. This offers an ideal solution for sites that wish to implement cost-effective remote access, Internet access, and LAN-to-LAN connectivity. Each 16 port IntelliServer can be expanded using low cost 8-port and 16-port expansion modules. A single IntelliServer can support 64 physical ports, and up to 32 PPP/SLIP connections. These are ideal to run in conjunction with MajorBBS and Worldgroup by bringing in all users in via TCP/IP. This does not have the load normally associated with polling modems at high speeds.

Please call for pricing, configurations and availability.

## **Digital Consulting Services, Inc.**

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QmodemPro

It's 32-bit, multithreaded,  
programmable, and built  
for Windows 95.

Communic

The phonebook in QmodemPro for Windows 95.

The screenshot displays the QmodemPro application window with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Connection, Scripts, Tools, Help) and a toolbar. The main area shows a file explorer view of the phonebook with icons for Mustang Software BBS, CompuServe, GEnie, Flyin' High, Work, Edge BBS, MCI Mail, Holonet, Channel 1, Galacticomm, Collosus, Microsoft, eSoft, ExecPC, and Chalk Talk. The 'Edit Phonebook Entry' dialog box is open, showing the 'Connection' tab. It contains the following fields and controls:

- System Name:** Mustang Software BBS (with a 'Change icon...' button)
- Phone number:** Area code: 805, Primary number: 873-2400
- Country code:** United States of America (1) (with a 'Dialing properties...' button)
- Alternate Numbers:** A grid with four numbered input fields (1, 2, 3, 4).
- Connect using:** Practical Peripherals PM14400FXSA (with a 'Configure...' button)
- Type:** Data (with a dropdown menu showing 'Data', 'Voice', and 'Telnet' options)

The 'File Clipboard' window is also visible, containing a list of files: WCLIST.ZIP, WC26TD-1.EXE, WC26TD-2.EXE, DLXWDEMO.EXE, and ALLFILES.ZIP. It includes buttons for 'Add', 'Remove', 'Open...', 'Save As...', 'Look Up', 'Look Down', 'Send Separator' (set to Carriage Return), 'Long Filenames' (unchecked), 'Remove items on Send' (checked), 'Send Now', and 'Close'.

# ation

**T**hat low, bass-filled rumble you've been hearing — the one that's steadily been getting louder since, oh, August of '95 — is not an indication you need an otolaryngologist. Rather, it's something I often refer to as the incessant reverberation of "The Vendor Stampede Phenomenon."

Surely you've heard it, or of it — It's that sound made by the throng of software vendors porting their applications over to the Windows 95 format.

But way ahead of that throng — in fact, the first telecommunications vendor to port over its software — was Mustang Software. Its long-popular package has hit the ground galloping under its latest moniker: QmodemPro for Windows 95 (QMW95).

## Telecommunications '95 — a primer

Whether you swear by Windows 95 (or at it), you can't deny that it's here to stay. And with its introduction comes a different approach to PC computing that places a great deal of reliance on the operating system itself rather than letting the applications have full reign. This has been a trend in PCs ever since Windows was first introduced and something that Mac users delight in pointing out these days.

The first wave of telecommunications software was all DOS based (I'm talking PC stuff now). At the time most of us were pretty happy with that — what was the alternative?

Then came Windows.

Microsoft didn't even seem to give a hoot about telecommunications when Windows first appeared. So naturally, most first-generation Win-comm software stunk — bad.

Then Microsoft seemed to get (a little) hip, and when

CONTINUES...

by  
mustang

Windows 3.11 was released the internal telecommunication architecture of the operating system was much more solid and up to date (at least port speeds of 19,200 bps were supported). At this point, some really fine telecommunication software was created for the Windows environment that took care of most complaints folks had about Windows and its ability to get them online.

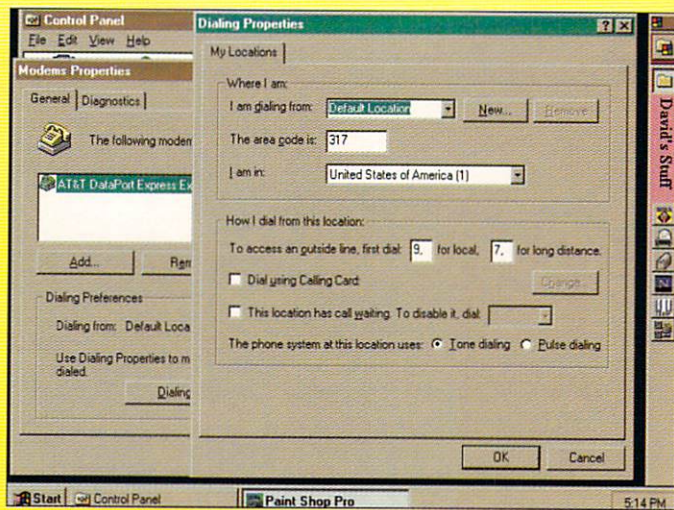
The problem (was it a problem?) with telecommunications and Windows 3.11 was that when a telecommunication application was fired up, it laid claim to the port it was using and until it was done with it, no other task could use that port. Until Windows 95 there was no way for the Windows environment to competently manage all the applications that might want access to the comm port to which a modem was connected.

Today nearly everyone is online in some way or another, whether they're utilizing traditional BBS telecommunications, Internet access, dial-up networking, PC faxing... whatever. A method for managing telecommunication software has been built into Windows 95 called TAPI, or Telephony Applications Programming Interface. Basically, this means applications which adhere to TAPI let Windows tell them when they can have access to the modem (comm port) or when incoming data is for them.

For example, you can now have multiple TAPI compliant telecommunication programs running in the background to receive data from a modem and the TAPI of Windows 95 will correctly route the incoming data to the right applications. This data might include faxes or actual standard data calls to a host application that may be running (e.g. QmodemPro running in host mode.)

"One of the major benefits of TAPI is that it will act as a 'traffic cop' and mediate access to your modem. You can have Microsoft Fax, Dial-up Networking, and any other TAPI-based application loaded up at the same time," said Bob Allman, of Mustang marketing. "The TAPI engine in Windows 95 controls which application has access to the comm port and prevents lock-ups. Try loading two or three programs that access the same comm port under Windows 3.1 and you'll begin to understand how nice TAPI really is."

Another great aspect of TAPI is the centralization of modem configuration. All applications that adhere to TAPI will draw from Windows 95's own internal configuration



Windows now maintains most, if not all of the configuration information a telecommunication application might need.

down on the setup time of new telecommunication applications and gives novice users a break when it comes to modem configuration. However, it can also be a pain if you happen to have a modem that is not supported (which is very rare), or you have a modem that's flaky and needs special attention (such as the carrier detect signal being on all the time).

One of the downsides of TAPI is the fact that the user is only put into direct contact with the port when necessary. For example, in QMW95 you are unable to send AT commands to the port unless you actually dial a number. It is assumed that Windows 95 has already initialized your port correctly and the only task QMW95 needs to do is make a connection.

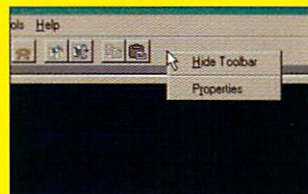
But, for certain, TAPI does help more than it hinders. With more and more transactions being handled via standard modems and PCs, TAPI will help keep things clear.

## So what about QmodemPro?

OK, enough about the guts of the darned thing. How well does the software work? In short, it works pretty well. This coming from a tried and true user of the DOS version of Telix should say something. (For the newcomers, read: cool!)

Qmodem Pro for Windows 95 is a solid 32-bit telecommunications package stuffed with a wide range of features, yet trimmed just right so as not to offer features redundant with Windows 95. For example, you will not find any internal fax ability to QMW95. Since Windows 95 comes with a decent

information about ports and modems which are attached to the computer. Until Windows 95, Windows just didn't keep track of all needed information about the telecommunication end of things. Now, Windows 95 will keep track of dial codes needed, modem initialization strings needed by the type of modem you have, calling card numbers and so on. TAPI-compliant applications draw from this well of information that the user gave to Windows 95 when the environment was first installed. This cuts



A right click of the mouse on nearly any QmodemPro for Windows 95 element (in this case the top toolbar) will allow you to change its properties.

**The QmodemPro for Windows 95 picture viewer beats them all. Not only will it display BMP,**



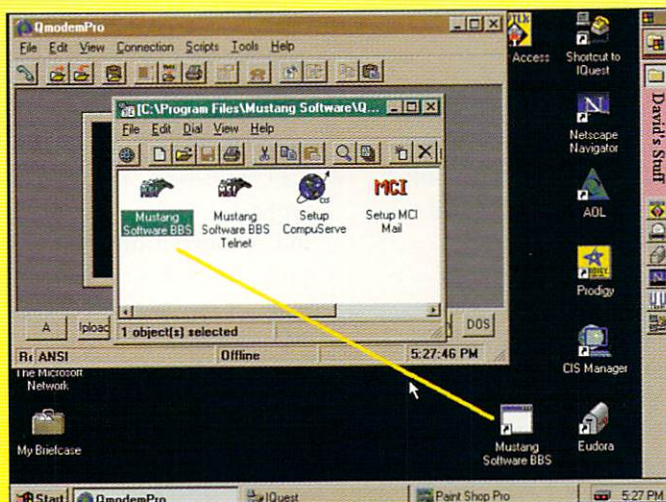
internal fax service, Mustang Software has decided not to clutter up things with its own fax software (as in past versions). The result is a very focused piece of software that does what it sets out to do, and very well.

One of the best features of QMW95 is its multi-threaded protocols. Now, even if you're an experienced Windows type like me, you might be confused by the term "multithreaded." Multithreaded simply means that when you begin a transfer with QMW95 with any one of its 10 protocols, a new processor thread is started which is independent of the primary thread QMW95 is running under. This aspect allows QMW95 to let the user to do other things with the program like compile scripts, alter settings, view the scrollbar log, and so on — all while a file transfer is taking place and without stealing time from the transfer.

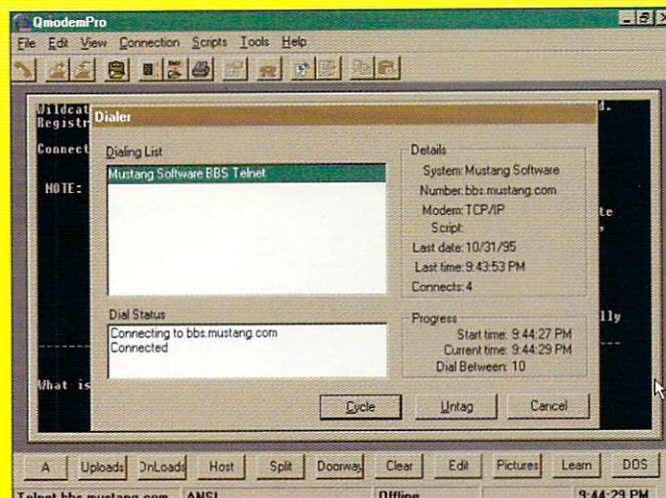
Many other applications including Windows HyperTerminal are single threaded, meaning that processor time is shared among all tasks the telecommunication software might be running.

Mustang's CEO Jim Harrer recognized this as a problem early on, noting that "as communications specialists and Windows 95 beta testers, we immediately recognized that consumers weren't going to be satisfied with the terminal software included with Windows 95."

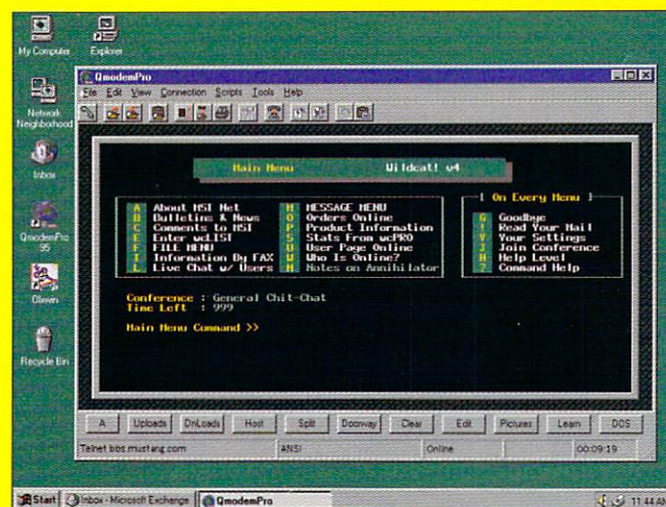
As for appearances, if



Dragging and dropping a dialing directory entry to the desktop is a snap.



Making a Telnet connection to the Mustang Support BBS. QMW95 is using the built-in Windows PPP dialer for its connection.



Telnetting with QmodemPro is a snap.

you like the look and feel of Windows 95, you'll like QMW95. Mustang Software has done a good job of making the software behave in all aspects like Windows 95. A right click of the mouse on almost any item in the QMW95 window will allow you to change its properties. Items like the tool bar at the top, the macro bar at the bottom and the center work space can all be customized to suit your personal tastes. And (newbies pay attention) don't look for a significant learning curve here — QMW95 requires little prior telecomm knowledge as the software is extremely intuitive and even the most novice of users should be able to pick up on it quickly.

QMW95 also supports the latest Object Linking and Embedding standards (OLE 2.0). Elements from within QMW95 like dialing directory entries can be dragged to the desktop and placed just like standard program shortcuts. Double clicking these objects will fire up QMW95 and begin a dialing process to that dialing directory entry.

Files displayed in Explorer can be tagged and dragged to the QMW95 window to be sent out via a file upload — very sharp. Since the QMW95 dialing directory is icon-based (some like it, some don't) the Windows 95 feel is again maintained.

Gotta hand it to Microsoft — things fit

CONTINUES...

**GIF or JPG files as they are being downloaded but it also allows you to change the zoom level.**

together pretty well in Windows 95. (Shut up all you Mac users!)

## Internet, Internet, Internet!

QMW95 now has internal Telnet ability which allows users to log into remote Internet hosts via a TCP/IP connection. Since Windows 95 now comes with an internal NetDialer which can establish a TCP/IP connection via a PPP socket, Internet access is easily had.

I don't know about you, but the vast majority of Telnet clients I have had the displeasure of trying to use have been very primitive beasts. All they really did was get you where you needed to go. (Only very recently have some come along to allow file transfers.) Traditional Telnet clients assumed you would fire up an FTP client to do file transfers — FTP clients sometimes being a nightmare in themselves.

QMW95 allows you to have the full range of telecommunication resources available to you over a Telnet connection.

Yes, you can now do Zmodem transfers with QMW95 via a Telnet connection. Since more and more BBS packages are being updated to have internal TCP/IP connectivity, this aspect of QMW95 comes just in time.

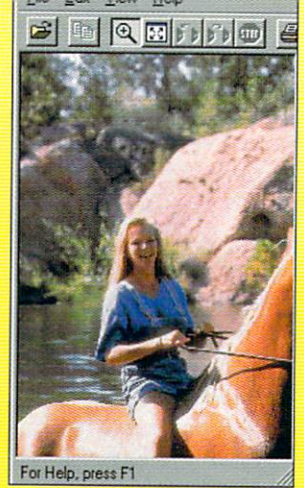
Though this feature is very needed now, I'm not too certain about how long this will be so. More and more BBS packages are going toward client/server arrangements where a unique client application is recommended for logging into a specific host (and required to receive the cool Windows graphics). PCBoard, Wildcat!, Worldgroup, MindWire, Excalibur, Media Host and other big names in BBSing have already moved or are heading toward client/server software. This trend itself may die a natural death, as so many other trends in telecommunications have. But I have a feeling it's around to stay... you'll just have to keep your ear to the ground on this one.

## RIP emulation

QMW95 is, I believe, only one of

three telecommunication packages that offers RIP emulation; the other two being Telegraphix's RipTerm and Telix for Windows. RIP is an emulation protocol that supports high-end graphics and gets away from the standard text interface that had been the face of telecommunications throughout the '80s. Unfortunately, RIP's popularity has waned in the last year or so as things have changed in the telecommunications industry.

Still, RIP has caught on to a significant degree and should stick around for quite some time in its current form. If you are a novice online user, finding a BBS that supports RIP can



make your online activities much easier since RIP supports icons, mouse regions and so on. QMW95 does a great job of handling RIP. In fact I'm surprised more telecommunications packages don't incorporate the emulation.

## Little things mean a lot

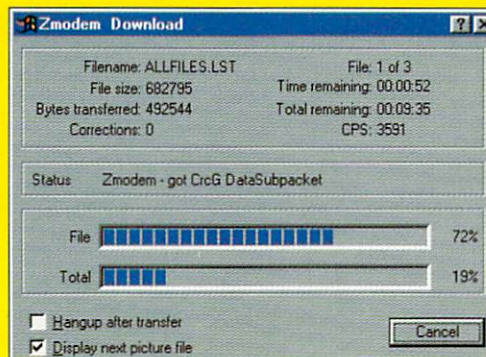
What about the smaller features that can make a software package so easy to use? They're in QMW95 in abundance. The following lists a few of the features that might make your online time quicker/better/more productive:

**File Clipboard** — The internal file clipboard allows you to tag files on screen

and save them to a local buffer. Then, you can send the file in a list to the host for download. This is one of my favorite features of a telecommunications package since it allows you to keep track of the files you want on your end. If the connection is broken, then you don't lose any queued files. Depending on the host to keep track of your tagged files can get you into



The File Clipboard is a great place to store a list of files you want to download. Just double click the file name on screen to select it, then drag it into the File Clipboard.



Detailing the download.

**QmodemPro has a much wider range of sound support**

trouble if you're a download hound.

#### MD5 Data Encryption

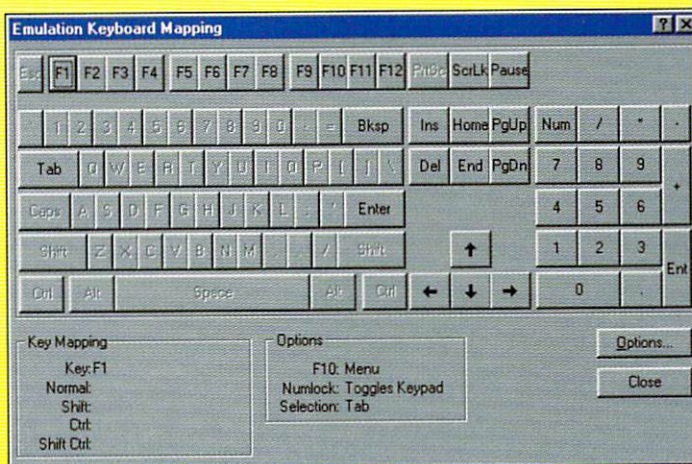
— One of the latest data encryption formats is MD5 (Message Digest Algorithm) developed by RSA Data Security Inc. This format is supported by such BBS packages as Wildcat!, PCBoard and Worldgroup (likely others soon). And it is becoming more and more popular as an encryption method for transferring private information. You must connect to a host that supports this encryption method before it is of use to you.

**Picture Viewer** — The QMW95 picture viewer beats them all. Not only will it display BMP, GIF or JPG files as they are being downloaded but it also allows you to change the zoom level. This lets you to view large images without having to scroll all around the screen. The QMW95 viewer is also one of the first viewers to support the defacto Internet image format — JPG. JPG files are compact, high color images that are most often 70 to 80 percent smaller than GIF images.

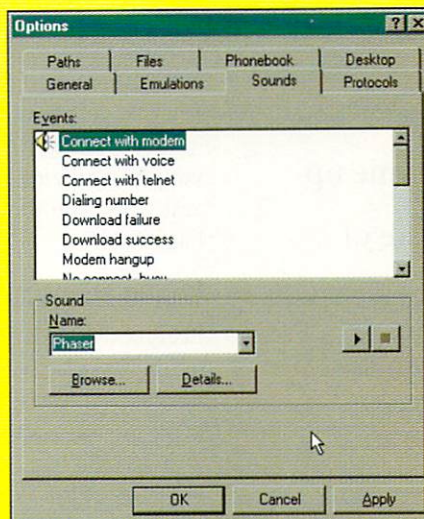
**MAPI Support** — MAPI (Mail Applications Programming Interface) is an email format that allows standardized exchange of information. If your computer is part of a network that supports MAPI then you can use QMW95 to cut information from the screen and send it to a recipient on your MAPI compliant network.

**Doorway Mode** — This seems to be such a minor point but when it's not present, you really feel it. Doorway mode allows you to send raw keystrokes to the host without having them travel through emulation. There are many times when you need to have plain keystrokes sent to a host (such as when conducting a remote drop to DOS session). 95's HyperTerminal does not have this feature. Anything you type in HyperTerminal goes through the emulation filter before it gets sent out.

**Multimedia Support** — In this day and age, if your application does not have a wide range sound support, you only get half of the experience. Client applications for America Online,



The keymap



Qmodem Pro for Windows 95 allows you to assign sound files to 20 different events.

Prodigy and CompuServe all have some form of basic sound support. QMW95 has a much wider range of sound support than almost anything out there in telecommunications today. 20 separate events can have sound bytes associated with them.

#### Scroll Back Buffer

— Depending on the amount of RAM you have, you can retain up to 32,767 pages of online information. Accessing the scrollbar buffer is a little more out of the way than in

HyperTerminal or Procomm Plus for Windows (it must be selected from a pull down menu) but it is present and a handy feature to have when you need to take a look back and what's been previously displayed.

#### Full Featured Scripting Language

— No telecommunication package is worth its salt if it doesn't have a complete scripting language. QMW95's scripting language is complete and an expansive host mode script is included with the software that will allow you to run a small host to provide files and messaging services to callers.

Script tools such as an editor and a compiler are included with QMW95, too.

QmodemPro for Windows 95, put simply, is a package that'll provide you with the kind of solid telecommunication services required these days. Though nobody can be sure how much longer this form of telecommunication will be commonplace — what with all the new client/server packages coming from every which way — until the day arrives that it's obsolete (if it ever does) QMW95 will take care of all your online tasks and fun just fine.

QMW95 is available in most retail chains for \$129. The upgrade price is \$69. Contact Mustang at 800.663.7284. ■■■■

*David Wolfe is a telecommunications developer for Core Technology and author of the BBS Construction Kit and Expanding Your BBS. He can be reached by email at [syso@pandy.com](mailto:syso@pandy.com).*

than almost anything out there in telecommunications today.

# Games **OVER**

How to find something ( g a s p ! )  
productive  
to do on the **WEB.**

The Internet's full of frivolous distractions. Sometimes it appears to be a giant contest to see who can come up with the weirdest, most useless waste of bandwidth yet.

This column's not about that (at least not this month).

It's about things that actually make sense: Web sites that make your life easier, home pages that give something back to the Internet community.

Take notes — these are the kinds of things you can show your boss when you're asked what you did all day, or your parents when you want them to bankroll bigger, better, and faster hardware.

## Dictionaries and things

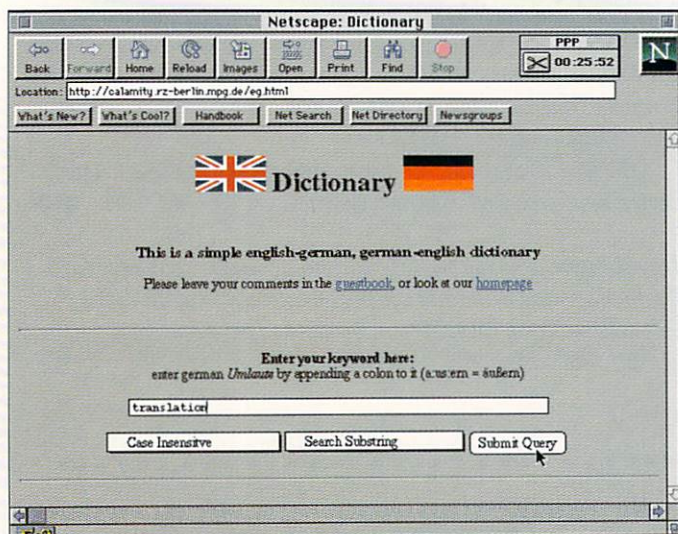
Everybody needs dictionaries, and there are all kinds of them on the Internet. Writers, such as myself, are always searching for the right word. What better way to new and exciting ways of saying the same ol' thing than with a Thesaurus?

You're in luck. The American and French Research on the Treasury of the French Language (ARTFL) Project at the University of Chicago, with Project Gutenberg, has brought a searchable Roget's Thesaurus to the Web at [http://tuna.uchicago.edu/forms\\_unrest/ROGET.html](http://tuna.uchicago.edu/forms_unrest/ROGET.html). Plug a word that's close to the one you're looking for into a forms-capable browser and the computer will spit back all relevant entries. This'll surely help add some spice to that report, whether it's for the chairman of the board... or the blackboard.

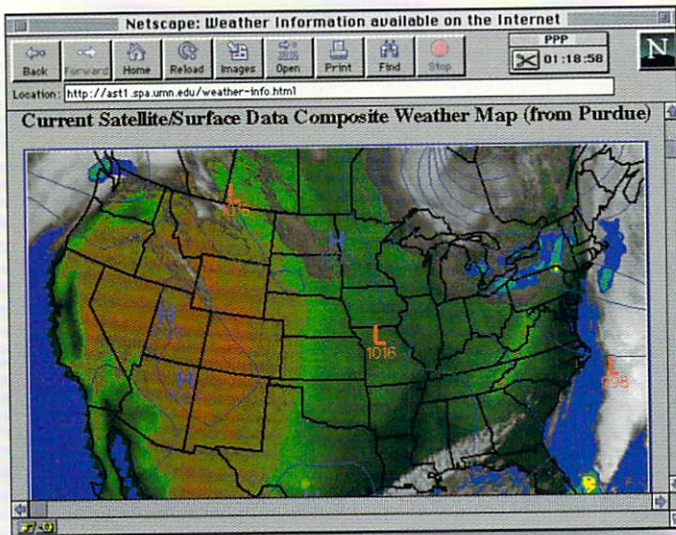
As the name suggests, ARTFL sponsors some useful French resources, like a French/English translation dictionary at [http://tuna.uchicago.edu/forms\\_unrest/FR-ENG.html](http://tuna.uchicago.edu/forms_unrest/FR-ENG.html). If you need to make sense of something in German, try the dictionary at <http://calamity.rzberlin.mpg.de/eg.html>.

Other useful language dictionaries on the Web include Spanish/English (<http://www.willamette.edu/~tjones/forms/span2eng.html>) and Japanese (<http://enterprise.ic.gc.ca/cgi-bin/j-e/>).

Perhaps even more useful, for some, is the cursing in Swedish tutorial at <http://www.bart.nl/~sante/enginvek.html>. In lieu of phonetics, the site offers WAV sound files enunciating the "swear words" because, as its author notes, "cursing with a heavy accent is often perceived as mildly ridiculous."



Travelers: Go to this Web page, select



And, if you want to have a little fun, a somewhat frivolous tool is Ambrose Bierce's "Devil's Dictionary." Like any good satire, though, there's a bit of truth in it. See what I mean at <http://www.vestnett.no/cgibin/devil>.

And if you need the straight definitions, which aren't as much fun but won't get you in trouble with humorless vocabulary teachers, try the searchable Webster's Dictionary at <http://c.gp.cs.cmu.edu:5103/prog/webster>.

Still not satisfied? There's a large index of various types of dictionaries and databases that serve everything from hacker's jargon and acronyms to poetry and poker. Your virtual reference desk is at <http://math-www.unipaderborn.de/HTML/Dictionaries.html>.

And what good is this library we call the Internet if there aren't any decent books to accompany all of these references? Project Gutenberg, at <http://jg.cso.uiuc.edu/PG/welcome.html>, has a solid variety of selections available for check-out, from the Hacker Crackdown by Bruce Sterling to Mary Shelley's Frankenstein.

## Traveler's aid

Making a successful trip, be it for business or pleasure, requires careful preparation. The tools on the Internet can make this a much easier task.

A trip to Atlanta, Berlin, Toronto, or any of about 54 major cities in 26 countries can be greatly eased by a careful study of the location's subway map. And this task can be an interactive one thanks to a thoughtful programmer in France, whose site at <http://metro.jussieu.fr:10001/bin/cities/english> lets visitors select their starting and destination points and receive a full itinerary, complete with estimated travel time.

Of course, you'll want to know other information before leaving home. An up-to-date U.S. weather map can be found conveniently at <http://ast1.spa.umn.edu/weather-info.html>. Travelers to foreign locales can make use of the CIA World

Factbook (<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/95fact/index.html>) to determine everything from temperature to the current political and economic climate. Maps are provided, too.

Finally, traveling to places that use the metric system can be cause for conversion. If you're a do-it-yourselfer who doesn't mind a little math, but just wants to be reminded of all those forgotten equations, add it up at <http://www.uwosh.edu/students/wallip27/convert.html>. If all you want to do is translate a little Celsius to Fahrenheit, try the handy temperature conversion form at <http://www.soton.ac.uk/~scp93ch/refer/convform.html>. You can also convert distance, area, volume, mass, speed, and pressure while you're there. How's that for convenience?

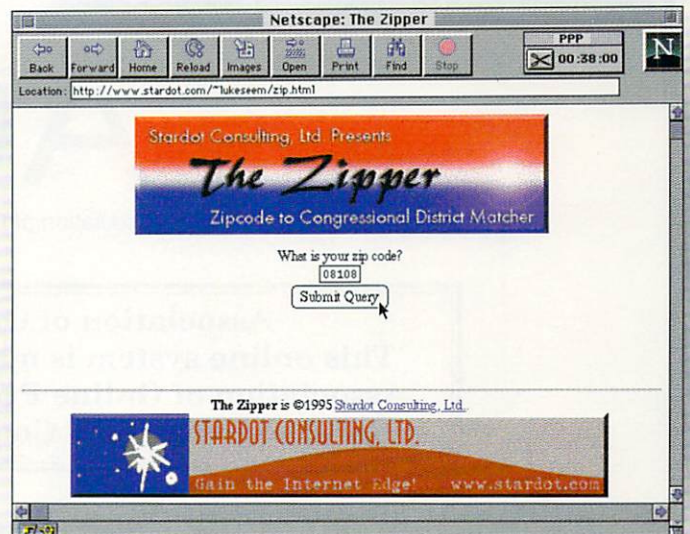
## Tools for better living

Having information at your fingertips is a sure way to stay on top of the things that matter in your life. You got your Internet account hoping that you'd become better organized and more productive, right? Here's your chance to keep that promise to yourself.

For instance, suppose you become outraged at some political or social issue and want to share your views with your congressperson. Hey, it helps to know to whom you should address your two cents. Fortunately, The Zipper knows all: Plug in your postal zip code at <http://www.stardot.com/~luke-seem/zip.html>, and you'll be supplied with your representative's name, address, phone number and voting district — as well as his or her office's email address, if there is one.

If you don't know your zip code, or somebody else's, or want to find out about those extra four digits you can never remember, the U.S. Postal Service has a full-service Web site at <http://www.usps.gov/ncsc/aaq-zip.html>. Similarly, there's a look-up service for area codes: Just the tool for finding out which time zone an anonymous phone number on a pink "While You Were Out" message slip belongs to. Check it out before five o'clock comes and goes at [gopher://odie.niaid.nih.gov/77/deskref/areacode/index](http://gopher://odie.niaid.nih.gov/77/deskref/areacode/index). If phone numbers are always disappearing on

CONTINUES...



starting and destination points and receive a full itinerary, complete with estimated travel time.

little slips of paper behind your desk, there are a few Web sites that can be of directory assistance. The AT&T 800 number database, <http://www.tollfree.att.net/dir800/>, is a great way to cut down on long-distance calls to companies that are ready and willing to pick up the toll. And newly online is the U.S. national yellow pages, full of business listings everywhere you want to be. Let your mouse do the walking at <http://www.telephonebook.com/>. Oh, and if you're in France, or planning a phone call there, the progressive Web weavers of that nation

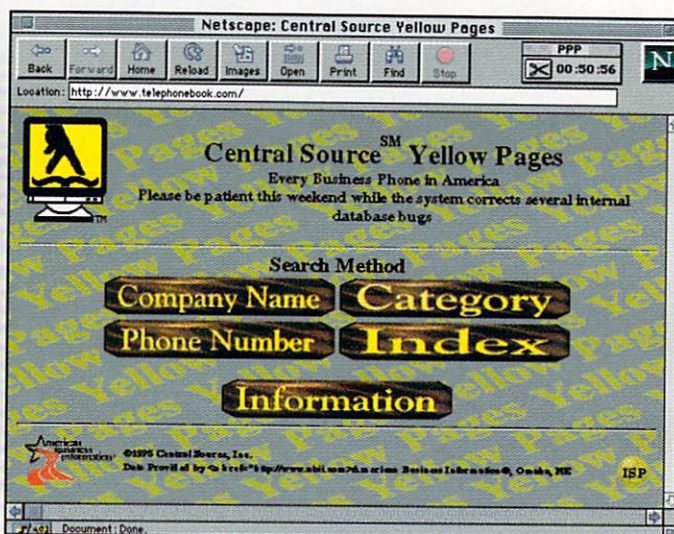
have their own online phone directory at <http://www.epita.fr:5000/11/>.

Viva la telephone!

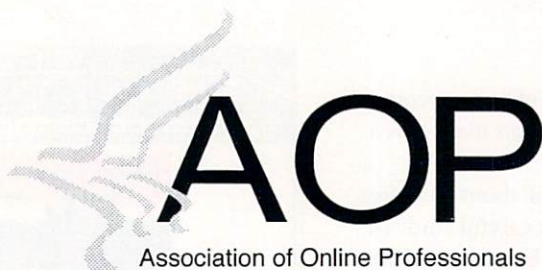
### Overheard on the 'Net

"I haven't lost my mind, it's backed up on diskette somewhere." ■■■■

Dave Kramer can be reached at [reeltime@voicenet.com](mailto:reeltime@voicenet.com).



## How to differentiate your BBS from 73,000 competitors:



**Association of Online Professionals**  
**This online system is managed by a member of the Association of Online Professionals and voluntarily subscribes to the AOP Code of Professional Standards.**

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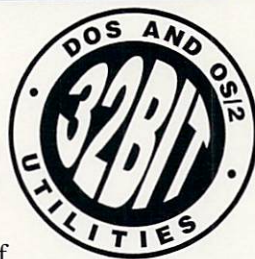
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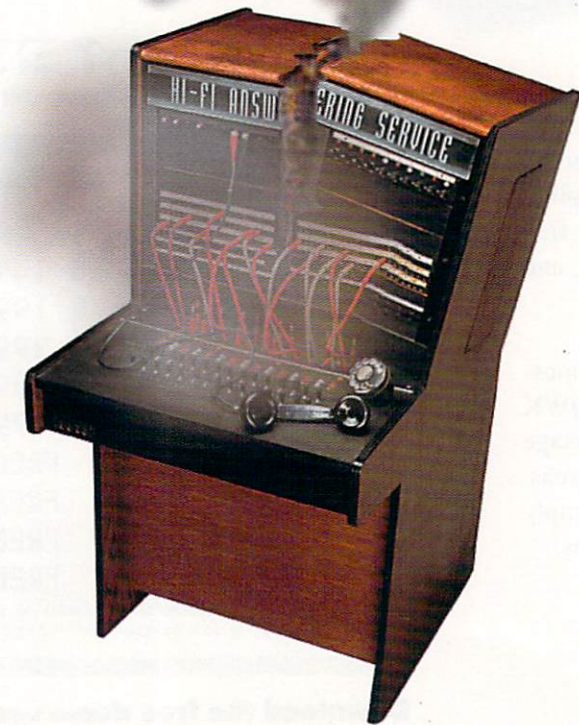
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28.8k BBS (714) 529-9547 FidoNet 1:103/706  
ftp.netcom.com (/pub/sb/sbbs)



BY LAZLOW JONES

# CrAsh -n- buRn

...and other  
**SYNTHETIC ILLUSIONS**  
of the  
**ELECTRIC  
HEAD.**



**V**irtual knowledge is at our fingertips. The Internet, television and phone are integrating into one glorious playground. There's a bright golden, haze on the meadow. All of the sights and the sounds of the earth traverse satellites to sing through motherboards warming our eyes and ears.

So what, by God, would prompt rational beings engulfed in this smiling chaos-trophy to fry, smash, and hurl from rooftops the very tools of our advertised salvation?



The first 99 percent of the tenure of humans on this blue sphere was spent in an uncivilized state. Welcome to the last one percent.

From the first rough piece of jagged flint chipped by early man to the multimedia PC in the shadow of a

## From the "What's that smell?" Department (a.k.a. "Daisy Chain to Satan")

"A friend of mine had a piece of equipment he salvaged, an industrial-sized line printer. He has a file server and

made their way through an open ISA slot cover.

"They had located the warmest part, the CPU, and made a large altar of dung the likes of which I have not seen in quite some time. The combination of that, moisture and other conditions

# "I desperately reached for the stop button, but I couldn't hit it before the monitor and computer were yanked from my arms by the cable and exploded into bits."

hunched over propeller-head, these tools are the chief way humans are partaking in their larger world. Yet these same tools are also expendable, discarded when a sharper instrument comes into view.

David Hume noted that the trash of every age must be preserved. Well, must it?

Following are true tales of how our tools become trash. Whether through frustration or mishap, these are some of the twisted swan songs from real computer users (some are paraphrased or edited slightly for space). If you think you can compete with a verifiable story, toss it my way. The best will be announced in an upcoming issue and over the airwaves.

## From the "How to Succeed in Business" Department

"Several years ago I worked at a company on Long Island writing database programs, where a problem in question was caused by the idiot manager I worked for.

"See, we had just heard about the Michelangelo virus. It was scheduled to take effect the next day. We tested one of the PCs in the office with a new virus checking program and actually found the Michelangelo. At this point the idiot decided to infect a floppy and spread the virus to another PC just to see what it would do.

"He adjusted the date on the PC, and infected the PC. Then, upon trying to re-boot, the PC fried. It wouldn't even boot up off of a floppy disk. What a dumb@\$!"

Kurt Wendt  
Levittown, NY

several other PCs in his basement, but the printer was too big, so he ran a serial cable from the file server in the basement to the printer in his garage. He went to his garage, plugged in the printer and turned it on.

"When he turned on the printer, he had plugged it into a 240 VAC circuit, and sent twice the juice through the serial line into his file server. Needless to say the serial card got mega-fried, along with several other cards, and the motherboards."

Andrew M. Galbraith Ryer

## From the "Please Take Medication" Department

"I was playing with my friend's digitizer and my motherboard melted.

"Actually, one chip melted and I was so pissed I threw the whole thing against a concrete wall... then I walked over to pick up the pieces and I stepped on it with bare feet and it hurt — so I got pissed again and took a sledgehammer to the case. Yet this was a good thing, since I ended up getting a computer that is twice as fast the next day... insurance, you know."

Bryan Berg  
[Anyone know his insurance agent?]

## From the "My Computer Makes Noises When It's Not On" Department.

"I was troubleshooting a PC that was having parity errors and making strange noises. The user told me she thought the hard drive was faulty because of a small clicking coming from the computer. I removed the cover to find that a family of mice had

did in fact ruin most of the components they found to their liking. I guess the most interesting part was learning that I was called because the machine was making a lot of noise *when it was off* which the users said they found 'a little' odd."

Tim Ware

## From the "Why I Quit Customer Support" Department

(Acts One and Two, excerpts from a very long, sad saga—and techno legend?)

Act I. "I used to work for IBM tech support before the big layoffs (keep in mind this was about four years ago, when people were not as computer literate). A fellow keeps reporting that every time he puts his disks into the computer they have to be reformatted. I figured he was putting it near something it should not be (TV sets, on top of the computer, under the phone... anything with a magnet). It turns out he was not keeping them near any of these. Rather, he was keeping it on his metal filing cabinet. The kicker? He was keeping it attached with a big magnet."

Act II. "A fellow buys an IBM computer. He then calls us up to report that every time he tries loading "the floppy into to hard disk" — as the install program instructs him to — it does not work. I figure the disk is simply bad and tell him to send it in. When I get it the disk looks all deformed. We replace the disk and again he calls me up and says it is STILL not working. I know we sent the disk out working, but nonetheless I ask him to send it back again. This time I get it and it's deformed/

CONTINUES...

bent AGAIN. I call this fellow up and ask him what he does to these disks to get them bent. He informed me that because the "hard disk" drive is smaller than the floppy disk, he has to fold it three times before it will fit in."

Andy Sitzer  
Point Blank BBS

### From the "Play Dumb" Department

"I'm an electrical engineer (I never claimed to be very good at it, but hey, I've got a job). The story is: I'm at col-

lege working on my senior project. I'm supposed to build a hardware interface for a computer, so I knock this circuit together and jack it in to my home computer to test it out.

"Of course it didn't work.

"Actually, the computer caught fire and proceeded to melt down to the accompaniment of many interesting sound effects. The story doesn't end there, though.

"I bought the thing a year ago when it was still under warranty. So I put the cover back on and trucked it on down

to the store where I got it. I tell the man behind the counter that my computer went kaplooie. He asks me if I know what might have caused it and I do my best innocent look. He asks me if I had ever opened the computer case, to which I respond quite innocently, "no." He opens up the computer, looks inside and pulls out my screwdriver. Oops.

"There is a happy ending. I eventually got him to fix the computer under warranty by laying the dumb and innocent act on real thick. I never did get the interface working, but I got an A on the project (I was as surprised as you) and now I build computer interfaces for a living, so beware."

### From the "Hold the Door Please" Department

"Last year I was hauling a computer and a monitor to a client site. I decided to save time by carrying them together instead of separately. I hopped onto the elevator (by myself), balancing the equipment on a rail and reaching to press the button for my floor. Just as I hit it, the power cable for the PC flopped down and fell out the door. The elevator doors closed on the cable and I went up. I desperately reached for the stop button, but I couldn't hit it before the monitor and computer were yanked from my arms by the cable and exploded into bits."

Dale L. Larson  
Philadelphia

These tales, dear reader, are true (so far as I can tell). No names have been changed, as nobody is innocent. All participants are wanted for a crime they did commit. There is no parking in the red zone. Back up your hard drive tomorrow. ■■■■■

Lazlow Jones writes and produces the *Underground Technofile*, a show about BBSs, Internet and technology, for the *Underground Network*, an alternative radio satellite network in New York. The *Technofile* is syndicated on over 30 stations nationwide. Email him at [lazlow@undernet.com](mailto:lazlow@undernet.com) or [www.undernet.com](http://www.undernet.com).



## Pics OnLine!

BBS

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# To NET or NOT to NET

**Q:** My BBS callers have been screaming for Internet access for nearly a year now. Most are willing to pay, too.

Trouble is, I'm not sure where to begin. How did you do it?

*Richard, Miami*

**A:** Bringing the Net into the BBS has been a major challenge for us during the past few years. The very first and easiest step, which may or may not be old hat for your BBSers at this point, is to bring Internet email into your system. We did this originally via a dedicated UUCP email and newsgroup link to one of the major Internet service providers. A special software gateway converted the Net email and newsgroup messages into the same format as the other message bases on the BBS, so that callers could retrieve and send their messages via QWK message format.

Today, this construct still operates on our BBS, although the completely real-time link is to our own T1 line, and the software gateway easily posts 3,000 or more active newsgroups onto the BBS.

Since its beginnings less than three years ago, enabling an Internet email connection has become a relatively economical capability of many BBS software packages. (Also of some PC Echo email nets.)

And even an undedicated link that echoes several times per day can offer you and your callers the convenience of personal Net email, and participation in Net newsgroups.

The next stage of Net-to-BBS integration tends to be both more expensive and more experimental. This stage is characterized by your BBS having links to real-time (live) Internet functions such as IRC (Internet Relay Chat), MUD (real time role-playing games), Telnet, FTP, Gopher, Finger, etc.

You will have to pay for a live connection to the Net and for some additional hardware — either hardware of your own concocting, from third parties, or the proprietary adjuncts that some BBS software developers have produced specifically to Net-enable their packages.

You will also (inevitably) have to become familiar with several Internet-specific clients — expect the learning curve go up here.

Although costs are coming down somewhat, you will still have to put up \$3,000 to \$5,000 minimum. And if you're not careful, you can easily spend more.

Your live connection will cost anywhere from \$100 (dedicated phone line with 28.8 bandwidth) to several hundred dollars a month for broader bandwidth connections (56k, 64k, 156k, 384k).

Based on our own experiences with this stage, I would rec-

ommend approaching the live link with great caution.

One sure advantage you get from a live connection to the Net is that it also provides a gateway into your BBS from the great expanse of the Net. (read: instant global access to your board!)

On the other hand, it's a costly and usually complicated undertaking, and obvious high-performance solutions have not emerged yet. BBS magazines and BBS trade shows are good places to find out about and compare "solutions" that BBS software developers are bringing to market.

Your biggest risk once you jump in is that available solutions — even though expensive and difficult to realize — might still not take your callers where they really want to go on the Net.

This brings us to what is currently the last frontier: enabling your callers to browse the World-Wide Web in Technicolor from your BBS.

Most folks who want access to the Internet these days really just want access to the Web. The big online services are all offering links to it, and a few applications have emerged that make it possible for BBSs to do this, too.

We've been running one this year, in fact — a SLIP Door to our live link — that has been performing extremely well for callers using MS Windows 3.1 on their home PCs. However, Web browsing is a fast-paced technology that demands constant development, and we have yet to see a BBS Web browsing gateway that can handle all of the conditions that Internet service providers have to deal with.

Clearly, BBSing and Internet access are online technologies that are learning and borrowing from each other as fast as they can. BBSs have pioneered interactivity online and have popularized the use of higher speed modems; the Web has pioneered global access and perhaps the online standard for integrated graphics and text interface.

At the moment the Net's the greater magnet, promising changes as massive as any we've already come to expect — for all online users during the next few years. ■■■■

*Tess Heder is co-founder of Channel 1®. Please address your questions or comments to:*

*Internet email: tess.heder@channel1.com*

*Fax: 617.354.3100 Attention: Ask Tess*

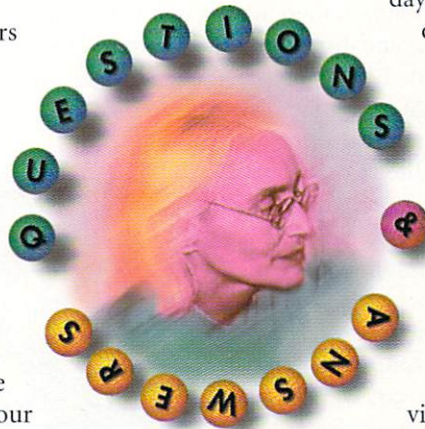
*Snail mail: Channel 1*

*Attn: Ask Tess*

*1030 Massachusetts Avenue*

*Cambridge, MA 02138*

*Bulletin Board: Comment to the sysop, 617.349.1300 v.34*



# Grab a Bag

## AND BAG SOME FILES

January feels like a grab-bag month — it's cold (where I am, at least), a little dreary and we're probably all in need of a few surprises.

In that spirit take a blind pick of the variety of completely unrelated shareware below. Should be one or two that'll last you until this time in February (which is about when January starts to look good).

### DOS

#### Writer's Dream 4.34

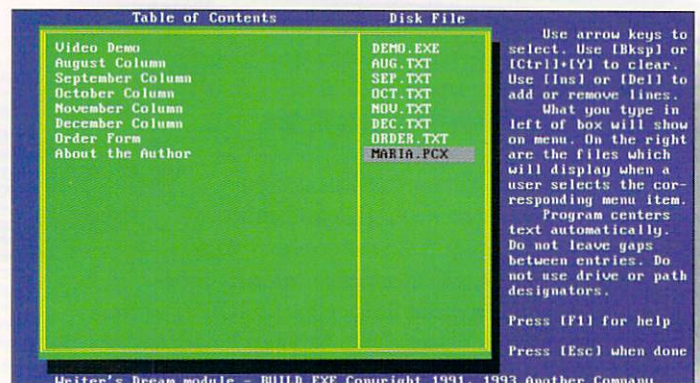
WDREAM.ZIP  
by Jeff Napier  
Vision River  
P.O. Box 451148  
Atlanta, GA 31145

Ever wish there was an easy way to create and distribute text documents to other IBM-compat. users? Not just plain ASCII text files that require a word processor or text editor to open, but text, graphic, and executable files that can be accessed with their own custom menus? That's exactly what *Writer's Dream* is: a program that lets you create specially formatted electronic book files with up to 100 chapters full of the information, illustrations, and programs you want to distribute.

To create your electronic book, begin by using any word processor to create text files for each chapter. Copy these files onto a blank floppy disk, along with the DREAM.EXE and BUILD.EXE files that come with *Writer's Dream*. Run BUILD.EXE to enter the title, author, and chapter names for the book. You can also specify configuration informa-

tion for sound effects, the justification of the table of contents, on-screen header, bookmark feature, and colors. BUILD.EXE creates a special file where all this information is stored on disk.

To "run" the completed book, simply type DREAM at the A:\ prompt. A table of contents appears. Use the arrow keys or mouse to choose what you want to read from this menu. Pressing ESC returns you to the table of contents or, if you're already viewing it, to DOS. The disk is now ready to distribute to readers.



**Writer's Dream lets you create your own electronic books with text, graphics, and programs.**

What makes *Writer's Dream* powerful is its ability to include .EXE, .BAT, and .COM files on its menu. This means that you can list a program as a "chapter," thus making it executable from within your book. When the program quits, the reader is returned to the book. In addition, the finished book includes an autoscroll feature to quickly move to specific information in the book. Online help explains how to use this and other

features while reading.

Writer's Dream includes complete documentation of all its features provided in — you guessed it — a Writer's Dream format book. It's distributed as shareware through OEC Systems.

Try it to see if it meets your needs. If you create an electronic book with Writer's Dream, pay the shareware fee of \$29.95 to register it.

## Complete Program Deleter 2.0

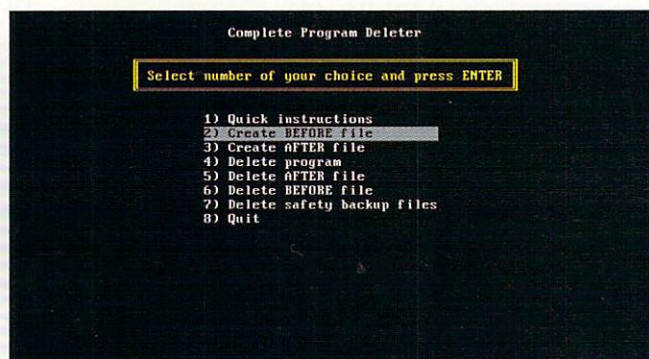
CPD20.ZIP

by Leithauser Research  
4649 Van Kleeck Drive  
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169-4205  
Email: 74046.1556@compuserve.com

One of the biggest problems with exploring the world of shareware is the number of programs you have to install — and then uninstall — while searching for “keepers.” While some programs happily reside in their own sub-directories on your hard disk, leaving the rest of your disk untouched, many programs have complex installers that put files all over the place. Hunting down these files when it's time to remove them can be a real pain in the neck. And if the installer alters your AUTOEXEC.BAT, CONFIG.SYS, WIN.INI, or SYSTEM.INI files, finding the changes and restoring the files to their original state can take more time than the installer spent changing them!

That's where Complete Program Deleter (CPD) can help. This DOS-based package makes it easy to delete software so you can restore your system to the way it was before the software was installed.

Run CPD immediately before installing a new software package. Use the menu to create a “Before” file. CPD



Complete Program Deleter takes the hassle out of deinstalling programs you decide to discard.

prompts you for information about the program you're installing, like its name and the disks it will be installed on. It then creates a special database file with information about your system configuration before the program was installed. Next, use the program's installer to install it and then run it once to make sure it's set up properly. Finally, run CPD again and use the menu to create an “After” database file. An on-screen report tells you a little about the changes made by the installer.

If you decide to delete a program you installed and recorded with CPD, run it and use its menu to choose the Delete Program option. A list of the programs it has information on appears. Choose the one you want to delete and follow the prompts that appear on screen to remove all traces of it. CPD will even delete the “Before” and “After” files it created for its own use for the program you've deleted.

CPD comes with an equally complete manual that describes all the program's features and operations. It can be run from DOS or Windows — Windows installation instructions are provided. The program is distributed as shareware: try it for 30 days before paying the \$15 shareware fee. Registered

users get instructions telling them how to remove the shareware reminder and a disk full of other Leithauser Research shareware products.

This program — or another like it — is a “must have” for anyone who evaluates software.



You can use VidFun to open, view, and edit all kinds of graphics and multimedia files.

## Windows

### VidFun 1.41

VFUN141.ZIP  
by Lawrence Gozum  
Applied Insights  
100-310 Oriole Parkway  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M5P 2G8  
Email: LGozum@aol.com

Looking for a program that will let you open and view a wide range of graphics and multimedia files? VidFun can do it — and so much more.

VidFun can open files saved in the following graphic formats: TIFF (TIF), Windows Bitmap (BMP/DIB), ZSoft (PCX/PCC), Macintosh PICT (PCT), JPEG (JPG/JIF), Pegasus JPEG (PIC), Lead JPEG (CMP), Sun (RAS), Targa (TGA), AVI Video, G4 Fax (CAL), Portable Network Graphics (PNG), Photo CD (PCD), Konica Quality Photo (KQP), QuickTime (MOV), and FLI/FLC Animation.

These files can be opened, viewed (or played) and edited in a variety of ways, depending on the file type. For example, if you open a Photo CD file, you can smooth or sharpen the image, apply filters, rotate, or crop the image. A color menu offers all kinds of options for adjusting color. A slide show feature lets you create and add special effects to self-running slide shows. You can even use VidFun's TWAIN Acquire com-

CONTINUES...

mand with your scanner to scan images into your computer.

Graphics files aren't the only kinds of files VidFun can handle, though. It can also read and play back Audio CD, MIDI (MID), and WAV audio files. A built-in CD player can even play audio CDs while you work.

VidFun requires a computer running Windows 3.1 or later with VGA or better graphics. A sound card is required for utilizing sound capabilities. VidFun includes complete online help for all features.

It is distributed as shareware. Pay the \$35 shareware fee to remove the nag reminders.

If you often work with graphics files and still haven't found the perfect graphics application to get the job done, give VidFun a try. I think you'll be pleased by what you see.

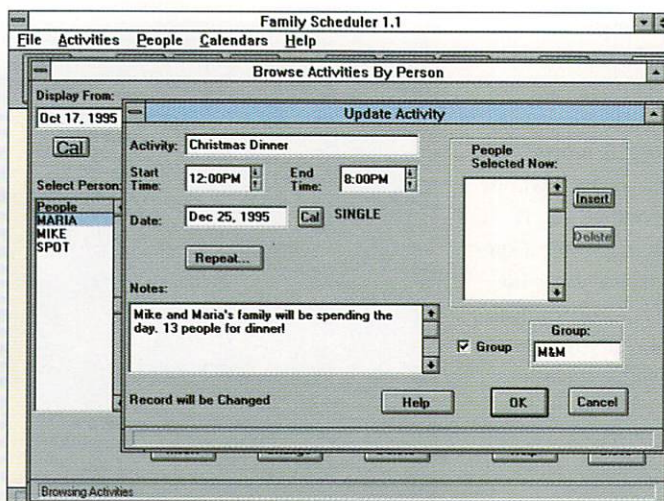
## Family Scheduler 1.1

FSCH11.ZIP  
by Madigral Soft Tools Inc.  
1290 Broad Street, #201  
Victoria, BC  
Canada V8W 2A5

How often do you accept, say, a dinner invitation only to discover that your significant other or other family member has already made plans for the same day that include you? Family Scheduler is a Windows program that helps you avoid those sorts of scheduling conflicts (and the other conflicts they cause) by letting you set up and maintain a central calendar for your entire household.

Family Scheduler is very easy to set up and use.

Enter the names of people in your household. If desired, you can create groups like "The Kids" or "Mom & Dad." Next, add activities using the dialog box to enter the activity name, date, start and end times, people (or



Use Family Scheduler to keep a family calendar of events and activities.

groups), and notes. If the activity is repeated (like a weekly soccer game), you can set up a repeat frequency. When you click OK, the event is added to the family schedule. You can also add "special days" like birthdays and vacations.

Once you've entered items into the schedule, you can view it a variety of ways. Browse by person, group, day, or activity. View weekly calendars that show all scheduled events for the period — or only those events for certain people or groups. And, of course, you can print calendars in a variety of ways: for the day, the week, or a flexible period. You can even specify who's activities should appear in printed calendars.

Family Scheduler includes complete online help that covers all features. It requires a computer running Windows 3.1 or later.

After 21 days, if you do not pay the \$19 shareware fee, a launch delay will build, slowing down initial startup of the program.

Registered users receive a code that removes the delay and the shareware reminder mes-

sages that appear when you start the program.

And don't let the name fool you — although Family Scheduler was designed for families, small business might find it just as useful for scheduling employee meetings, too.

## My Personal Diary 4.5

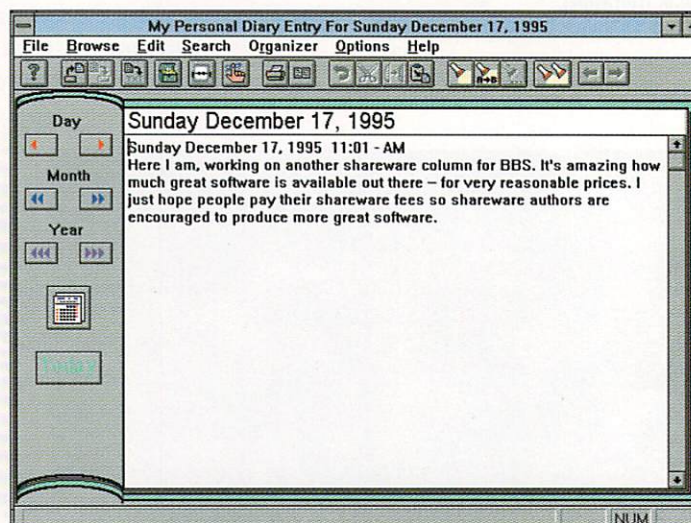
MPDIARY.ZIP  
Chris Maresco  
105 Bayview Avenue  
E. Patchogue, NY 11772  
Email: CMaresco@aol.com

If you like to keep track of the things you do and think about, you probably keep a diary — or something very similar to one. My Personal Diary is Windows program that helps you easily do just that. But as you'll see, it has far more features and capabilities than any paper diary can have.

When you first launch My Personal Diary, it prompts you for a User ID and password. This protects your information from the prying eyes of others who might use your computer. It also makes it possible for multiple users to use My Personal Diary and maintain their own separate diary files.

The main window offers a number of buttons and a large, date-stamped area for your notes and ideas. Type into this scrolling text field — it works just like a little word processor for entering and editing text. There are even Cut, Copy, Paste, and Undo commands and buttons for making editing easier. You

CONTINUES...



My Personal Diary is a password-protected diary program (and then some).



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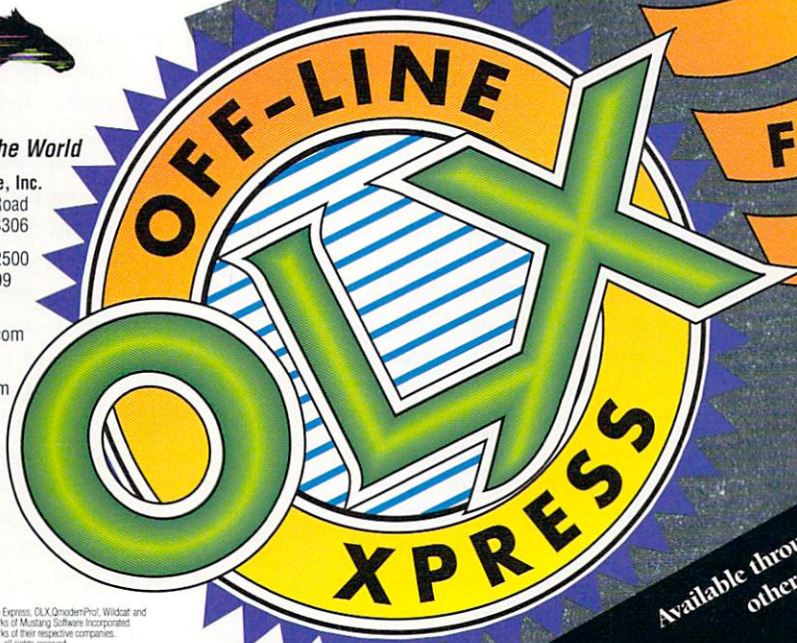
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can use the Day, Month, and Year buttons on the left side of the window to scroll through different entries or click the calendar button to choose a specific date. A search feature makes it easy to find specific entries based on text they contain. Once you've entered information, you can print, export, or archive it. A print preview feature lets you see what an entry will look like when printing, before committing it to paper.

But that's not all My Personal Diary offers. It also provides an address book and to-do list features. Use the address book to record the name, address, phone numbers, and notes about people you know. (You can search through or print entries.) Use the to-do list to enter things you need to do on the days they need to be done. Conveniently, you can roll undone items forward if you like, too. Preference options let you tell My Personal Diary to display to-do list items when it starts up. Another feature, called the "treasure chest" lets you store confidential information like credit card numbers and passwords in a centralized location within the diary file. This information is just as secure as any other entry you make in My Personal Diary.

My Personal Diary includes online help that covers all features. It requires Windows 3.1 or later and is distributed as shareware with a fee of \$24.95. Registered users receive a registration code that removes shareware reminders and entitles them to free support and minor upgrades.

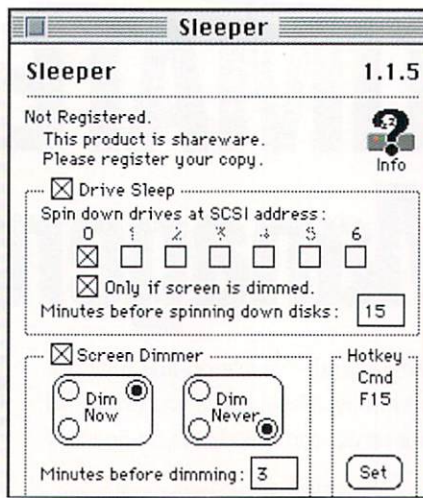
My Personal Diary is far more than just an electronic diary. It's a personal information program.

## Macintosh

### Sleeper 1.1.5

by St. Clair Software  
2025 Mohawk Road  
Upper St. Clair, PA 15241-1526  
Email: gotow@stclairsw.com

PowerBooks come with the PowerBook control panel, which has features like screen dimming and spinning down the hard disk which are designed to conserve power. These two features are now available for desktop Macs with



Use Sleeper to add hard disk spin down and screen dimming energy conservation features to your desktop Mac.

the Sleeper control panel.

Why spin down the hard disk and dim the screen? Power is one reason — hard disk spinning and monitor display are possibly the two biggest consumers of power. Sleeper can not only reduce power consumption, but reduce the wear and tear on your hard disk and monitor. In addition, spinning down the hard disk can reduce background noise in your work area. That might not seem like much when you've got only one quiet computer in front of you, but imagine being part of a workplace filled with computers.

Sleeper's simple control panel interface has three main parts. The Drive Sleep section lets you specify whether it should spin down (stop spinning) connected hard disks. You choose the SCSI address for the drive(s) you want to spin down, specify whether it should only spin down if the screen is dimmed, and set the number of minutes of inactivity before the disk spins down. The Screen Dimmer section lets you specify "hot corners" to activate immediate dimming or prevent dimming, as well as set the number of minutes of inactivity before the screen dims. The Hotkey section lets you set a keystroke to immediately put the system to "sleep." Once the hard disk has stopped spinning or the screen has dimmed, any activity — pressing a keyboard key, moving the mouse, or clicking the mouse button — will wake your

computer.

Sleeper is accompanied by complete, illustrated documentation in DOCMaker document format. It is distributed as shareware. You can try it for 30 days before paying the shareware fee of \$20 or removing it from your system. When you pay, you receive a registration number that removes the shareware reminders.

Overall, Sleeper seems like a good way to let your Mac get the rest it deserves — without powering down.

### AutoCat 1.7.1

by Olivier Lebra  
8, rue Paul Bounin  
F-06100 Nice  
France  
Email: olivier@kagi.com

If you're like me, the longer you use a computer, the more floppy disks you accumulate. These disks can contain everything from miscellaneous shareware files you downloaded last month to installation disks for important applications to important memos, letters, or spreadsheets you want backed up. Since floppy disks can hold over a megabyte of files these days, each one can hold quite a few files — perhaps more than you can fit on the label. (Label? What's that?) Finding a specific file among these disks can be a nightmare of inserting, opening, and unmounting dozens of disks. And, if you use SyQuest cartridges or similar removable media, the situation is even worse.

Enter AutoCat. This control panel keeps an eye on disks you insert and eject. Any time you eject a disk by dragging it to the trash or using the Finder's Put Away command, it scans the disk and creates aliases for every file on it. The aliases are stored on your hard disk, in a folder you specify. Then, when you need to find a file, use the Finder's Find command to locate the alias, double-click it, and have the Finder prompt you, by name, for the disk to insert. Nothing could be simpler.

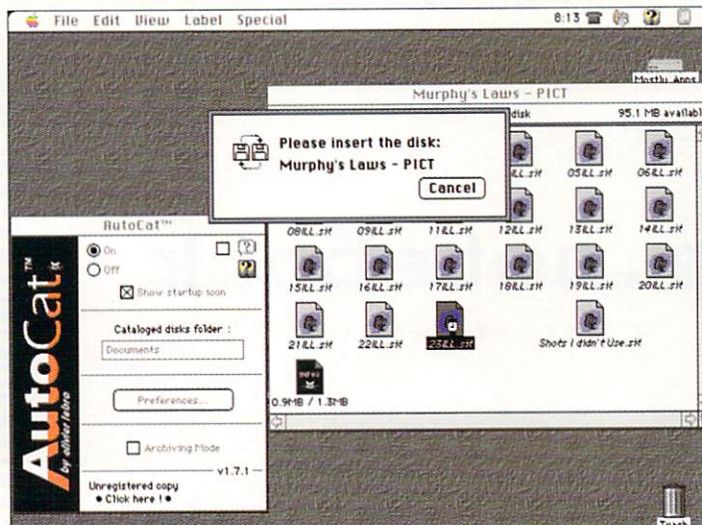
AutoCat's preferences let you customize the way it works. You can specify a key (Command, Option, or Control) to hold down and disable or activate AutoCat while putting a disk



away. You can specify strings, too, such as "untitled" or "install," that may appear in disks you don't want cataloged. You can even specify the maximum hierarchical file level or disk size for cataloging files. This makes it possible, for example, to catalog only files located on the top level of a floppy disks. An archiving mode, when turned on, quickly catalogs and ejects disks as you insert them, making it easy to create a starting catalog when you first use AutoCat.

The AutoCat control panel includes complete online help and supports balloon help, which you can turn on or off. It is distributed as shareware, with a modest fee of \$10. Registered users receive a registration number that disables the "Unregistered Copy" message in the control panel.

If you use floppy disks or other



**AutoCat automatically creates aliases of disk contents, giving you an online catalog of offline files.**

removable media for storing data you need to access, AutoCat is a good way to keep track of the files they contain.

## Icon Maker Copland 2.1

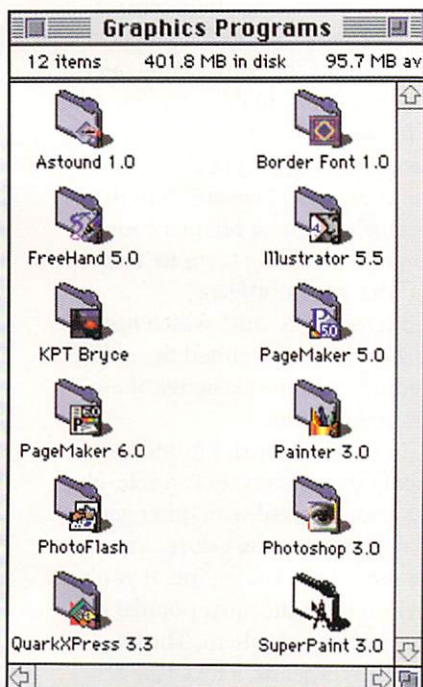
by Paul Baxter

If you want 3-dimensional folder icons like those you'll find in the Copland operating system, there's no need to wait. Icon Maker Copland is a drag and drop utility that can create custom folder icons on the fly.

Simply take an application or document icon that resides inside a plain folder and drag it on top of the Icon Maker Copland application icon. When you release it, Icon Maker launches. It creates a custom icon from the original you dropped on it for customization. The resulting icons — especially the ones created based on color icons — are quite attractive.

Your custom folder icon may not appear immediately. If it doesn't, try closing the folder containing the custom icon and reopening it. If that doesn't work, rebuild your desktop. (To do this, hold down the Command and Option keys as your Macintosh starts. Then click OK when asked whether you want to rebuild the desktop.)

Icon Maker Copland comes with a brief Readme file that explains how it works. It also hints about how you can hack Icon Maker Copland and your System file to set the default folder icon to a Copland-like folder icon. Icon



**Icon Maker Copland creates Copland-like custom folder icons — just drag and drop.**

Maker Copland is distributed as free-ware.

Note: If you like the idea of custom folders but prefer System 7-looking icons, check out Folder Icon Maker by Gregory M. Robbins, another freeware drag and drop utility that works the same way.

## Finding these files

If you can't find these files on your favorite BBS, try mine. The Electronic Pen BBS is a two-line FirstClass-based system in Harrington Park, NJ. The number is 201.767.6337. Look in the Sharewaring conference folder that appears on your desktop for all the files covered in this column.

If you're on the World-Wide Web, you can FTP these files from the Giles Road Press Web site. Use your browser to view the URL <http://www.intac.com/~gilesrd/> and link to the Sharewaring page from there. ■■■■■

*Maria Langer is a freelance writer and computer consultant running a BBS since 1989. She is the author of nine computer books including Excel for Windows 95: Visual QuickStart Guide, for Peachpit Press. Contact her at [gilesrd@intac.com](mailto:gilesrd@intac.com).*

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BY STEVE JANAS

To qualify for possible review in *BBS Notebook*, call *The Livewire BBS* at 609.235.5297. From the main menu, type *ADDDBBS* and follow the prompts.

## Chicago Syslink

**Sysop:** George Matyaszek

**Location:** Chicago, Ill.

**Data Access #'s:**

2400 bps: 708.795.4442

14.4 bps 708.795.4456

28.8 bps 708.795.4478

**Voice #:** 708.795.7376

(between 6 and 8 p.m.)

**BBS Software:** TBBS 2.3

Sysop George Matyaszek has been running his board for almost 15 years now, starting it as a hobby-board and then transcending with it to the realm of BBSing-as-business.

He says he charges users \$15 for six months of access (or, if they want to get a break for buying in bulk, \$70 for three years), and he gives them free reign to download as many of the system's 500,000 files as they can fit onto their hard drives.

For their subscription fee, callers also get local, Fidonet, and Internet email (complete with a paging system that alerts users when they have a message waiting), a nationwide job listing, a dial-out to other BBSs, and the large selection of games, doors and little oddities you can expect to find on systems of this size.

In addition to being a comprehensive source of files, Chicago Syslink is a pretty decent chat board

as well. A user can call in on one of 16 nodes, and George even employs a "chat moderator," Anna Sado, to preside over the discourse.

Altogether, Chicago Syslink is a pretty exhaustive system, providing callers with hours of diversion and a wealth of downloads, even if its interface is a bit stodgy and text-heavy.

The items of interest offered from the main menu include an online newsstand (*USA Today*, the Genesis daily news service and some computer shop-talk magazines), a chat area with a match-making service, and the jobs listing.

.....

**Altogether, Chicago Syslink is a pretty exhaustive system, providing callers with hours of diversion and a wealth of downloads**

Always out to improve myself, the first place I looked was the job listings. George claims that 95 percent of the listings are uniquely online creations and will not be found in newspapers. You can browse through them alphabetically, or use keyword or job-title searches.

I didn't find anything, but I have to admit to a certain bewilderment at some other features included in

this area: if you really need to know the correct time, for example, George offers a selection called the "atomic clock."

The message area provides a wide range of subjects for users to peruse. A random sample of the topics illustrates its diversity: you've got astrology, book reviews, conferences devoted to Anne Rice, Clive Barker, Dean Koontz and other popular pot-boiler authors, finance, music, Chinese culture... the list goes on.

As always, there was one conference that proved irresistible: lucid dreams. I checked it out, and as expected, it was full of talk about how to extend conscious control into the sleeping mind.

As one of the conversants put it, "The reason lucid dreamers are able to be, well, lucid is because they can somehow drag part of their conscious mind and control into their dreams, or at least retain a connection to it, enabling them to 'remember' that they're asleep."

Pretty heady stuff, which just goes to show how well-suited the online medium is to the exchange of esoteric information.

In the game area, I found the usual range of fantasy and role-playing games, mixed with other games of skill and chance. George says there are more than 100 online. If you're curious what the most popular are, the system ranks them. The day I checked, *Legends*, a text-based, sword-and-sorcery role-playing

game, was numero uno.

The last place I hung out was the chat section, otherwise known as the micromatch and the social center.

Here, in addition to sitting in on group conversations, you can fill out a questionnaire in the hopes of finding a match among other users. This I did, coming up with an alias, Miles Long, which I lifted from an old *Saturday Night Live* sketch. Perhaps not surprisingly, there was no one out there for me, at least not in that incarnation.

The board has other features, too, like the online shopping and the out-dial service to other BBSs. This last allows a user to dial in and then dial out to another board using Chicago Syslink's system. It's a way to get a taste of what's out there, without all the usual charges.

All in all, the system's a worthwhile stop for anyone browsing for BBSs through the Midwest.

## Shadowcastle

**Sysop:** Jeff Harvey

**BBS Location:** Mattawan, MI

**Data Access #'s:**

Up to 14.4 bps 616.668.2391

Up to 28.8 bps 616.668.2612

**BBS Software:** Spitfire V. 3.5

This board features your basic games and messages and, best of all, it's free. (Actually, a donation of \$25 per year is requested, but sysop Jeff Harvey doesn't quibble — in fact, he estimates there are a grand total of three users who have actually ponied up any money to keep the system afloat.)

There are more than 200 message conferences here, including echoes from Fidonet and Stormnet. In addition, there is a serviceable selection of downloads that goes heavy on the games, but also is peppered with MS-DOS utilities.

Jeff says he mandates a 50-1 download ratio, but he'll let users slide if they give him a good reason. One of the best reasons of all is the donation of new equipment.

"I've had users donate hard drives,

modems, or specifically pay for registration of a favorite door," Jeff says. "Usually in those cases, it's good for a year's worth, depending on what was registered or what was donated."

Obviously, the more value provided by the donation, the more favor is shown the donor. Usually, donations mean unlimited access or unrestricted downloads.

Fantasy and role-playing games are a board favorite. There is, for example, an entire file area full of cheats, tips and related software for the vastly popular *Legend of the Red Dragon* game. There is also *Tradewars 2002* and a digital version of *Mah Jong*.

"I try to put up games that are more thought-provoking and require strategy rather than just dumb luck," Jeff says. "But I find that the dumb-luck games are somewhat popular, so I have a few of those as well."

From the main menu, users can enter into a sub-menu offering about 20 CD-ROM doors. Only one CD-ROM is online at any one time, but, like many sysops, Jeff takes requests,

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## "I've had users donate hard drives, modems, or specifically pay for registration of a favorite door"

and pledges to fill them within 24 hours.

The message areas offer the typical strings that wind endlessly around subjects of interest primarily to the participants of the conversation and no one else. But there's more. A wide selection of Fidonet and echos are featured, including two dedicated to Kalamazoo chats.

I checked them out — people in Kalamazoo, despite the distinction offered by their city's arresting name, talk about pretty much the same things as everyone else. One particularly interesting posting consisted of do-it-yourself versions of James Fingarn's politically correct bed-

time stories. Hansel & Gretel were given the treatment when I stopped by.

Jeff runs his system from a network linked to a Unisys PW/2 Advantage 386DX/33 file server. There are two public nodes — one supporting 14.4 bps modems; the other supporting up to 28.8 bps — and two private nodes. These last two are reserved for family use, Jeff says: mostly they're used by his son playing the games.

Each one of the nodes is connected to a separate machine.

"I find that tends to work better, if you can pull it off," Jeff says. "Because then your users aren't inconvenienced by someone else doing a download or a heavy message-base scan, or something else slowing all the nodes down."

Jeff chose the shareware program Spitfire for his system because, he says, "it was fairly straightforward in set-up and operation, and seemed to be very easy to customize with ANSI (and now RIP) screens."

And, it's low-maintenance, Jeff says:

"I check in on it every couple of days, so as to make sure that all is well, fill CD requests, answer mail, etc. I wanted a system that I could spend most of my time doing what I wanted to do, not maintaining, unless I wanted to."

Jeff says he's done plenty of the heavy duty hands-on stuff in his lifetime. He calls himself a "bit-twiddler" by trade — he works as a LAN administrator for a large corporation. He's says he's been dialing in and playing around on computers since he was eight years old; he considers himself part of the original hacker troupe, "back before you had a ton of hacker wannabe's."

"I get a big kick out of the teenage jerks that jump in here and try to play games during the log-in or hack their way in or out of the system," he says. "I know the tricks, and test for them regularly. If it can be done, I've already tried it."

CONTINUES...

## Swap Shop BBS

**Sysop:** Douglas Bell

**BBS Location:** Duncan, OK

**BBS Access #:** 405.252.0347

**BBS Software:** Spitfire 3.5

A smallish board based in Duncan, Oklahoma, the Swap Shop was the only game in town when it started, according to Sysop Douglas Bell.

Douglas says he aims the board at new users, and therefore has set it up to be easy to use and to provide a decent message base and selection of files. It is that, although what the board offers is a bit too generic to entice anyone from outside this particular one-BBS town to drop by.

There is no Internet access at the moment, but Douglas has wired the board to a couple of networks, including ITCnet and the support network for Spitfire software.

Douglas does not charge users for access, but he does request \$20 donations from users. The reward for donating is an upgrade in access privileges.

For the board, Douglas has designed some fairly attractive RIP screens. A screen encountered early in the log-on process (which can also be found on the bulletins menu) offers observations on the life of a redneck that are reminiscent of comedian Jeff Foxworthy's work.

An example from the day I logged on: "You know you're a redneck when you've spray-painted the name of your girlfriend on an overpass." Cute.

Beyond bon mots like that, the board has a message area boasting about 150 conferences. There are also 31 file areas.

The conferences revolve around the usual online topics: science fiction TV shows, music, unexplained phenomenon. The files users can download include utilities, games (Doom's a popular one here), GIF viewers and the like. There's also a smattering of utilities geared toward the OS/2 system.

And that's about it. Oh, and about the name? Douglas explains what it means:

"It started to be a place where people could swap items they had to sell or trade. And it has stayed that way."

So now you know.

## Deep Thought

**Sysop:** "The Prophet Zarquon"

**BBS Location:** Sacramento, CA

**Data Access #:** 916.452.9501

**BBS Software:** QuickBBS version 2.76

This board is actually about as deep as the *Saturday Night Live* sketch that most likely served as inspiration for it.

But that's not a bad thing.

I am not sure if the *SNL* bit actually was the genesis for this board's name, because the sysop — who calls

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## Speaking of the *Hitchhiker's Guide*, it's all over Deep Thought.

himself Prophet Zarquon — never answered any of the queries I left in his mailbox. (If he's such a prophet, couldn't he have prognosticated that I would be stopping by?)

Anyway, Mr. Zarquon obviously has a soft spot for the kind of dry, absurdist wit that's sold millions of copies of *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, while at the same time securing for net-cruisers the perhaps undeserved reputation of pasty-faced esoterics (geeks???) who spend so much time communing within the digital domain that they seem a little, well, out-of-phase to the rest of us.

This is their humor. This is how they communicate.

Speaking of the *Hitchhiker's Guide*, it's all over Deep Thought. You want to log off? The menu selection to do so is "s" (for "So Long and Thanks for All the Fish"). You want to launch a door? As it loads, the screen will inform you the system has to think about it for seven... and... a half... million... years.

(That's the time it took to come up with the answer to the question of Life, the Universe and Everything, for those of you unfamiliar with Douglas Adams' novels.) There's even an online copy of the *Hitchhiker's* guide itself, although it contains just the one entry that would have any local interest hereabouts, the entry for Earth. ("Mostly harmless." Remember?)

As you might expect, there is ample opportunity to discuss the *Hitchhiker's Guide* novels in the message area. But those books are not the board's only obsession. It also contains local conferences, Fidonet echos and Usenet newsgroups devoted to Star Wars, Star Trek, Japanese animé (the hyper-realistic animation that's been all the rage among science fiction fans and cyberpunks for the last few years) and other SF interests.

Perhaps the board's biggest obsession is the TV show *Red Dwarf*. There are 20 MB of files dedicated to this one show, according to one of the bulletins.

In addition to the local messages, the echos and the newsgroups, there is another option off the main menu, Story Teller, which takes the user to a message area where each user adds his or her own bit onto a running story. When I stopped by, the story was called "A Guy Called Buck," about a gun-lover who gets into trouble at his girlfriend's house after he comes home with a new, high-caliber toy. It's an intriguing concept, but not many people other than Zarquon took the plunge and joined in.

As might be expected, the message area is complemented by a game selection that leans heavily toward the SF domain: *Global War*, *Net Runner*, and the ever-popular *Legend of the Red Dragon* (the menu selection is outlined in red, denoting its special status).

*Steve Janas is editor and co-founder of Nexus Six magazine, the journal of gutter-tech. He welcomes news of new and noteworthy boards. He can be contacted at janas@aol.com.*

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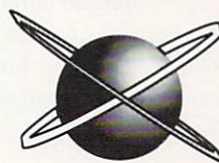
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How can I tell the good guys from the bad online?  
—Maria in NJ

Sometimes it is hard to tell if people are telling you the truth online. It is very tempting to practice a bit of deception.....:) You should talk for many hours before trusting anyone with personal information. And when in doubt, play it safe — don't tell anyone anything.

What's a good Web site for my grandchildren to explore?  
—Granny in PA

You sound like a modern woman! Have the kids check out:  
<http://www.mootown.com>

How come I have sooooo much trouble logging onto my online service in the evenings? Do I need to upgrade my modem?  
—Frustrated Frank

More and more people have discovered the fun of talking to friends on their computers in the evening. Lots of folks would rather explore the Internet or play interactive games online than watch TV. Unfortunately, this puts stress on the phone lines that feed into the online services. In fact, the phenomenal growth of membership to online services has made it hard for them to keep up. However, it seems to level off after 9 p.m., when the younger set goes to bed, so you might plan your online time for later in the evening. Or you might find that a faster modem will give you some new phone numbers to try. Good luck.

My online girlfriend wants me to spend all my log-on time with her. How can I tell her I'd like to "play around" a bit?  
—Tony in KS

Just tell her... but she may want to chat around as well.

I think my wife uses our online service for therapy. Should I resent her talking about me to strangers?  
—Michael in Memphis

Is the therapy working?

My husband resents the time I spend online talking to my cyber-friends. How can I convince him it is healthy fun?  
—Lois Lane

Perhaps you should get him involved, too. Ask him to join you at the computer and introduce him to your online pals. Playing together might be the most fun of all.

I have heard there is a place on the Internet to confess your sins. I would like to pass it on to a friend... Do you know the address?  
—AliceBlue

Here it is: <http://anther.learning.cs.cmu.edu/priest.html>

How much is too much? My husband recently ran up a \$495 bill for our online service. I think he is spending WAY too much time online! What do you think?  
—FuriousFran

That sounds like a lotta time online to me. He could cut back, or find a less expensive service — perhaps a freenet.

Is there a matchmaking service for singles on the Internet?  
—Lonely Lady

There are a number of them. You can read about them in computer publications. One service many seem to like can be found at: <http://nsns.com/single-search/>

I would like to set up my own page on the World-Wide Web to advertise my travel business. How can I go about this?  
—TulsaTom

There are many ways to do this... some expensive and some not. If you belong to Prodigy, or America Online, you can set up a simple page yourself. If you want a more professional look — with graphics and sounds — you might hire a company to set up your page and maintain it. A small company to contact might be: <http://www.anetpresence.com/anp>. And a larger company you might want to consider is: <http://www.selz.com>

Someone online called me a 'lurker.' What does this mean? Should I be angry?  
—ElaineS

A 'lurker' is one who likes to read what others write — and not participate. I think it is always a good idea to see what the thread in a conversation is before participating, but you should not be only a lurker. Part of the fun is participating, anyway. Nawwwww — don't be angry.

I am writing a college paper on the Yukon. Any suggestions?  
—BoulderBOB

I assume you mean that you would like to research your paper using your computer. There are lots of ways to do that. For starters, check out: <http://www.yknet.yk>.

Is computer communication here to stay?  
—Earl R

I think so... in one form or another!

*"Delilah," a married mother of three, answers questions about life online from AskDelilah@aol.com. Her book, Ask Delilah... about Cyberlove, will be published by Random House next month. ■■■■■*



# Voyage into Cyberspace

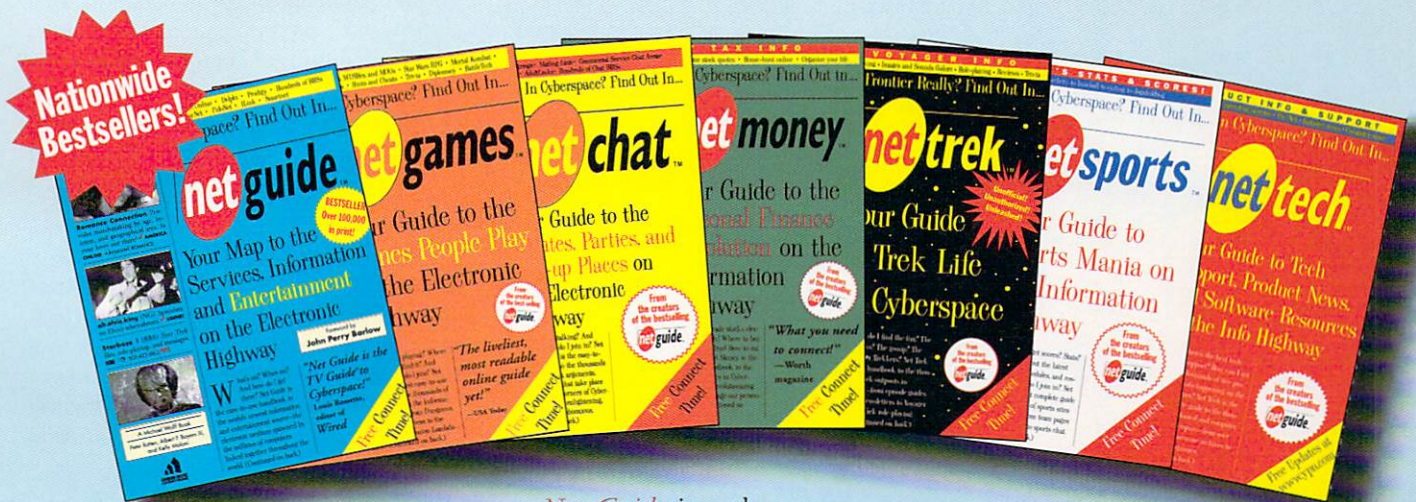
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# We Can't Keep The Future Technology Under Wraps

## Become one of a few select SYSOPS to experience a preview release of the first true 32-bit client/server BBS

The seal on Mustang Software's top secret project Wildcat! BBS re-write, code-named *Annihilator*, has been broken to allow 5000 "leading-edge" SYSOPS a glimpse of this breakthrough 32-bit client/server BBS technology. Your reward, when you purchase one of the limited Pre-Release *Annihilator* CDs for only \$49 and learn the inside story, is a 75% discount off the purchase price when *Annihilator* is released later this year.

### Learn How Interactive Multimedia Can Expand Your On-line Experience

*Annihilator* takes full advantage of the new multitasking in Windows 95 or the robust server operations in Windows NT to provide a solution that brings full on-line multimedia to every caller. See how you can use *Annihilator's* built-in remote graphics to provide an exciting multimedia greeting, using familiar JPEG and GIF graphic editors to customize the caller interface.

### See How You Can Deliver More Information At Greater Speed

*Annihilator's* Preview CD will demonstrate how the true power of client/server functionality can be unleashed to provide a broad, BBS-based solution. Learn how to implement a BBS with a core information server, and route that information using a number of application clients at the Sysop's location. You'll be able to establish a true distributed processing system that delivers more information at greater speed, now *even* on a single PC.

### The Client/Server Model Provides A Number of Advantages

The *Annihilator* Preview CD will show you how a SYSOP can offer a BBS on a desktop platform with the expansion capability to run any size on-line service.

- 32-bit Windows multitasking means no additional multitasking software is needed and 16-32 lines can be run easily without loading multiple copies of the BBS.
- The server controls all access to messages, files and other system information, isolating the core of the host activities to provide secure, private system access even to local users.
- Under *Annihilator*, the entire BBS configuration can be modified even while in full operation, but only by authorized personnel.

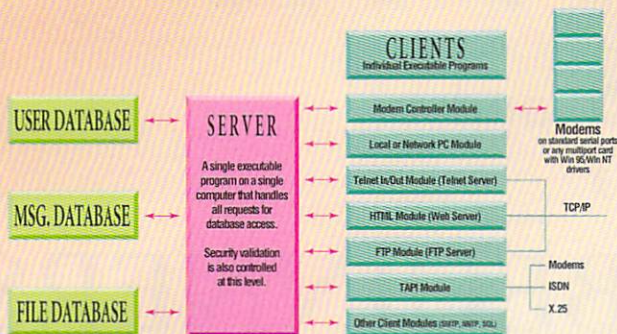
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The First True Client/Server BBS

**TOP SECRET**



# Of 32-bit BBS Much Longer

## Single PC Running Windows 95 or Windows NT



The client/server model of Annihilator can be easily installed with the server and all clients running on a single PC. The computer can operate under Windows 95 or Windows NT Workstation or Server. This configuration offers the most compact system and allows for total management from the single BBS computer.

## Build A Powerful New BBS With Annihilator Server And Client Modules

Standard Annihilator modules included with every BBS create a foundation for the new client/server BBS:

**Server Module** – functionality for processing all database and configuration requests and operational characteristics of the BBS.

**Local Client** – a fully graphical connection for anyone connecting at the host PC or over a LAN.

**Modem Client** – answers the phone for all dial-in lines and presents the BBS in ANSI, ASCII or in full graphics.

**QWK Client** – handles QWK mail exchange between the host and other BBSs.

**TAPI Client** – provides a link to the Windows Telephony Application Program Interface and a mechanism for ISDN, X.25 and other connectivity.

**Graphical Remote Client** – a set of freely-distributed Windows programs for callers to experience full multimedia when connected. This 16-bit program suite operates on Windows 3.1, Windows 95, Windows NT and any OS/2 release with Windows support.

**Optional Annihilator modules increase the power of a client/server BBS:**

**UUCP Client** – handles dial-up Internet e-mail and newsgroup support.

**Internet Package** – accessories to handle TCP/IP support: Telnet Module, FTP Module, WWW Module, IRC Module, SMTP Module and NNTP Module.

**MAPI Client** – a mechanism to exchange messages between applications such as Microsoft Mail, cc:Mail, Lotus Notes, etc.

**wcCODE Package** – a new high speed, 32-bit development language so powerful that all standard BBS functions are written in it.

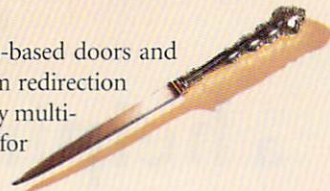
**Source Code** – for total customization of online activity, the wcCODE source for the BBS is also available for purchase (requires wcCODE).

**SQL Database Client** – provides full remote connectivity to distributed database processing using the SQL language.

**Reports Client** – reports BBS usage and statistics, and provides a means for manipulation, export and selection of database records using match criteria.

**Billing Client** – bill callers for any action performed on the BBS, includes report and invoice generation, pre-pay and post-pay models.

Annihilator fully supports all DOS-based doors and includes a program for DOS program redirection to any line. It can be connected to any multi-port serial card that includes drivers for Windows 95 or Windows NT.



## Buy The Pre-Release Annihilator CD For \$49\* And Save Up To 75% Off The Purchase Price

Instructions and information on the Pre-Release Annihilator CD provides SYSOPS with an inside look into the future of BBS technology.

Purchase of the Pre-Release Annihilator CD establishes eligibility for a 75% discount off the manufacturers suggested retail price when Annihilator is released later this year.

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Product	MSRP*	75% off*	66.6% off*	Availability
Annihilator M2 (two node + local)	\$149	\$37	\$49	4th qtr. '95
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8 Pack Node Increase	\$199	\$49	\$65	4th qtr. '95
UUCP Client (dial-up)	\$149	\$37	\$49	4th qtr. '95
Internet Clients (Telnet, FTP, WWW, UUCP, IRC)	\$799	\$199	\$265	4th qtr. '95
MAPI Client	\$799	\$199	\$265	Early '96
SQL Database Client	\$799	\$199	\$265	Early '96
Reports Client	\$149	\$37	\$49	Early '96
Billing Client	\$149	\$37	\$49	Early '96
CODE Development Language & IDE	\$149	\$37	\$49	4th qtr. '95
BBS Source Code	\$799	\$199	\$265	4th qtr. '95

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Although the BBS on the CD will be operational, it is not intended to be used as a commercial BBS because it will not have completed testing nor will it include full printed documentation. Each CD contains Annihilator M16 plus all modules available in 1995. Some modules, including the Graphical Remote Client are not yet completed, but will be made available electronically to Preview purchasers as they are completed. This Preview CD requires either Windows 95 or Windows NT v3.51 for operation. © 1995 Mustang Software, Inc. All names are trademarks of their respective companies.

# No Kiddin'

## Content for KIDS and

# "WOW!"

## a helping hand for BEGINNERS

### America Online

In AOL Chief Steve Case's "Community Update," he reminds users that the end of 1995 marks the end of the 10 years of AOL operation. He attributes the success of AOL to several key elements, but most of it to happy customers.

"I am often asked what accounts for AOL's rapid growth — we've grown tenfold in the past two years, from 350,000 members then to more than 3,500,000 now. My answer is simple," he said. "Our members like AOL, and they tell their friends about it. As a result, people interested in trying an online service are invariably encouraged to try AOL. This 'word of mouth' aspect has been far more important than anything else we've done."

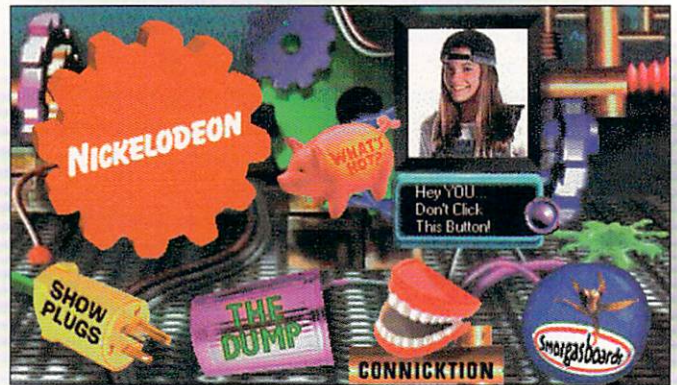


New content on AOL includes Nickelodeon Online, which in itself includes several sections. For starters, there's Showplugs. This is where you'll find the lowdown on the hottest Nick shows and the people who make them happen. Track down episode descriptions, take in-depth looks at your favorite Nick characters, even get a glimpse of the lives of the actors who bring the characters to life.

Showplugs is also the place where you get to tell Nick what you think about their shows. And while you're at it, you might as well check out what Nick Day it is today. (What's a Nick Day? Go to Showplugs and find out!)

Feel like speaking your mind? There's no better place than the Connicktion. At The Link, you get to speak your mind to everyone from The Boss Lady to Stick Stickly. If you're hungry for knowledge, visit The Scoop — they'll keep you posted on all the happenings at Nickelodeon.

Nick asks for your opinion on some of life's more overlooked issues with Chew On This. And if you feel like hanging



out with other onliners, click over to The Handshake.

Ever wonder what you'd end up with if Nick fans from all over the country got together and hung out? Well, you'd get the Blabbatorium — a huge chat room of Nick-oids that's great fun for the young.

The Connicktion is the place to connect to Nick AND to other kids. If you've got something to say, head on over to the Connicktion, where you can hang out or just post whatever's on your mind.

But if you're looking for some Nick action, Smorgasboards is where you belong.

Smorgasboards is the home of the Game Domain, an area devoted to the fine art of game playing online. And while we're on the topic of fine art, you can upload your own drawings in the



Nick Art Room. You'll also find advice from some of the world's greatest cartoonists—the Nicktoons animators—in the Nick art room. And you'll get to take a rare look at their works in progress with the Nicktoons Sketchbooks. Smorgasboards is also a great place to entertain yourself with Cranked-Up Comics and Interactive Stories.

Speaking of stories, you'll want to click through Nickelodeon Magazine Online, too. Annoying Songs, Ooze News, even a Quease-Off... some of your favorite stuff from the magazine is here.

So after surfing all over Nickelodeon Online, what have you got to show for your efforts?

Well, perhaps a Dump.

A download Dump, that is. This is where you can help yourself to Nickelodeon's sights, sounds, and videos. (If your downloading skills are a little rusty, just take a look at their handy how-to manual: "How To Take a Dump.") It's nearly impossible to fully describe all of Nickelodeon Online... you just have to experience it.

In addition to the new content being added, many existing attractions are getting a facelift to take advantage of the new AOL interface. Kaplin OnLine (known for providing the best resources for test preparation from the SATs to the MCAT), The Weather, ABC News, Time Magazine and PC World have all undergone facelifts to take advantage of the multimedia interface.

And if you're big on games, boy does AOL has one for you. Called CyberJustice, this electronic playground works like many of the Galaxy's playgrounds — you run in, get on and run amuck. Go where the mood strikes you. Do what appeals to you, when and where you want. You "determine the horizontal and the vertical" in this world.

## CompuServe

CompuServe is not dragging and dropping on its laurels, either. Once again the number of changes, upgrades, developments and planned improvements at CompuServe are too numerous to mention. For instance there's the "WOW!" project, new wireless communication, Web page builders, and multimedia.

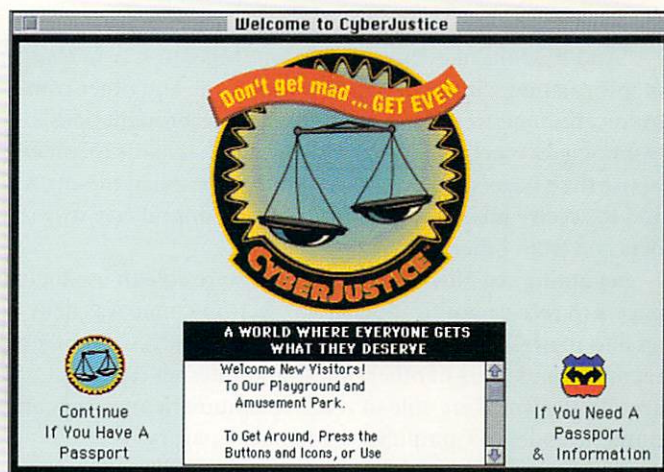
But let's take them one at a time.

The first (code named WOW!), is a service that'll appeal to a whole new market of less experienced computer users.

The service will allow members to identify and access the areas of CIS important to them, as opposed to being "told" where to go.

"Your World. Your Way." is how we describe WOW!" said Scott Kauffman, CompuServe's vice president of consumer markets. CompuServe planned to formally introduced the service at the show of shows known as Comdex in Las Vegas, and will begin rolling out the new service early this year.

"There is a vast potential audience out there whose needs are not met by existing online services," said Kauffman. "These relatively new computer users don't care about the underlying technology that makes it all work. In many cases, they don't even have a clear understanding of what the Internet is all about. But they are intrigued by the possibilities, and they don't want to be left behind. Parents with school-age children are particularly concerned about providing the right



tools for their kids."

One of the most striking features will be a new, simplified interface. Based on extensive user testing, the colorful graphic interface will allow members to explore an area either through subject icons, such as entertainment, or action buttons, such as chat. Once members identify the content they want, they will be able to retrieve the information quickly with "click and go" ease of use. Delivering content customized for the user will help build the sense of community so important to most members.

The service will have simple chat and email features, and will tie in relevant Internet Web sites and newsgroups.

"The challenge is to place the possibilities in context for the first-time user and offer the appropriate balance of community, content and customization," Kauffman added.

He said a decision has not been made on pricing for the new consumer service, but he expects it to be competitive with current industry practices. More details will be made available as the service continues to evolve.

"Every day, we learn more about what people want and what the new WOW! service should look like," says Kauffman.

The CompuServe Information Service will continue to offer its full range of products and services, but at the decreased connect-time charge of \$2.95 per hour (applicable after members have used five free hours each month).

Before WOW! comes into being, however, CIS users will be able to take advantage of some new wireless technology. These new services allow CompuServe members to send electronic mail to other CompuServe members with one of the more than 30 million numeric or alphanumeric pagers across the U.S. Members can also be notified by pager when email is received in their CompuServe mail box.

The national scope and ability to reach any pager is unique to CompuServe, the result of an exclusive agreement between CIS and RPA, the Jersey City, N.J.-based automated paging network provider. The relationship with RPA also lays the foundation for the development of the next generation in wireless communication.

"Millions of people subscribe to paging services to help them stay in touch with their office or family," said Steve

CONTINUES...

Owens, CompuServe's wireless products manager.

"And millions of people join CompuServe to stay in charge of information with email, Forum messaging and other communication services. Now, CompuServe has brought both technologies together by offering services that allow members to use their pagers to keep track of incoming email messages and to receive messages both from other CompuServe members and from other sources."

Beginning last November, members were able to use their pagers to receive notification when electronic mail was delivered to their CompuServe mailbox. Additionally, CompuServe members and users of other online and Internet services around the world are able to send alphanumeric messages and numeric codes to CompuServe members' pagers.

And early this year additional services will allow members to employ something called SmartRules(sm), enabling them to filter important messages and forward them to their pagers or other destinations. And members will be able to use their pagers to receive select, personalized information such as stock quotes, sports scores, news, weather and other information from the CompuServe Information Service.

"This is just the tip of the iceberg," said Rob Mainor, CompuServe's vice president of product marketing and business information services. "Today, we are working on products that will allow you to transmit voice-mail to your laptop, receive a fax to your email box and send email to a personal digital assistant (PDA) via a wireless pager card. Through CompuServe, you'll know when an important message arrives in your online mailbox.

"These services are going to be especially important to the mobile professional who depends on laptops, PDAs and other personal communicators," said Bob Parsley, product manager of CompuServe's Interface Products Group. "When equipped with pager cards, these units will be able to overcome conventional requirements, like the need for phone jacks and modems, and receive information on the fly. The portables market has been waiting for a communication application like this."

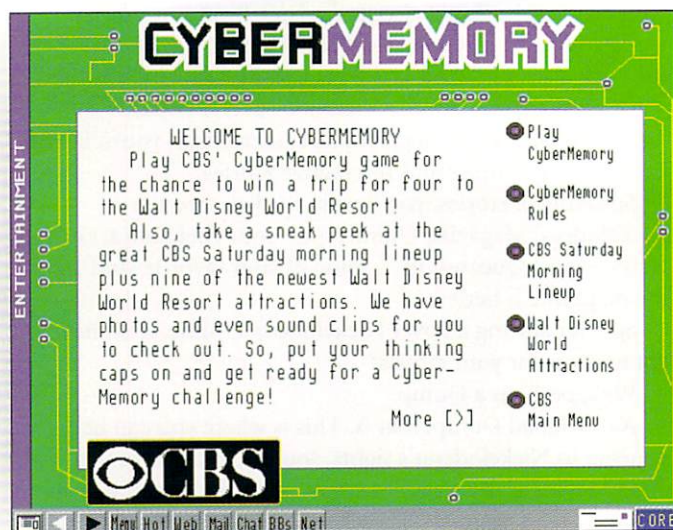
This initiative is the first of many that will result from CompuServe's relationships with business partners MobileComm, PageMart, PageNet and SkyTel. These offerings are part of CompuServe's "Stay In Charge"(sm) strategy, intended to leverage the service's ability to deliver the broadest set of communication services in the industry.

For those with multimedia and the Web on their mind, CIS has partnered with Macromedia and others to allow users to create (what I'd call) pretty exciting multimedia Web pages from their homes, then publish the pages via CompuServe with a simple click of the mouse. CIS's Home Page Wizard and Publishing Wizard make creating Web pages as easy as dragging and dropping elements onto a page.

## Prodigy

It's a CD-ROM! It's an animated TV series! It's a Web Site! It's a new Prodigy Chat Auditorium! Yes, it's Hyperman—the new intergalactic super hero of the '90s!

Prodigy today has launched "Chat with Hyperman" as a new weekly Chat area created just for children. Beginning last October, children who sign on to Prodigy from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. (ET) are able to talk to, and interact with, the characters



from "The Adventures of Hyperman," a popular IBM CD-ROM game and CBS Saturday morning cartoon series.

Created by Illumina Productions, Inc., in association with IBM and Hyperion Animation, The Adventures of Hyperman is an extension of IBM's CD-ROM game designed to entertain children while teaching them basic scientific principles.

Hyperman is a zany, "intergalactic superhero" assigned to save planet Earth from Entrobe, the most self-absorbed, dangerous force in the Universe. With his loyal but lazy sidekick, Studd Puppy, Hyperman is educated by teen genius, Emma C Squared, who teaches the duo about the Earth's physical properties and other basic science principles. Together they use this information to outsmart intergalactic evildoers like Entrobe and his buddy, Kid Chaos.

"We've designed Prodigy's Chat with Hyperman to educate and involve children beyond the question and answer format," said Paul Fiore, product manager for hardware and software forums at Prodigy.

"Chat with Hyperman encourages children to use their imagination, assume a character role, and actually participate in the action, which really takes the Prodigy chat experience to a whole new level."

Kids signing on to Prodigy can enter the Kids and Teens area of Chat to access the "Hyperman Auditorium." They'll be alerted to the weekly "Chat with Hyperman" in Prodigy's "Chat Zone" area, launched last November. Chat Zone will highlight all upcoming Prodigy chat events pertaining to computers and computing, including appearances by industry personalities and leaders, software and CD-ROM developers, and online experts.

"The Adventures of Hyperman" is part of IBM's growing line of interactive multimedia titles of reference, education and entertainment software on CD-ROM. Prodigy users can purchase "The Adventures of Hyperman" CD-ROM by Jumping "IBM".

Hyperman is also the subject of a new Web site developed exclusively for Prodigy members. Windows users can traverse the Hyperman site using their Prodigy Web Browser to access the following address: <http://antares.prodigy.com/web/livedigi/hypercoi.htm>.

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# Hodgepodge

Catching up  
a BIT on the BYTES.

I hope everyone's making it safely and happily through the holidays, seeing old friends and family, and getting all the gifts they'd hoped to. Me? I've been busy doing important things, like working on my Doom II and Dark Forces



games.



Ah yes, things have been very busy here at the Kuykendall Estate. OK, all right, the picture below is from Tony Quinn's Virtual Universe, one of 10 CDs I got in a Wayzata CD 10-pack. But squint a little then turn the lights down and it might resemble my abode.

Looking back over the past few columns I noticed most of them have been showcase pieces, parading or panning various host and terminal communications software packages. It's probably time for a change, like, getting back to answering your questions, catching up on what's happening in the news, and discussing some of the things I've found in my email box recently.

**Now serving — Internet:** With all the talk this past year about the Internet, I've gotten lots of mail about what types of servers are available on the Macintosh platform.

As far as World-Wide Web servers go, I found some great info in the newsgroup comp.infosystems.www.servers.mac FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions). Reading the notes in there I'd say there are three you might want to check out: WebSTAR, MacHTTP, and the Mac Common LISP Server.

- WebSTAR is an industrial strength commercial Web server from StarNine, Inc. (<http://www.starnine.com/>).

- MacHTTP (<http://www.biap.com>) is

a freely available server for Macintosh only — find a FAQ dedicated to MacHTTP at

<http://arpp1.carleton.ca/machttp/doc/>.

• Mac Common Lisp Server (<http://www.ai.mit.edu/projects/iip/doc/cl-http/home-page.html>) is a server written in Mac Common Lisp. Its object-oriented Lisp code is freely available.

As for Mac POP server software, check your favorite FTP site or BBS for a freeware package called MailShare.

There's also something worth checking out called AIMS from Apple — the story I got was that Apple had hired someone to write a POP server program, found out the MailShare name wasn't available, so named the program Apple Internet Mail Server (AIMS). The commercial version, I believe, is available as a part of Apple's Internet package. Contact with your local software dealer for more info.

**Virtual junk:** What's the latest craze in Internet email? One you probably want to avoid: Unsolicited junk mail!

I just started receiving these "updates" about free items I can find on the Internet. They're actually info bits about sites to check out, followed by roughly 20 ads. Here's an excerpt from the bottom of one piece I got detailing Prime Data WorldNet E!Mail's service:

"Prime Data WorldNet brings you the most effective form of advertising today! Email, unlike postal mail, guarantees your ad is read and not tossed in the trash. Your ad goes to the potential customer, not them coming to you. The cost is MUCH less and more effective. Each co-op advertisement contains 10-20 ads at 80 characters per line including spaces. Your ad will go to 200,000 people one time. We E-Mail to many folks not covered by our competitors. Rates: \$89 for 10 line ad, \$49 for 5 line ad, \$39 for 3 line ad."

Just imagine, over 200,000 people having to filter this kind of junk out of their email (OK, maybe some of it's not junk, but things unsolicited often automatically fall into that category 'round

## eWorld Jewels

If you're looking for utilities to help in running your board, or connecting to the Internet, check out some of these programs available now on eWorld.

**Control PPP 1.2** (Figure A). If you connect to the Internet via PPP, you need Richard Buckle's Control PPP strip.

Control PPP allows you to configure MacTCP, configure MacPPP, and even connect through a simple pop-up menu. A great tool for anyone using their PowerBook to connect to the Internet.

**Signature Quote 1.0** (Figure B). Signature Quote is a great utility for anyone using



email or posting mail on one of the major online services. With Signature Quote you can have two styles of quoting, two different signatures, and split paragraphs into individual lines — even combine lines into paragraphs. These functions can also be installed as FKEYs.

**XTimer 1.6.1** (Figure C). XTimer provides an on-screen, real-time display of how much you're spending online. XTimer can be used to track time and expenses for any by-the-hour task, but it's optimized for use with CompuServe, AOL, and (of course) eWorld.



here). Old-timers on the Internet have various methods of dealing with unsolicited mail (you can only imagine). Prime Data WorldNet can be reached at [prime@mwci.net](mailto:prime@mwci.net).

**Security breach?** Another interesting item I found in my email was an observation from a user that causes me much concern. He found that if you lost the password to your America Online account, you can extract the password by connecting to AOL via TCP/IP and capturing the first couple of packets with a packet analyzer. Your password will apparently be in the first couple of packets (if you had configured your AOL flash session to automatically enter the password).

So if your AOL software is set to auto-connect, entering your password for you, you could be putting yourself at risk.

I've always warned against automating scripts with passwords included. Even if you only work from an isolated computer (home or work), you may never know if the system went down and had to be serviced — and who might be getting a copy of your software with the password included. Oh, you might catch it after a month or so, but that's after the big bill has rolled in.

So as precaution, I suggest you change your password regularly... the

next time you log on... as soon as possible... Today. Why not do it now?

**Memory block:** Have trouble remembering the RAM configurations for an SE/30, a Mac IIfx, and one of the new PCI Macs? Can't remember which Macs use 30-pin versus 72-pin SIMMs? And what Mac used 64-pin SIMMs for its RAM? You need a copy of GURU, the Guide to RAM Upgrades from Newer Technology.

It's a great free application containing detailed technical info on nearly everything ever made by Apple. GURU shows memory config info, processor type/speed, SCSI capability, video options, sound support, etc., for all of Apple's CPUs and laser printers. It also has a feature that allows you to test your memory for bad SIMMs. The latest version, which contains info on the new PCI PowerMacs, is 1.1.1. Find it on the Net and most online services.

**Double vision:** Ever wished you could view those JPEGs as you pull them from the Net? To make it so, check out Jade.

Jade 0.91 is a freeware multithreaded JPEG viewer just for the Mac. (Multithreading allows you to keep in constant contact with all of Jade's fea-



CONTINUES...



Rusty

Edie

Call a different kind of BBS. "We are the Friendliest BBS in the World." Our name says it all. Edie and I are a couple of burnouts from the 60s. We didn't like rules then and we don't now. Come on in and relax; you will be among friends. We have a huge adult section, including over three gigs of adult graphics, as well as a fine selection of public domain and shareware programs, including over a gig of family-type graphics. But that's not what sets us apart. When you call the first time, you'll know what no amount of words can tell you, you are Home. That's right, put up your feet and enjoy yourself.

We live by three no's: "No Censorship, No Rules, No Hassle."

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All (V32 etc.) .....216-726-2620  
Fax .....216-726-3595

tures, allowing you to double up with a Web browser or just decompress two images at once.)

What's neat is that through the use of its own virtual memory scheme, Jade can have as many as 30 files open simultaneously, regardless of their size. This is because decompressed images only occupy around 20K RAM, and the actual image is stored on disk.



Jade can view GIFs and PICTS, and display JPEG's at their full size or in a small (but quick!) preview size — in addition to the standard screen size. And Jade is FAT, meaning it can run native on PowerPCs as well. It requires a 68020 (or higher) or PowerPC, Thread Manager or System 7.5.

**Make the switch:** If you have multiple SLIP/PPP connections and hate switching out of your MacTCP configurations to reboot every time you want to change your access, take a gander at John Norstad's MacTCP Switcher. (If the name sound familiar, it probably is — Norstad also wrote Disinfectant and NewsWatcher.)

MacTCP Switcher 1.1 is a slick little program that makes it easy to save and quickly restore multiple MacTCP configurations. This is especially useful for PowerBook users who carry their systems around and regularly use them with different network connections (e.g., SLIP at home and LocalTalk or Ethernet at work).



Version 1.1 can also detect and report damaged settings files and damaged MacTCP files. And it flushes volumes after writing files to prevent file damage caused by subsequent unrelated system crashes. Norstad is quite a programmer!

MacTCP Switcher can found almost anywhere.

**Sterling utility:** SilverLining is an excellent hard drive formatting/testing/mounting utility produced by a company called LaCie. In fact, for years it was the unofficial software used internally by Apple to work on their drives (and may still be today as well). The only gripe I've had with LaCie is that they've not been too good with keeping users up on SilverLining updates. And when you want an update, even a minor one, it's \$10 a whack.

Not anymore. Those of you in the same boat as me will sing great praises of joy when you find LaCie's Web site — complete with, yes, free upgrades of SilverLining. Check it out at <http://www.teleport.com/~lacie>

**User-news:** Those of you seeking a good Mac site/newsletter should check out the one put up by the Chicago Macintosh Users' Group. There's lots of good info here, with reviews, BBS data, and more. Their newsletter can be found at the Info-Mac FTP site, as well as on several of the online services. Or check out their site at

<http://www.cmug.org/cmug/>. (You can't miss with a newsletter carrying a column called "Andy the Grouch" — yes, it's yours truly.)

Next month I begin a look at how to actually build a Mac BBS, and in so doing will examine the development of several Mac BBSs around the country. Where did they come up with their ideas? How did they implement them?

Expect a good bit of information for sysop-wannabees, as well as ideas to improve even the most established of BBSs. ■■■■■

*Michael A. Kuykendall is a veteran Mac user and can be reached through Macintosh Online BBS at 770.822.5929. Email him at [andykirk@aol.com](mailto:andykirk@aol.com), [andykirk@eworld.com](mailto:andykirk@eworld.com), or [mosa3@mind-spring.com](mailto:mosa3@mind-spring.com).*

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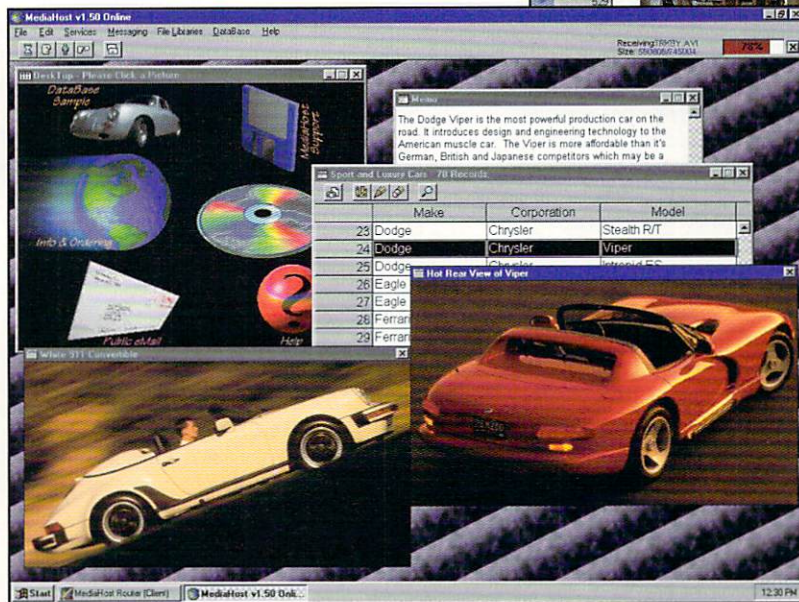
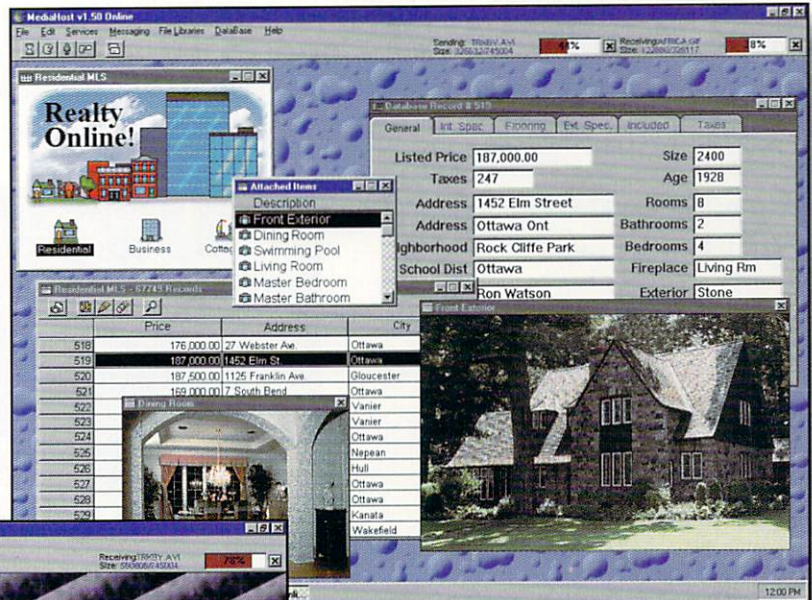
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\* One connection Server.  
Database Extension not included.

# HOT FILES

BY HANK HURTEAU

Following are **top downloads** as recorded last month on three BBSs across the U.S. Look for them on your favorite local BBS, too. Files such as QWK packets have been omitted, as have any graphic files. Descriptions are generated by author or bulletin board. Programs carried in the **"Top Ten"** download list don't necessarily denote a good program, of course — just one that's frequently downloaded. You'll have to be the judge when it comes to quality. And keep in mind: always look for the latest program, as one of the advantages to using (and registering) **shareware** is that you'll be privy to the frequent updates.

## WORLD DATA NETWORK BBS 703.620.8900

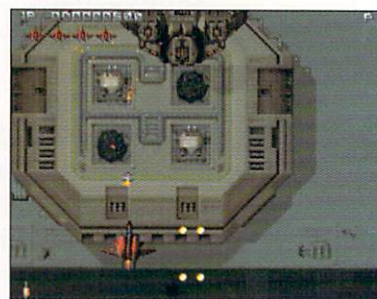
A lot of interest in Windows 95 on this BBS!

- 1 **N16E122.EXE** 1,638,547  
Netscape Navigator 1.22 (Windows)
- 2 **DOSBOOK.ZIP** 30,521  
There are still plenty of DOS users and DOS lovers out there. Here is a great reference and training manual with some excellent tips and tactics to make you a DOS power user. Learn the why and not just the how of computer use, commands and batch file programming.
- 3 **WH95\_V1.ZIP** 21,721  
WinHacker 95 V1.0. Gives the user an easy way to configure options in Windows 95 that are not in the GUI (Graphical User interface). Access to many of these options was removed from Windows 95 because they would confuse most users. WinHacker 95 gives the user a way to easily configure these hidden options.
- 4 **WIN95HLP.ZIP** 136,481  
Microsoft Resource Kit on Windows 95 — in Help File format. Direct from Microsoft Support.
- 5 **BTMGR13A.ZIP** 48,241  
Boot Manager 95 v1.3a for Windows 95 (by Kevin Ferguson). Utility to allow you to easily configure your Windows 95 bootup options. Requires Win95 and VBRUN300.DLL. Freeware.
- 6 **REVENG12.ZIP** 1,197,008  
Clyde's Revenge is a smooth-scrolling



arcade adventure from the makers of Hocus Pocus, published by Apogee Software. Double parallax scrolling, a dynamite soundtrack and full digital sound effects highlight this arcade hit. Supports 12 different sound cards including Sound Blaster and UltraSound for eight channels of sound. Game requires a 486/33 or higher, VGA graphics and four megs of RAM.

- 7 **PTOYS895.ZIP** 145,001  
PowerToys. These enhancements were developed by members of the Microsoft Win95 team, and are available to Win95 users at no cost. NOTE: these are not part of any shipping retail product at this point, and therefore are not supported through any official support channels. Use at your own risk.
- 8 **CBW95.ZIP** 688,225  
Colorado Mem. Tape backup program for Windows 95 supports all drives except Power tapes.
- 9 **PRT2DISK.ZIP** 354,916  
Print2Disk — contains a Windows printer driver that lets you redirect your reports from paper to one of five popular image formats, including DCX, PCX single/multi, TIFF Group 3, and GammaFax.



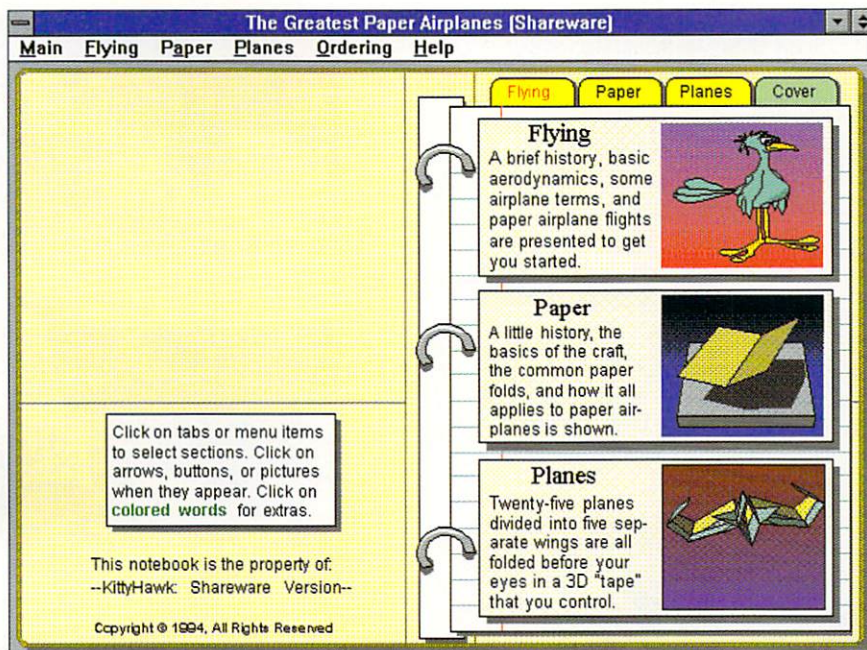
Baryon

- 10 **MSN\_V202.ZIP** 1,146,550  
Mission Supernova — a mouse-driven science-fiction VGA graphic-adventure. You are Walter Bumble, ship's cook of the starship "Supernova". One day you wake up and find out that all the other crew members have left the ship!

## SHAREWARE MONSTER BBS 408.577.0509

Games and Internet programs abound at the Monster.

- 1 **TWSK21E.ZIP** 178,711  
Trumpet Winsock 2.1e. A popular and stable Windows application for gaining entrance to the Net.
- 2 **3DTV.ZIP** 3,635,916  
Terminal Velocity from 3D Realms! Shareware by Terminal Reality, Inc. "A 3D shooter that's part Star Wars and part Descent!" Very realistic, with huge levels, insane weapons, modem/Net support, and 10-channel digital music and sound effects. Requires 486DX w/local BUS and four megs of RAM. The 3D worlds are breathtaking, like nothing seen before in online games. Note: You can also find this game separated into three parts.



- 3 **1\_VINYL.ZIP** 1324492  
 Vinyl Goddess from Mars. The Vinyl Goddess' space ship has crash-landed on a forbidden planet. Can you guide her through dangerous and exotic locations on a quest to free herself from the planet? Get ready for slick arcade action in this new release from Union Logic that'll blow your mind at 70 frames per second. Requires a 386 or better; supports SB, ADLIB, and JOY.
- 4 **DBPERL10.ZIP** 509,856  
 The Internet Pearls Database — Huge database of valuable Internet information including hundreds of sites and pointers to what's best on the Internet. Full-fledged database. Add, Delete, Sort, Query, Find, Import, Export, and Print Data to customize your Database of Important Internet Connections. Calendar and File Find utilities included, to use from within the Database. FTP, Gopher, WWW, and Finger sites included, too. Great deal of information.
- 5 **LEGAL8.ZIP** 687,037  
 Your Personal Legal Guide, v8.0. The most complete source of legal information and forms around. YPLG has over 130 forms and is consistently one of the top-selling shareware programs for the past few years. It's easy to understand, useful, and complete shareware by HomeCraft.
- 6 **GPA10B.ZIP** 721,361  
 The Greatest Paper Airplanes v1.0b. You might recall this Windows program being reviewed here a few months back. It's an interactive 3D animation program to teach you to fold extraordinary paper airplanes. Unique notebook design features simple VCR style fold controls, color printing of decorated airplane designs, and animated

tutorials on the history of flight and paper folding. Requires: 386SX-16 or better, Windows 3.1+, two megs of RAM and couple megs on the hard drive. One of Uncle Hank's favorites!

7 **SPHEJONG.ZIP** 842,865  
 Moraffware Spherical Mahjongg with 3D graphics! Moraff's Spherejongg is like Mahjongg with spherical pieces. It is much easier to play, but just as challenging to win. The large, globe-shaped 3D tiles are very easy to identify — say good-bye to eye-strain. Great 3D graphics, fast keys, easy

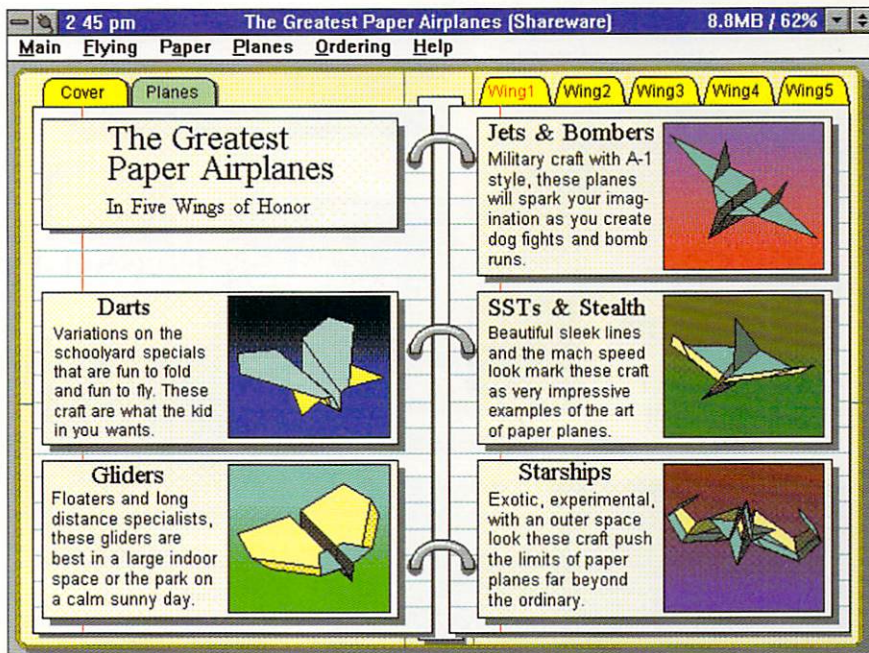
- menus, user friendly; Save games in progress; Keep statistics and best scores for each player.
- 8 **IPHONE30.ZIP** 28,158  
 Internet Phone by VocalTec v3.0. Build 13 now supports full duplex conversations.
- 9 **WSFTP321.ZIP** 116,937  
 Winsock FTP. Implementation designed for ordinary users; no expertise required.
- 10 **ICOMM102.ZIP** 337,893  
 I-Comm 1.02. A full-featured WWW graphical browser and modem communication program requiring no SLIP/PPP connection. I-Comm provides a friendly graphical user interface which allows user switching between the browser and terminal with one-button click. I-Comm supports HTTP, FTP and Gopher, X,Y, Zmodem protocols, supports batch download, forms, smart disk caching, etc.

## UNCLE HANK'S BBS 413.527.8977 Sysop: "Uncle" Hank Hurteau

Games are popular here too, along with utility programs.

- 1 **PCONF802.ZIP** 179,819  
 PC-Config V8.02. Detects all the hardware in your PC and shows each on the screen. One of the best sysinfo-programs ever. With CD-ROM benchmark routine. Finds Local-BUS and PCI boards, Cyrix, NexGen, UMC and Pentium CPUs. Detects lots of VGA chips, APM functions, EPP BIOS, Green boards, Pentium Bug, PCMCIA, EIDE feat. NEW: detailed PCI and SCSI info as well as new SAA-look.

CONTINUES...



2 **WSTBAR22.ZIP** 92,770

WSTBar is a Windows application that displays a toolbar (Topmost) that holds 10 command buttons for Internet applications. The toolbar placement and applications are user-defined.

3 **FNA317S.ZIP** 878,211

Name Almanac for Windows. This shareware makes a commercial quality printout of "the meaning of more than 14,500+ first names" in calligraphy script. Designed for the entrepreneur who wants to sell a unique printout at swap-meets, fairs, or in a small business setting. Requires Windows 3.1 or better, three megs of free hard disk space and VBRUN300.DLL. Money-making potential.

4 **SHIFTER.ZIP** 28,7295

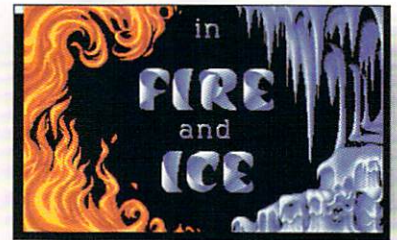
Shape Shifter Adventure. The weirdest, coolest, most mind-boggling, text adventure you're ever likely to play! To win the game you must find the machine to cure shape-shifterism. Once you find the machine you've got to fix it and turn it on to cure yourself.

5 **28SETUP.ZIP** 14,310

Text file on the best setting for several different 28.8 modems — includes init strings and NRAM setting.

6 **FIREICE.ZIP** 558,777

Fire and Ice 1.0 from Streetwise Interactive. Already a retail hit in Europe, this translation



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of the smash Amiga arcade game is now available for the PC in the U.S. as shareware. Guide Cool Coyote in his quest to save the world. From the masters at Graftgold and Renegade, and distributed by Streetwise. Recommended: 386, VGA, Soundblaster, joystick.

7 **BLAKSTR.ZIP** 631,122

Blackstar — Agent of Justice. Evil lurks in the city as innocent victims are killed for pleasure. Soon things becomes personal and the Agent of Justice seeks revenge. A new, exciting graphic adventure game that's mouse-driven with an intuitive point-n-click interface. Requires 286 or better, two megs of hard drive space free, 256-color VGA, sound card optional.

8 **BARYON10.ZIP** 242,7231

Baryon may be the greatest shoot 'em ever devised for the PC. You must pilot your ship against a relentless onslaught of alien craft, both in the air and on the ground. Features fast, smooth scrolling graphics with a fluid maneuverability and a rocking soundtrack. Requires 386SX+, VGA, and four megs of RAM.

9 **PKHELP.ZIP** 35,072

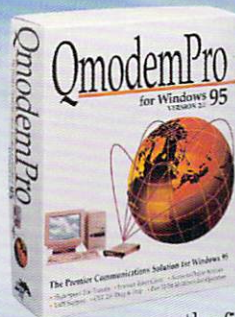
PKUNZIP helper. This is a graphical demonstration of the fundamental techniques required to use the PKUNZIP program to unpack/pack files from/to archives. Designed for the computer novice and/or those who have never used an archiver before.

10 **SCAN4DLL.ZIP** 36,196

Another Freeware program from Software Innovations. This program will assist in discovering what DLLs are used by a particular program. Useful when you want to remove a Windows program from your system.

*If you're a sysop carrying a Top Ten bulletin on your BBS and would like to see it listed here, please contact me at Uncle Hanks BBS or unkhank@ix.netcom.com*

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the first communication software that delivers all the features and performance you need to get the most from the new 32-bit Windows platform. And since you demand performance, you'll like the fact that QmodemPro's communication and Internet capabilities go way beyond the standard terminal software included with Windows 95. So whether you're connected to the office, company mainframe or BBS for data/file transfer, you'll get the powerful, 32-bit technology in QmodemPro to satisfy your "need for speed."

## 800-208-0616

Available at Software Etc., Babbages, Computer City, CompUSA, Electronics Boutique, Egghead and other software outlets for \$129 or less. Registered Qmodem/QmodemPro customers call for upgrade pricing.

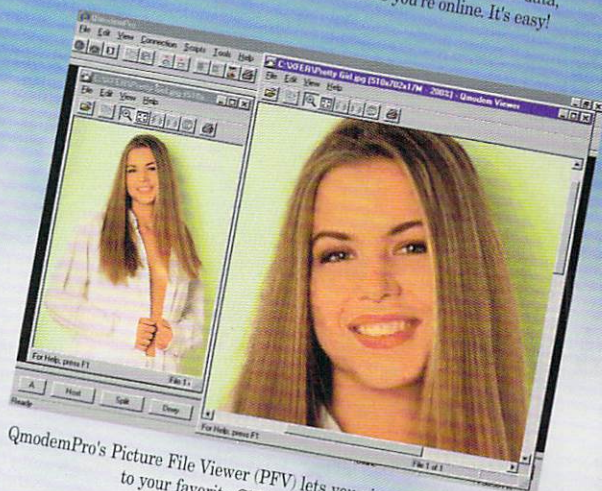


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\* RSA Data Security, Inc. MD5 Message-Digest Algorithm  
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# Evolving Boards

## Commodore BBS software COMES of AGE.

**C**ommodore BBSs aren't what they used to be. Just as our hardware has changed dramatically to give us more power, BBS software has evolved offering more features to sysops and callers alike. BBSs that you've explored in the past may be radically different today, as many have taken on new ownership, programmers, or both.

But there's more to it than hardware-friendly bulletin boards. Plenty more.

Many of the boards can now connect with each other (even when using different BBS software) in sophisticated network systems. This gives callers a chance to share messages, files and even graffiti with each other, even though their sysops might not agree on which BBS host program is the "best". Check out the following systems and decide for yourself which deserves the calls.

### Three Color 64 BBS Packages

Color 64 has evolved quite a bit, adding Commodore 128, high-speed modems and support for Creative Micro Design's storage devices. Today there are two new packages available, each from different authors, and an older version has just gone freeware.

If you've been looking for BBS software and have considered Color 64, now's your chance to try a limited version first, then if it meets your approval, you can purchase the upgraded version of your choice depending on your equipment and needs.

One of the key features of all the Color 64 BBS software is the use of Commodore color and graphics characters, which are utilized not only in menu and other online screens, but

also in the message bases.

IBM callers haven't been left out, either, as many of the boards have C64TRM5D.EXE online for downloading — a term program that lets those who use IBM PCs have the ability to call these boards and enjoy the CBM color and graphics, too.

### Color 64 BBS v7.37

WWW: <http://www.indirect.com/www/wanderer/color.htm>

On September 16, 1995, Color 64 v7.37 by Greg Pfountz became freeware. The documentation and system files can be downloaded from the World Wide Web at the above address. Color 64 allows the use of fast storage devices such as REUs, hard drives (ICT, LT Kernal and CMD HD) or RAMLinks.

One limitation of this version is that it only permits modem speeds from 300 to 2400 baud. The commercial versions are able to support speeds up to 38.4Kbps.

For file transfers, Color 64 uses C1 Punter and Xmodem protocols. It allows up to 26 download directories on any number of drives (devices 8-15), with a download credit system to encourage users to give as well as receive. Files can have up to 100 lines

for file descriptions. Color 64 lets the sysop set six different access levels for users and three levels for co-sysops. Other sysop features include two color/graphics file editors (one online for short files and a stand-alone version for longer ones). The BBS also has a built-in terminal program (both ASCII and C/G emulations) with something called "Message Maker" allowing the user to create and upload mail while online. Additionally, there are hundreds of add-on modules created over the years that are readily available to new sysops.

### **Color 64 BBS v8.0**

Fred Ogle  
P.O. Box 35427  
Dundalk, MD 21222-7427  
Email: f.ogle@genie.geis.com  
BBS: 410.285.4312  
\$65 plus \$3 shipping

Once you've had a taste of the free-ware version of Color 64, you may be ready to upgrade to V8.0 which, among other improvements, allows faster modem speeds when used with a Swiftlink cartridge. Additionally, it works with the Turbo-Master 4.09 MHz accelerator — with or without the SwiftLink. V8 supports almost every Commodore hard drive ever created, including the Xetec Lt Kernal, InConTrol DataChief, MiniChief, Commodore brand, and CMD hard drives. CMD subdirectories are fully supported, as well as the LT Kernal's logical units from zero through nine. Color 64 v8 also supports ANSI graphics in addition to ASCII and Commodore Color Graphics.

Sysops can configure up to 18 message bases with a total of 232 messages, stored as single sequential files. Up to 99 different file areas are allowed with up to 999 files per area. Color 64 v8 offers four file transfer protocols: Punter, Multi-Punter, Xmodem-CRC and Xmodem-Checksum. Files and messages are time/date stamped and displayed in chronological order.

The 150 pages of Color 64 v8's documentation is shipped in an 8.5 x 11 binder and includes info on setting

the BBS up, as well as lists of variables, commands and subroutines.

### **Color 64 V.128.32**

Adam Fanello (a.k.a. Ant)  
4822 Larwin Ave.  
Cypress, CA 90630  
BBS: 714.828.7296  
Email: Adam\_Fanello@fullcoll.edu or Ant@titan.fullerton.edu  
WWW: <http://www.indirect.com/www/wanderer/color.htm>  
\$25 (must be a registered Color 64 user)  
V128+Swiftlink upgrade: \$10

Commodore 128 owners may be interested in Color 64 v128, which is the original Greg Pfountz Color 64 v7.37 software (the freeware version above) updated by Adam Fanello to run on a Commodore 128 computer. It includes a program called MALT, which updates current Color 64 files

.....

**It includes full ANSI support and stores the membership list in memory (for fast searching) so users can log on with their names instead of the user number that is usually required.**

to run in 128 mode. An additional upgrade allows those with a high speed modem and Swiftlink cartridge to run the BBS at speeds up to 19.2Kbps.

The power of the original Color 64 BBS package is increased by the 128 version software, as the C128 has twice as much memory and speed, and allows additional features like burst mode for the 1571/81 (plus the added speed when run in 80-column mode). It includes full ANSI support and stores the membership list in memory (for fast searching) so users can log on with their names instead of the user number that is usually required. Two different types of networking support (Comlink and Network 128 v1.26) are included with the package.

Color 64 v128's chat mode has split screens, word-wrap and a unique feature: the text is automatically colorized differently for each person typing. The message system allows up to eight different message bases, allowing more than 400 messages each. Messages posted in 40 columns are stretched so that 80-column users see the text across the full 80-column screen. Similar to the message bases, the files area allows the maximum of 26 directories which can have up to nine categories. A "scan" feature allows the user to scan the directories for any part of a file name. Planned updates to the v128 package include adding Xmodem-1k and Ymodem transfer protocols.

### **Three for C-Net**

The evolution of C-Net has been one with branches going off in numerous different directions. C-Net 64 and C-Net 128 were purchased by RMS Software in June of 1993 from Perspective Software, which still owns and supports the Amiga version. The C-Net DS2 64 BBS branch is owned by Beverly James Products.

Continuing the BBS evolution, Michael Bendure upgraded the DS2 Networking system for C-Net and has begun a networking product which connects C-Net and other Commodore 64/128 BBS systems.

### **C-Net 128 v6.0r**

RMS Computer Systems L.L.C.  
16 Maybrook Drive  
Maywood, NJ 07607  
Voice: 201.843.3116  
Fax: 201.843.2310  
BBS: 201.845.8250  
Email: [rmscomp@ix.netcom.com](mailto:rmscomp@ix.netcom.com)  
WWW: <http://www.msen.com/~brain/guest/rms/>  
\$100, S&H included.  
Includes: BBS software, Pearako Network Software, games and text files, documentation (in a 8.5 x 11 binder), dongle, and registration form.

C-Net 128 and 64 (as distributed by RMS Software) were discussed in the November '94 issue of this magazine.

CONTINUES...

The 128 version allows modem speeds from 300 to 2400 baud and uses ASCII, Commodore Color Graphics as well as two different ANSI emulations, one with both ANSI color and graphics and one with only ANSI color. It offers Punter, X-Modem, X-Modem CRC, X-MODEM-1K, Y-Modem Batch, and ASCII protocols.

C-Net 128 can be used in either 40 or 80 column modes. Aside from modem speed, the only major drawback some will find to this software package is the use of a dongle, which is required to run the BBS. Without the dongle, the files will not load.

#### **C-Net 64 v12.0**

\$50 (S&H included)

Includes BBS software and documentation

This version of C-Net 64 is a precursor to the DS2 BBS software. It has no networking ability and has not been developed beyond v12.0.

#### **C-Net DS2 64 BBS v2.5**

Michael Bendure

92 Lee Ave Apt N3

Newark, Ohio 43055

Voice: 614.788.8568

BBS: 614.522.6563

Email: mbendure@infinet.com

WWW: <http://www.infinet.com/>

~mbendure/

Price: \$59.95

Upgrade: \$29.95

C-Net DS2 64 is owned jointly by Jim Selleck and Perspective Software, with Michael Bendure recently becoming a distributor. The concept behind DS2 is to allow sysops to develop the BBS software as they desire it to be, by changing the BASIC programming. (The "DS2" stands for Developers System-2.)

It's matured from the original C-Net 64 with advantages such as having networking capabilities, a modular structure (for customizing) and CMD device compatibility. Games and other modifications from C-Net v9.0 through v12.0 can be converted for use with the current software. Graphic and text screens from other BBS software (any C-Net, Image or Color 64 systems) can also be used with the software.

## **Interconnecting BBSs: Networking Systems**

### **DS2 Network v3.04**

(Addresses same as for above.)

Registration: \$15; Upgrades: Free

The DS2 network allows C-Net DS2 64 BBS systems to share messages and files between them. The unregistered DS2 Network v3.04 is available on many BBS systems as ds2net3a.sfx and ds2net3b.sfx. Although the unregistered version only supports C-Net DS2 BBS systems, a text file is included to explain conversions to the networking format. Once a sysop registers, more help and information is available directly from Bendure.

In some ways the network is similar to Fidonet — it uses boss or "home" nodes and a nodelist for forwarding files and messages on to other BBSs in the network. Private and public mail, NetWall (a graffiti message base), and Matchmaking messages are shared throughout the network. The system is fully configurable by the sysop so only those areas the sysop wants are networked. It includes a method of billing users for some of the services based on the size of the messages sent.

### **CommNet**

(Addresses same as above.)

CommNet could very well be next in the evolution of Bendure's DS2 Network, as it allows several different Commodore 64/128 BBS systems to share a common networking system for messages and files. It's still too early in to tell for sure, though.

The idea of having all C=64/128 BBS systems connected together is a bold one, but not all software authors have been enthusiastic about it. Much depends on the assistance of the software authors to cooperate with Bendure and each other. This isn't easy, considering that the Commodore BBS scene has a rich history of programmers annoyed with one another. A browse through a list of BBSs connected through CommNet shows that four different Commodore BBS systems are currently using the network. These include C-Net (128 and DS2 64), Color 64 v128 and Image BBS systems.

From the standpoint of both BBS callers and sysops, the idea is a good one, as everyone can benefit from increased messages and participation.

### **Omni 128 BBS's Echonet**

Omni 128

4135 N. 36th

Tacoma, WA 98407

BBS: 206.536.9353

\$80 for BBS software and documentation (Echonet included)

As of September 2, Omni 128 BBS (discussed in the January 1994 issue of *BBS Magazine*) has a new networking feature called Echonet that allows Omni BBSs to transfer netmail (private and public). There are also new message bases called echos that are strictly for sharing messages with other Omni systems. Echonet requires the use of a CMD storage device with a real-time clock. As with other networking applications, Echonet has a "Bossnode" and "points" or "nodes" — other Omni systems connected to the Bossnode. Currently, Omni's support BBS is the only Bossnode.

Omni's older networking method allowed other BBS systems such as V128 and Color 64 BBSs to participate in the network, but Echonet doesn't currently support these other systems. For those BBSs connected to other (non-Omni) systems, the older Omni networking method can be used in conjunction with the newer Echonet.

The evolution of Commodore telecommunications continues. As I type, programmers are updating current BBSs and terminal programs to support more new hardware. New BBSs and terminal programs are on the horizon, as well as new hardware that will likely create a stir in the Commodore community. Watch for those announcements here. ■■■■■

*Gaelyne Moranec has been reporting on the evolution of C64/128 telecommunications for BBS Magazine for two and a half years. She can often be found in the Fidonet CBM or PCWRITE (Multi-Platform Computing) echos. Comments or suggestions can be sent to 1:366/221.128 or moranec@hal9000.apana.org.au. Her home page resides at: [http://www.msen.com/~brain/guest/Gaelyne\\_Moranec](http://www.msen.com/~brain/guest/Gaelyne_Moranec)*



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Newport, Tennessee 37821  
Voice: 615-623-8300  
Fax: 615-623-8751  
Info@NS1.Planetc.Com  
BBS: 615-623-8111  
FIDO: 1:3615/50



# I TRAVELING the I-WAY on the I-MODEM

**A** couple of months back we briefly looked at what is likely the future of “modeming” — ISDN. Since then I’ve had a chance to test and torture the Courier I-modem with ISDN/V.34 from U.S. Robotics, with (overall) pretty nice results.

Taking a closer look at the I-modem and what this ISDN stuff is really offering, I found that if you’re willing to dig deeply into your pockets in the beginning, the Courier I-modem is a solid solution for BBSs or other information provider applications requiring analog or ISDN connectivity. It allows users to connect with ISDN networks and maintain compatibility with existing analog services. The Courier I-modem is also designed to connect to analog devices such as modems and fax machines or ISDN devices through the ISDN network at the highest possible speed. In other words, you get the best of both worlds.

The Courier I-modem integrates an ISDN terminal adapter, NT-1 device, an analog device port, and a Courier V.34 modem into a single unit that’s physically connected to the Basic Rate Interface (BRI) ISDN wall jack — provided by the telephone company.

Courier I-modem is available in two different form factors. The desktop versions feature a choice of S/T interface, for use with an external NT-1, or integrated NT-1. The internal (ISA) version supports Microsoft Plug ’n Play functionality to auto-configure the card to the PC.

Just like its established brother, the “V.Everything,” Courier I-modem is software downloadable via Flash ROM. Again, a critical point to note here is that the “Supervisor” and “Datapump” are both modifiable via flash — most manufacturers

claim Flash ROM capabilities, but typically only update the Supervisor code. Datapump (DSP) code is hard-coded in a chip (typically from Rockwell) and must be shipped and swapped in other modems.

Where U.S. Robotics misses the boat is its lack of Flash ROM support for UNIX and Macintosh systems. The only version of the Flash ROM code is via a DOS executable program. (Perhaps every reader of this column should take the time to drop USR a note and insist they support the whole community.)

The “V.Everything” side of the I-modem incorporates the true ITU-T V.34 standard (28.8 Kbps), Rockwell’s proprietary V.FC (28.8 Kbps), and AT&T’s proprietary V.32terbo standard (19.2 Kbps), as well as V.32 bis, V.32, and all other ITU-T standards, down to 300 bps. To the best of my research it is the only feature in the market today that includes all three high-speed data transmission protocols.

Calling out as well as accepting calls, the modem will determine whether it is an ISDN or analog call and connect accordingly. No need for multiple devices or knowing ahead of time what type of call is taking place. The integrated NT-1 provides a “single box” solution for direct connection to the ISDN service provider’s wall jack without the requirement of a standalone network termination device — one device, two possible data streams, one connection. This saves space and the cost of an external

NT-1. (Not available in all models.)

Just as with a variety of analog standards there are various ISDN standards.

Multi-vendor interoperability is achieved between other vendors' products by supporting a wide variety of ISDN standards. It supports both the V.120 (North American) and V.110 (European) rate adaption standards for compatibility with other ISDN devices.

Rate adaption occurs when a connection is made at less than 64 Kbps (typically 56Kbps), either through the ISDN or at the terminal connected to the ISDN device. The Courier I-modem (internal version only) also supports ODI and NDIS drivers which allows it to appear as an Ethernet Network Interface Card (NIC). When combined with a third party PPP stack, Sync PPP connections may also be achieved. (Sync PPP will be supported for the desktop versions in a future release, according to USR.)

Here's the part I really like! On the back of the I-modem is an analog port to plug in an analog telephone, fax or answering machine. No need for expensive digital phones or other digital devices. Full ringing support is available for automatic answer of incoming calls with the external version only. Internals do not offer ring support, as the PC bus doesn't supply the necessary voltage to drive the ringer. This offers you many exciting and cost effective solutions.

For instance, I am currently doing an ISDN file transfer at around 6,900 cps. On the analog port I have a fax machine sending a 14,400 bps document to someone in New Orleans. All this is going over the ISDN line that I pay a base rate of around \$30 per month for. That's essentially two lines for the price of one.

U.S. Robotics does bring out a very basic, but good point about using the I-modem. To quote them directly, "The I-modem communicates over ISDN Basic Rate Interface (BRI) lines. You must order a BRI line from your local telephone company before you can use your I-

modem. You may also call the I-Team at 1-800-550-7800. The U.S. Robotics I-Team is a service organization that supports U.S. Robotics ISDN products."

In other words, please don't plug in your ISDN modem to your POTS (plain old telephone system) and expect it to work! ISDN services and rates vary widely across the U.S. In fact I have found rates ranging from \$30/month to +\$100/month.

Using this modem over the last few weeks has had its ups and downs. After several calls to USR's support line I was given a new version of "BETA" code to test. It made a substantial difference on marginal ISDN connects. Production versions of the "SDL" are typically available on various online services. Analog calls now consistently nail true 28,800 over local and long distance calls. Calling other V34+ modems even saw occasional 31,200 and 33,600 connects. My biggest shock was a 31,200 connect to a colleague in Tokyo, Japan. We maintained a two-hour file transfer test averaging just under 3,600 cps on compressed files for the entire connect. Running some basic compatibility and connectability tests show it to be just as solid as the standard "V.Everything".

And as of this writing, U.S. Robotics just dropped a note indicating Sysop Program pricing and availability on the I-modem series.

Well, that's a quick look at the I-modem. As vendors continue to hop on the ISDN bandwagon I hope to get a good look at them all. And I'll keep watching the press releases for "chaos" in the industry! (Check last month's column).

There's been more action than a good soap opera lately. Hmm, let's see... Intel and AT&T bow out. Diamond buys SUPRA. Diamond, USR bid on Hayes. Hayes offers "outside financing to bail themselves out — isn't this a great show!

Tune in here next month for the encore. ■■■■■

*ModemMag@ais.net*

**000698-0 Courier I-modem with ISDN/V.34 and Analog Device Port (External)**

Sysop \$449; List \$895  
Availability estimated at December 1, 1995

**000700-0 Courier I-modem with ISDN/V.34 and Analog Device Port (Internal)**

Sysop \$399; List \$795  
Available now

For those who like plenty of alphabet soup, abbreviations and techno-babble, here's more than you'll probably ever want to see again. The Courier I-modem supports:

- \* D-Channel Signaling
- \* ISDN data link layer ITU-T Q.921
- \* ISDN call control signaling ITU-T Q.931/I.451
- \* AT&T 5ESS Custom, Northern
- \* Telecom supported DMS-100,
- \* National ISDN-1 and 2
- \* ITU-T V.120/I.463 and ITU-T V.110/I.462 for transmission over ISDN at 56 or 64Kbps
- \* ITU-T V.34 and V.FC at 28.8 Kbps
- \* terbo at 19.2 bps; ITU-T V.32 bis at 14.4 and 12 Kbps; 9,600, 7,200, and 4,800 bps (symmetrical and asymmetrical full duplex)
- \* ITU-T V.32 at 9,600 and 4,800 bps
- \* ITU-T V.22 bis at 2400 bps
- \* ITU-T V.22 at 1200 bps
- \* ITU-T V.23 at 1200/75 bps
- \* ITU-T V.21 at 300 bps
- \* Bell 208B at 4800 bps (synchronous)
- \* Bell 212A at 1200 bps
- \* Bell 103 at 300 bps
- \* Quick Connect technology
- \* Adaptive Speed Leveling (ASL)
- \* V.17 Group III TIA/EIA Class 1 and 592 Class 2.0 14.4 Kbps and 9600 bps
- \* Error correction for ISDN
- \* ISDN(end-to-end) V.120/I.463
- \* Analog originated/received calls
- \* ITU-T V.42 (LAPM) or HST connect
- \* MNP 2, MNP 3, or MNP4 connection
- \* ITU-T V.42 bis data compression
- \* MNP Level 5 data compression

**ISA interface**

- \* Supports standard DTE rates up to 115.2 Kbps —asynchronous operation
- \* Synchronous Operation (DCE supplies Tx clock) — Electrical: EIA RS232 or

**V.35**

- \* Port rates: 115.2 Kbps to 300bps

**Ringer Equivalence (desktop version only)**

- \* REN: 3

To check out the A-list on the Web, go to <http://www.channel1.com/usbbs/home>

If you're a sysop and would like to be considered for the list, contact one of the following sites. Posting to the USBBS List at these sites will place you on the A-List.

BOBsBBS — 916.929.7511

Livewire/CD SUB — Download CDSUB.ZIP from The Livewire BBS (*BBS Magazine's* support board) at 609.235.5297 and register the CD SUB Door program for a permanent listing.

FTP — Download US PUB103.ZIP from oak.oakland.edu, create USBBS.DAT and send the completed file to BOBsBBS or [update@bobsbbs.uucp.netcom.com](mailto:update@bobsbbs.uucp.netcom.com).

Call 609.953.9110 (voice) for help.

*Derived from the USBBSLIST.*

## LEGEND

BBS TYPE	BAUD	MODULATION	SIZE	NODES	SUBSCRIPTION	INTERNET FEAT.
B	29	D	50+	3	\$	3

<b>BBS TYPE</b>	<b>BAUD</b>	<b>MODULATION</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>NODES</b>	<b>SUBSCRIPTION</b>	<b>INTERNET FEAT.</b>
A = Auntie	0 = 300		1 = 1200			
B = PCBoard	2 = 2400		9 = 9600 or faster			
C = Phoenix/Collie/Collosus	<b>MODULATION TYPE</b>					
D = dBBS	V = V.32 or V.32bis					
F = Spitfire	U = USRobotics HST					
G = GAP	H = Hayes VSM					
H = PC-Host	F = V.Fast, V.34 (1/25/95)					
I = TriBBS	O = Other proprietary method					
J = SuperBBS	D = USRobotics Dual Standard					
L = Telegard	(V32 and HST)					
M = OraComm/Major/Galacticomm	B = Hayes Ultra (V32 and VSM)					
N = Genesis Deluxe	<b>SIZE</b>					
O = Opus/Maximus	Indicated in 100s of megs.					
P = GT PowerComm	+ = CD-ROM.					
Q = QuickBBS/RemoteAccess	<b>NODES</b>					
R = RBBS	Number of lines					
S = Searchlight	<b>SUBSCRIPTION</b>					
T = TBBS or TCOMM	\$ = subscription; blank = FREE					
U = UltraBBS	<b>INTERNET FEATURES</b>					
V = WWIV	SERVICES CODE					
W = Wildcat	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F					
X = BBS-PC, RyBBS, ROS, Fido, Citadel, Osiris, etc. or custom, unverified or unknown type	Mail X X X X X X X X					
Y = T.A.G.	Usenet XX XX XX XX					
Z = TPBoard	FTP XXXX XXXX					
	Telnet XXXX XXXX					
	<b>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS</b>					
	Must support 2400 bps or greater					
	100 MB of disk capacity					
	24hr/7 day service					
	Sysop must give REAL NAME					

201-256-0691 NJ W. Paterson  
**Excal's Realm** John Norman  
Medieval, games, files and more.  
X 29 FV 6+ 1 1

201-331-1797 NJ Parsippany  
**Synergy Online** Jim Boxmeyer  
Shareware, adult.  
B 09 F 160 50 \$ F

201-399-4772 NJ Irvington  
**Innovative** Scott Drake  
Police, EMS, fire, general public.  
X 29 FV 10+ 1 3

201-437-4355 NJ Bayonne  
**Bytes'n Bits** MariusKirschner  
General interest BBS.  
B 29 FV 110+ 6 3

201-670-6718 NJ Ridgewood  
**Animal House** Ricky Gropper  
File / message BBS, gaming.  
B 29 FV 52+ 2 3

201-729-2602  
**Chuck's Attempt** Chuck Ammann

201-887-2020 NJ Whippany  
**Afterimage** A. Stramaglia  
Full Internet access services.  
M 19 FV 14+ 24 \$ F

201-945-1437 NJ Fairview  
**Sewer World** Dan Lopez  
Adult specialties, email.  
W 29 V 10+ 2 \$ 3

201-966-2848 NJ Madison  
**The Porch (N1)** Bill Northrup  
Email & shareware file exchange.  
Q 29 OD 14+ 2 3

201-998-0653 NJ Kearny  
**Closed Doors** Michael Almeida  
General interest.  
W 29 FV 50+ 2 1

202-635-1755 DC Washington  
**The Big Dogs** Rod Pinnick  
Entertainment, jobs, business.  
M 09 FV 18 8 3

203-335-4073 CT Fairfield  
**Fld Comm Conn** R. Scott Perry  
Community info, Internet access.  
M 09 V 11+ 8 \$ F

203-647-8967 CT Bolton  
**Construction Fm** Craig D. Mayer  
Construction resource.  
W 29 HO 01 0 \$

203-693-9930 CT Canton  
**BBS** Charley Webb  
Files, games, Internet.  
X 19 FV 400+ 25 \$ F

203-956-0655 CT Hartford  
**Monty's Python** Tom Cichowicz  
Adult, comedy, tech support.  
M 29 FV 999+ 4 3

205-383-4329 AL Muscle Shoals  
**Ninth Circle** Daniel Tidwell  
Creative writing, free thought.  
W 29 VF 10+ 3

206-584-4309  
**The Wolf's Den** Keith Shinkle

207-368-5402  
**Grouchy Marx** Crouchy Marx

207-947-3105 ME Bangor  
**MSNCNTRL** Jim MacArthur  
Science fi/fact & tech support.  
W 09 FV 20+ 1 \$

208-327-9916 ID Boise  
**The Bodhi Tree** Kim Day  
Religion, especially Buddhism.  
X 29 V 8 1 7

208-664-2983  
**The Third Mill** Jim Fromm

208-666-4010 ID Coeur d'Alen  
**Anita's Place** Anita Nikiforuk  
Community; women; business.  
W 19 V 16+ 1

209-357-5880 CA Winton  
**Bytes To Go** Bill Morris  
Shareware, door games, 10 CDs.  
X 19 FV 13+ 2

210-233-4877 TX Los Fresnos  
**Newberry BBS** Ken Anderson  
Message oriented online service.  
B 19 FV 6+ 2 \$

210-520-8015 TX San Antonio  
**SA On-Line** C. Montgomery  
Business and community service.  
T 19 V 4 4 \$

210-658-7995 TX Converse  
**LID'S LOUNGE** Jeff Little  
Pharmacy, (Commo), MacroNET.  
X 29 VF 1 1

212-749-3268  
**Walter's BBS** Walter Parrish

212-868-0720 NY Queens  
**bdpa ny** Mike Holman sr.  
Nat'l black data proc. assoc., NY ch.

214-245-9315  
**USS Inverness** Jonathan McGirr

214-351-9859  
**Collector's Ed** Len Hult

214-355-1835  
**Lonesome Dove** M. Peacock

214-403-9406 TX Plano  
**Zeitgeist** Bob Peterson  
Graphics; live Internet.  
W 09 FD 100+ 5 F

214-495-4806 TX Sachse  
**Carrier Pigeon** James Marple  
KB5ZDG's BBSs for Garland ARC.  
Q 29 FD 5 1

214-517-4674 TX Plano  
**The Harvest** Nick Shaffner  
Files, programming (c, c++).  
W 09 DF 12+ 1 1

215-289-6041 PA Philadelphia  
**Kid's World** Bob Gasko  
BBS devoted to kids.  
W 19 V 2+ 1

215-295-6193 PA Morrisville  
**CentraLink** Rich Sims  
A friendly place to meet.  
B 29 FV 24+ 3 3

215-321-1873 PA Philly  
**After-Hours** Tony Reesby  
Featuring 13 CDS online.  
W 19 UF 80+ 3

216-324-6410  
**Comm. Nelinck** K. Stevenson

216-381-3320 OH Cleveland  
**PC-Ohio** Norm Henke  
"Best BBS in America"  
B 29 VF 190+ 52 \$ F

216-639-9508  
**Scientist's BBS** Soo Kurz

216-726-9876 OH Youngstown  
**Roadhouse** Jim Haverstock  
Online games, unique files.  
V 09 FV 46+ 3 1

216-871-8203 OH Cleveland  
**The Spectrum** Aaron Erlandson  
General.  
S 09 FV 14 2 3

216-951-9150 OH Cleveland  
**Flip Flop** Jim Barry  
Local community interaction.  
S 09 V 10+ 8 3

217-359-8457 IL Champaign  
**Comfribly Numb** Rob Remus  
Games, adult files.  
X 29 V 9+ 1

218-326-4205 MN Gr Rapids  
**Blue Sky BBS** Jack Blue  
Family & business oriented.  
W 09 FD 96+ 3 \$ 3

218-829-6340 MN Merrifield  
**Merribbs** Gil Pence  
Shareware, business.  
G 29 V 5+ 1 \$ 1

219-325-3655 IN La Porte  
**Rob's Arcade** Rob Swanson  
Doors, files, 5 mailnets, 8 CDs.  
B 19 FV 61+ 2

219-665-8777 IN Angola  
**Files Factory** Chad Evans  
Files, home of EXCELnet.  
O 29 FV 14+ 1

219-744-0558 IN Fort Wayne  
**The Pool Room** Gary Hall  
Files, fun, friends, fantasy.  
X 29 FO 45 2 B

219-744-4908  
**The Play Board** Jay Tipton

219-763-0826 IN Portage  
**Stalag 13 BBS** Keith Heitmann  
Flight sims, combat & wargames.  
I 29 F 30 1

301-353-1033 MD Germantown  
**IICS-DC** Bob Lau  
Multimedia.  
W 19 VF 160 6 3

301-527-1632 MD Gaithersburg  
**Americana Resc** Rick Moses  
Antiques & collectibles.  
W 09 F 12 1

302-655-4988 DE New Castle  
**SWISS WildCat!** Steve Sims  
Adult, games, DOS, Windows.  
W 29 VO 78+ 2 1

302-762-2873 DE Wilmington  
**The Vetricans** Arthur L Davis2  
Veteran, education, recovery.  
W 29 F 3 1

303-244-8420  
**Mirror Image** Mark Feil

303-457-1111 CO Denver  
**GarBaGe DuMP** Dean Kerl  
Chat, games, files, Internet.  
M 09 VF 120+ 99 F

303-657-1467 CO Denver  
**SUPPORT** Barry Young  
Computer support and files.  
B 29 VF 40+ 3 3

303-680-4563 CO Denver  
**Global-Link** Louis Moritzky  
International email network.  
B 29 F 200 25 \$ F

305-383-2341 FL Miami  
**BPC Power BBS** Harvey Peters  
Latest games, multi-line chat.  
B 19 FV 10+ 4

305-432-2223 FL Pmbrke Pines  
**SunShine PCB** Michele Stewart  
Cooking, ANSI, games, FidoNet.  
B 19 DF 24+ 2 3

305-438-8999 FL Hollywood  
**FantasticPinet** Michael Sweat  
Files, newsgroups, chat.  
M 19 VF 13+ 16 \$ 3

305-472-7715 FL Plantation  
**Brass Pounder** Bob Patten  
Ham radio.  
W 29 F 20+ 1

305-473-8759 FL Davie  
**3rd Dimension** Glen Hughes  
Internet, files, chat, usenet.  
M 19 V 40+ 8 \$ F

305-563-1115 FL Ft. Laud.  
**Auto-Net Int.** E. Fernandez  
Automobile classifieds.  
X 99 V 10 5

305-572-4910 FL Sunrise  
**E.D.S BBS** Wayne Lampiasi  
Employment support/listings.  
I 29 D 13 1 \$ 1

305-792-9622 FL Ft. Lauderdale  
**Info Interchng** Mitchel Waas  
Massive info BBS, msgs & files.  
Q 09 DF 200+ 6 F

305-828-4508 FL Miami  
**The File Room** John Wanamaker  
Files.  
B 99 D 25+ 2 \$ 3

305-966-2677 FL Miramar  
**Hobby Line** Mike Dippel  
Business ads, hobby, genealogy.  
W 29 FV 14+ 3 \$ 7

305-975-5540 FL Pompano  
**Q evils** Bruce A. Kniffen  
Virus research/database.  
W 29 F 14+ 9

305-989-3706 FL Hollywood  
**TUT BBS** Darian Porter  
Games and files.  
M 09 D 12 17 \$ 3

306-892-4213 Sk N Battleford  
**Dig Diversions** Mike Ritchie  
FidoNet backbones and filebone.  
S 19 FF 18+ 1 1

309-664-0881 IL Bloomington  
**Advr Crnr OS/2** S. Kuntzelman  
OS/2 support and shareware.  
O 29 DF 41+ 1

309-836-1432 IL Macomb  
**Rod's Place** Rod Rouse  
Files, messages, online games.  
W 19 V 4 1

## The A-List

309-852-2165 IL Kewanee  
**CyberHawg RBBS** Kevin Clarke  
General interest, FIDONet mail.  
R 29 VF 6 2

310-212-7605 CA Torrance  
**Beginners Club** Vince Sheu  
TeenNet.  
I 09 V 10 1

310-493-3535 CA Seal Beach  
**Playbord** Jim Jensen  
The best games board around.  
R 29 FD 52+ 1

310-984-1075 CA Long Beach  
**Leo Grafix BBS** Rudy Hartmann  
Christian, CalvaryNet.  
T 29 DF 21+ 4

312-284-7133  
**4th Dimension** Jeff Jones

312-536-0829 IL Chicago  
**Black Female** Darnell Glover  
Black females.  
W 29 H 1 1 \$

312-777-8817 IL Chicago  
**RoundTable** Kevin Keyser  
Home of The Poets Corner.  
S 09 D 10+ 2 3

312-777-9480 IL Chicago  
**RoundTable** Kevin Keyser  
Home of The Poets Corner.  
S 09 D 10+ 2 3

312-847-2115 IL Chicago  
**Cove BBS** W Townsend  
Obscure files/pagan/occult.  
W 09 FD 3 1

313-581-0564 MI Detroit  
**Elroy's WrkShp** Jerry Zubrick  
Software, programming, tips.  
W 99 FD 62+ 3 3

313-663-4173 MI Ann Arbor  
**Hal 9000** Victor Volkman  
Sci-fi, space, internet.  
B 29 FV 50+ 10 F

313-665-5927 MI Ann Arbor  
**Snowshoe** Tom Winters  
FidoNet, technical, science.  
X 09 V 9+ 1

313-783-3719 MI Flat Rock  
**Strange Brew** Bill Buchanan  
Programming, OS/2 & Linux.  
O 19 O 14+ 1 1

313-885-0979 MI Detroit  
**Mich Outdoors** Jim Wallace  
All outdoors activities.  
X 19 V 12 2

314-230-5768 MO Ellisville  
**Inkwell Writer** Rose Ferguson  
Writers, poets, seniors.  
X 19 D 2 1

314-281-8598  
**Megabiter II** George Belcher

314-351-7150  
**The STL CATII** David Russo

314-367-1903 MO St. Louis  
**Slacc Stack BBS** Noel Moss  
General interest.  
M 09 V 19+ 8 F

315-458-3482  
**Dreamscape** Scott Brennan

315-475-3250  
**Bytronix** Mike Bettua

316-367-8490 KS Goessel  
**CCBBS** John Goerzen  
Networks, programming, OS/2.  
X 09 VF 4 1 3

316-788-7520  
**Griswold's Priv** Jim Kelland

317-662-8122 IN Marion  
**Hoosier BBS** J. Whitehead  
File access, game connection.  
M 29 V 10+ 4 \$

317-889-4274 IN Greenwood  
**Eagle** Ralph Moore  
Files CDs Internet genealogy.  
B 29 DF 45+ 2 \$ 3

318-222-7064 LA Shreveport  
**Genesis BBS** James Pottorff  
Rime mail network, conf areas.  
B 09 D 14+ 2

319-366-1985 IA Cedar Rapids  
**Lighthouse BBS** Marge Robbins  
SLBBS support/gene/user req.  
S 09 V 4 1 3

334-666-0993 AL Mobile  
**The Anchor Inn** Jim Wilson  
Registered LORD, Tradewars.  
B 29 FV 16 1 1

334-702-4713 AL Dothan  
**Shadow Net BBS** Phil Willis  
Now running Wildcat in win 95.  
w 29 b 10+ 1

334-774-9946 AL Ozark  
**FastBytes** Mark Feller  
RaceNet FTS/QWK hub.  
W 29 F 14 1

continues...

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360-427-6854 WA Shelton  
**The TimberJack** Brad Gallien Jr  
 Fun, games, free speech.  
 Q 29 V 9+ 1

360-427-9173 WA Shelton  
**Horsey Folks** John Rogers  
 Horses.  
 S 09 V 5 1

360-956-0408 WA Lacey  
**CCO.NET™** J. Goeller  
 Full access Internet service.  
 M 29 V 250+ 50 \$ F

401-683-5961 RI Portsmouth  
**Ups&Downs** J. Barrett  
 Crafts, local info, Rime conf.  
 B 09 V 10+ 1

402-474-3747  
**Da Place BBS** Mark Fruehling

403-283-1107 AB Calgary  
**Foothills HAM** Chris Kringel  
 Support for amateur radio ops.  
 B 09 DF 15 2

404-476-7880  
**Late Nite BBS** Bobby Nowell

404-478-9700  
**The Night Shift** Bill Hardy

404-773-7966  
**Warp Factor** Mark Stewart

404-936-0550  
**Music Conn** David Coleman

405-234-6822 OK Enid  
**No-Name** David Gibson  
 7 CD-ROMs online.  
 R 29 D 14+ 1 \$

405-354-6937 OK Yukon  
**Chamber32Doors** Dave Mather  
 Music & games.  
 X 29 V 6+ 1 3

405-670-1367 OK OK City  
 Shadow Magic Duane Robertson  
 Free speech & computing.  
 X 19 F 14+ 1

405-728-7124  
**Hotel California** Lloyd Lawson

406-256-1301 MT Billings  
**Grt Escape** S. Richardson  
 Games, and tons of fun.  
 W 19 D 14+ 2

407-292-6797 FL Orlando  
**Demanding Time** Lorie Gibbs  
 Chat, games, inet email, files.  
 W 09 U 300+ 16 \$ 3

407-328-4294 FL Orlando  
**Home School** Kevin Freer  
 Educational.  
 W 29 V 5+ 1

407-466-1661 FL Ft. Pierce  
**Higher Power** Ralph Allen  
 Business related.  
 W 09 B 10+ 1

407-676-6233 FL Melbourne  
**Fishermans Net** Shawn Edwards  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 X 19 D 3 1

407-684-1200 FL W. P. Beach  
**Eagles Nest** Mark Netzel  
 Online chatting & door games.  
 S 29 VF 10 4

407-687-9355 FL W. Palm Bch  
**BCS-BBS Line 1** John Benjamin  
 Internet & genealogy.  
 W 19 D 14+ 2 \$ D

407-735-7702 FL Boynton Bch  
**QuickSilver** Mike Moore  
 RBBS support, games, files.  
 R 29 DD 999+ 4 7

407-740-8353 FL Winter Park  
**Round Table** Allan Holtz  
 Armor accounting software.  
 W 19 V 7+ 1

407-745-0449 FL Jupiter/Farms  
**TheConfederacy** J. Blanchard  
 Messages.  
 X 19 D 1 1

407-750-7665 FL Boca Raton  
**New Power** Robert Di Salvo  
 Internet entertainment.  
 X 09 VF 100+ 80 \$ F

407-859-7428  
**The Death Star** N Seabury

407-895-0076 FL Orlando  
**Sneaky Pete's** Jim Huddle  
 Communications & networking.  
 W 19 DF 8 1

407-932-0584 FL Kissimmee  
**NIVETS BBS** steven webb  
 28,000 files.  
 W 19 FO 14+ 1

408-295-3949 CA San Jose  
**The Albatross** Chris Reimer  
 SF Bay area college scene.  
 W 29 V 5 1

408-364-2789  
**Pereline BBS** Tom Serface

408-526-9815 CA San Jose  
**The "X" Files** David Morales  
 Arsenal/NightOwl shareware.  
 W 09 D 5+ 2 \$

409-755-3715 TX Lumberton  
**Grumpy D's** Doyle Welborn  
 Sound wave files.  
 O 09 D 14+ 1

409-769-4249  
**Wayne's World** Wayne Belvin

409-842-3251 TX Beaumont  
**BROAD REACH** Tim Beard  
 Sailing and aviation.  
 W 09 D 11+ 2

410-203-1850 MD Ellicott  
**The PNET BBS** Peter Gruessing  
 Shareware, freeware, games, util.  
 W 29 V 10+ 1

410-239-7473 MD Westminster  
**Shrwre Parade** Bryan Rittmeyer  
 Science, TV, messages.  
 X 29 F 6+ 1

410-391-3633 MD Baltimore  
**East Coast Con** Sam Mumaw  
 Online store, files, forums.  
 M 29 D 13+ 4 \$

410-558-3882 MD Baltimore  
**Iguana Online** Bob Gerchalk  
 AOL-like interface;social & info.  
 M 99 V 21+ 2

412-421-8561 PA Pittsburgh  
**Frank's Place** Frank Lisak  
 Family oriented IBM support.  
 W 09 VF 100+ 4 3

412-523-0610 PA Jeannette  
**REIDS BBS** Tim Reidmiller  
 Fido/Usenet/I-mail/satellite.  
 T 09 F 20+ 4 \$ 3

412-567-6782  
**entertain me bbs** Shawn Cupec

412-635-0934 Pa Pittsburgh  
**Microtech** Jack Lawrence  
 Windows / OS2 / genealogy.  
 Q 19 V 17+ 1 3

412-734-2129 PA Pittsburgh  
**AWESome.bbs** Tony Waters  
 Easy going BBS.  
 W 29 FV 12+ 1

413-443-7623 MA Pittsfield  
**Aspect BBS** Paul Doucette  
 Apogee dist site #1833, adult.  
 X 99 FV 14+ 2 \$ 3

413-527-8977  
**Uncle Hank's** Hank Hurteau

414-466-9983 WI Milwaukee  
**Edit Suite BBS** Jack Becker  
 Offline mail reading.  
 O 29 F 1 1 1

414-543-4472 WI Milwaukee  
**Home of ZIGGY** D DeLonay  
 Files, doors, message bases.  
 I 29 O 2 1

414-774-3435 WI Milwaukee  
**DownLoad City** Dan Palmisano  
 EmeraldNET, VirtualNET, games.  
 X 29 FV 9+ 2 3

415-386-2185 CA San Francisco  
**Club 21 BBS** D. Johnson  
 Adult oriented.  
 B 09 F 14+ 3 \$

415-453-2854 CA San Rafael  
**Sat database** Daniel Dufficy  
 Satellite database updates.  
 X 29 B 10 1

415-648-9489 CA San Francisco  
**Realitycheck** Kurt Weiske  
 Information wants to be shared.  
 O 19 V 3 1 1

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**Inner Sanctum** Chuck Mayer  
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 P 29 D 61+ 6

415-961-6911 CA Palo Alto  
**INTERACT** Eric Knight  
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 T 29 V 5 32 \$ 9

416-255-5346 ON Toronto  
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 B 19 VF 22+ 2

416-770-6917  
**Platinum Exprs** Glenn Jarvis

417-683-4953 MO Ava  
**Round Table** Mukunda Modell  
 Support, games.  
 B 29 VF 9+ 2 \$ 2

417-883-4035 MO Springfield  
**Dream Scape** Jason Raphael  
 Files, messages, games, & more.  
 Q 09 DF 10+ 1 1

418-659-2782 QC Ste-Foy  
**BBS** Mike Wallace  
 Files.  
 B 29 V 0 0 3

419-334-2374 OH Fremont  
**Inside Info** Randy Snyder  
 Toll-free BBS list.  
 M 99 V 6+ 2 \$ 1

419-355-0115 OH Fremont  
**TBF BBS** Robert Eishen  
 General.  
 W 09 VF 16+ 2

419-999-6456 OH Lima  
**GameRoom BBS** Mike Sarnovsky  
 Doom HQ BBS, tons of shareware.  
 W 29 DB 14+ 2 \$

423-283-4336 TN Johnson City  
**GWN** Chris Bergeron  
 Graphics, family oriented.  
 X 29 FV 7+ 2 3

423-983-8232 TN Maryville  
**The Disk Fix** Tom Wallace  
 Files and online games.  
 W 19 UF 14+ 3 1

501-622-5313 AR Hot Springs  
**Laughing Pncrs** Craig Jones  
 Hacking.  
 W 29 V 3 1

501-751-8482 AR Springdale  
**Comm Unity** Ray Petit  
 Games, files, messages, chat.  
 X 29 V 14+ 2 3

501-753-8575 AR Little Rock  
**The Rock BBS** Tony Winfrey  
 Family oriented bbs, chat.  
 T 29 V 20+ 11 \$ 3

502-443-6014  
**The Data Center** Jeff Burton

503-221-1777 OR Portland  
**Combat Arms** Richard Bash  
 Firearms, aviation, law, math.  
 W 19 V 2 1 3

503-266-3177 OR Canby  
**ACECOM** Jerry Withers  
 General interest & internet.  
 W 29 V 4 1 3

503-393-5580  
**Chemeketa** Bob Hunter

## The A-List

503-691-7938 OR Tualatin  
**BBBBBS** Tom Almy  
 Books, text files, writing.  
 Q 19 VF 4 2

503-695-3250 OR Corbett  
**RAIN** MARIEL  
 Files, newsgroups, RIME, games.  
 W 19 VF 100+ 8 \$ 3

504-356-0790  
**Southern Online** Russell Jackson

504-542-9600  
**Computer Solu** Sidney Egnew

505-294-5675 NM Albuquerque  
**GaRBaGe DuMP** Dean Kerl  
 Chat, games, files, internet.  
 M 09 VF 120+ 99 F

505-898-7120 NM Albuquerque  
**Dead End BBS** Joel Yancey  
 Internet, BBSing, programming.  
 X 29 VF 6 2 1

507-437-3969 MN Austin  
**Formula BBS CD** Jeremy Hinkle  
 General files, doors, messages.  
 X 29 V 7+ 1

507-437-7533 MN Austin  
**The Edge BBS** Josh Martin  
 Fun.  
 Q 09 V 8+ 1 \$

508-384-1399 MA Wrentham  
**The Other Side** Zopito DiGiovann  
 Many files of all sorts.  
 X 09 FV 2 1

508-433-0297 MA Pepperell  
**LeXXor BBS** D. Rondeau  
 Games, general interest, share.  
 W 19 VF 14+ 2 7

508-481-5478 MA Marlborough  
**Writer's BBS** Brian Rickman  
 Literature, poetry, authors.  
 X 19 V 1 1 3

508-528-2295  
**Computer Conf.** Edward Zdrok

508-588-8548 MA W Bridgewater  
**Smorgasbord II** Mike Nystrom  
 Something for everyone.  
 X 29 VF 14 2 3

508-746-6010 MA Plymouth  
**Adult Hangout** Jay Winger  
 100,000 adit files, local access.  
 M 09 D 130+ 20

508-799-8886 MA Worcester  
**Bit Bucket/AE** Dan Steele  
 Adult, graphics, pictures, games.  
 V 09 VV 13+ 2 C

508-853-0340  
**Schunix-Pub** Robert Schultz

508-966-4016 MA Bellingham  
**N.A.R.C.BBS** H Drummond  
 Amateur radio, general interest.  
 W 09 V 60 1 3

509-244-3666 WA FAFB  
**NWOnline** Aran Spence  
 APCIMPGS (DOOM), NW Filebone.  
 Q 29 F 45 5 3

509-891-6148  
**The Moonflower** Peter Link

510-226-7731 CA Fremont  
**The RaLin BBS** Rand Nowell  
 RA BBS - Pascal programming.  
 Q 29 V 2 1

510-252-9131 CA Fremont  
**Jetstream** Bill Garrison  
 300,000 files online, doors.  
 W 19 DF 22+ 2 \$

510-443-6146 CA Livermore  
**eyes\_on\_sky** Mike Rushford  
 Gif of the sun.  
 B 09 VO 20 1 3

510-724-9296 CA Pinole  
**Greater Light** Michael Bryant  
 Christian.  
 X 29 VF 28+ 2

510-939-1691 CA Walnut Creek  
**Io Net** Steve Cooper  
 Chat, games, entertainment.  
 T 09 VD 3 8 \$ 3

512-328-2885 TX Austin  
**Shareware Conct** Carlos Lopes  
 Off. dist site for 9 companies.  
 Q 09 VF 11 1 3

512-664-7570 TX Alice  
**Jacob's House** Tom Oaks  
 Online fun.  
 I 09 FV 50+ 2

512-836-4262  
**The Night Owl II** Danny Dyess

512-887-0787 TX CorpusChrist  
**CDS** Wade Fjeld  
 Original adult GIFs, chatlink.  
 M 19 V 55+ 25 \$ B

512-945-9304  
**Ranch House** Larry Easley

513-473-0399 OH Covington  
**Virtual Eye** Jeff Phalin  
 Games, files, messages, fun.  
 W 29 FV 11+ 1

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
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# The A-List

513-573-9201 OH Mason  
**CyberSpaceExch** Mike Rickman  
 Files/games oriented.  
 W 29 V 11+ 5 7

515-628-3101  
**The Main Street** Steve Jansen

515-752-8014 IA Marshalltown  
**Blue Sky** Randy Meyer  
 Games, programming.  
 F 19 V 1 1

516-437-1659  
**DEFCON BBS** M Christiansen

516-736-6662  
**Your Software** J Woodstock

516-932-6949 NY Bethpage  
**Spectra I.M.** Tim Zorn  
 All aspects of DOS, Win, & OS/2.  
 B 29 VF 115+ 4 \$

517-695-9952 MI Freeland  
**Wolverine** Rick Rosinski  
 CDROMs, OS/2, Amiga, MidMich.  
 B 09 VF 190+ 8 \$ 3

518-483-6004 NY Malone  
**TNCBBS** Wiley Kulia  
 Business, games, Internet support.  
 W 29 V 10+ 1

518-745-7230 NY Glens Falls  
**The Thing** Dave Jaswaye  
 General.  
 W 09 V 1 1

520-459-6514 AZ Sierra Vista  
**Danish Tower** Bill Morris  
 Online games UL/DL info.  
 W 29 F 900+ 1 3

520-669-9225 AZ Parker  
**RACEBBS** Derik Wooddell  
 Auto, racing, Inet access.  
 W 19 F 14 1 3

520-768-7515 AZ Mohave Vally  
**Rippers BBS** Larry Drum  
 Local info & entertainment ISP.  
 M 09 FV 999+ 46 \$ F

540-635-3307 VA Front Royal  
**The Wolf's Den** David Morris  
 Multi-player gaming, internet.  
 M 29 VF 14+ 4 \$ 3

540-898-9114 VA F-Burg  
**Diamond Mine** D. Perrussel  
 General — for entire family.  
 X 29 F 26+ 2 3

601-356-9032 MS Columbus  
**MS ONLINE** Ken Foster  
 Fido mail HUB, family files.  
 Q 19 FF 8 2 \$

601-371-0423  
**After Hours BBS** Randy Riley

602-258-7113  
**The Wish Book** Lorne Shantz

602-264-8144 AZ Phoenix  
**The Dove BBS** Alan Pugh  
 Christian files and CalvaryNet.  
 W 19 D 3 1

602-876-0013 AZ Peoria  
**SherwoodForest** John Myers  
 Message, games, community.  
 W 19 FD 48+ 1 1

602-935-5692 AZ Phoenix  
**Bill's BBS** Bill Barnett  
 Games, files & adult sub board.  
 F 29 VF 11+ 1

602-956-1379 AZ Phoenix  
**Zephyr BBS** Steve MacLeod  
 OS/2, Eastern Orthodoxy.  
 X 09 D 3 2

603-421-0884 NH Derry  
**Gamers Haven** Gregg Bragdon  
 Games.  
 B 99 FV 13 1 3

603-788-2213 NH Lancaster  
**Modem-GameLink** Chuck Russell  
 4 player doom, games, files.  
 X 29 OD 61+ 14 \$ 7

604-624-4534 BC PrinceRupert  
**Pyramid BBS** Mike Ringer  
 Emerg. services/search & rescue.  
 W 29 V 6+ 1

606-275-4321 KY Lexington  
**BEYOND 1 Big B** Ken Newberg  
 Utilities & messages.  
 X 19 FV 1 1

606-441-2130  
**Ghost House** Michael Haley

607-785-5688 NY Endwell  
**The Time Mach** Brian Wegener  
 Scouting support, political.  
 X 09 UH 1 1

608-822-2000 WI Fennimore  
**Games Plus BBS** Orville  
 Games and chat.  
 B 29 V 11+ 32

608-849-4259 WI Waunakee  
**The T.R.S. BBS** Tim Shriner  
 Family fun, files, echos, USENET.  
 X 29 VF 14+ 4 3

609-235-5297 NJ Mt. Laurel  
**Livewire BBS** Richard Paquette  
 Support board for *BBS Magazine*.

609-467-5540 NJ Swedesboro  
**Alex's World** Alex Mastrando  
 Online games, adult forums/file.  
 G 19 F 90+ 3 7

609-482-1336 NJ Maple Shade  
**Next Generation** John Carcione  
 Trek Trivia online; After Dark.

609-485-2380 NJ Atlantic City  
**Casino** Dave Schubert  
 For entire family.  
 B 19 FO 14+ 5 F

609-586-4847 NJ Mercerville  
**Freedom Infonet** Peter Skorupsky  
 World views, health, ham radio.  
 R 9 D 16 0

609-587-2672  
**Tao BBS** Bob Watson

609-625-4475 NJ Vineland  
**Full Motion** Bob Korch  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 B 19 D 4 2

609-764-0812 NJ Delran  
**Radio Wave** Tyler Myers  
 Messages, Internet, files.  
 B 19 V 100 4 F

609-768-6585  
**BB's BBS** Bob Browne

609-778-4442  
**Computer Gam** Gregory Moore

609-783-5864 NJ Lindenwold  
**Class Bulletin** Albert Rania  
 User friendly, games, plus.  
 X 19 B 2 1

609-863-1330 NJ Clayton  
**Sunhaven BBS** Bill Sibiski  
 Files, doors, games, Lord 3.5.  
 X 19 D 5 1

609-931-8355 NJ Bellmawr  
**Pure Energy** Mark Dignan  
 A BBS full of games and stuff.  
 B 29 B 1 1

610-284-6265 PA Drexel Hill  
**Front St. Run** Art Verno  
 Games, doors, amateur radio.  
 B 19 D 14 1 1

610-391-1880 PA Allentown  
**Night Vision** Adam Topo  
 Many files, messages, doors.  
 W 09 FV 40+ 1

610-566-9435 PA Media  
**CraftTech BBS** Antonio Rocha  
 Business, programming, chat, game.  
 X 19 VF 14 12 \$ 3

610-954-7653 PA Bethlehem  
**Town Square** Dave Ross  
 Multiplayer games; great files.  
 M 29 V 50 8 \$ 3

612-454-0332 MN St. Paul  
**IntelligenceOn** Matt Jurcich  
 Chat, databases, info exchange.  
 M 09 VF 18+ 3 3

612-488-5112  
**P.C. MegaMall** M Wielenberg

612-633-1366 MN St. Paul  
**City Lights** Gary Elfert  
 Internet, genealogy, general.  
 W 19 D 71 16 F

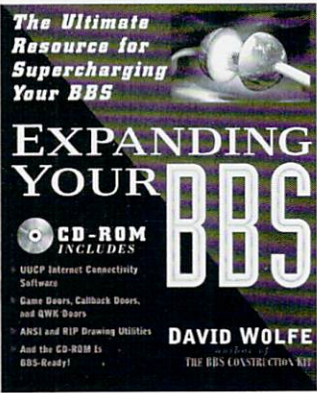
613-835-2760 ON Ottawa  
**Meridian Syst.** Bill Jackson  
 DOS / Windows applications.  
 O 29 V 12+ 4 3

614-387-2762  
**The Vault BBS** Keith Ketcham

614-522-5573 OH Newark  
**Central City** Steve Forgey  
 Family oriented, user defined.  
 R 09 FV 6 2 1

614-633-0868 OH Martins Frry  
**Micro Attic** Larry Tabor  
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 X 29 V 100+ 8 7

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 W 19 F 20 1

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 W 09 D 4 1

615-399-0707  
**Lebanon Link** B Richardson

615-478-2890  
**PC Junction BBS** Doug Carpenter

615-503-9903 TN Clarksville  
**Pixelation BBS** Josh Zerlan  
 100s chat users/tons of files.  
 M 09 FD 100+ 10 3

615-691-1887 TN Knoxville  
**The POST BBS** Marc Lanni  
 Newest files and messaging.  
 W 19 FD 120+ 2 3

615-892-8834 TN Chattanooga  
**TLR Systems** Bill Crawford  
 RIPscript graphics.  
 S 29 FD 42+ 1

615-966-3574  
**Data World BBS** Sean Dudley

615-977-9385  
**WNMFS BBS** Michael Walker

616-392-8175 MI Holland  
**Phoenix Online** Randy Kuite  
 Chat, files, games.  
 M 09 FV 14+ 25 \$ F

616-456-1845 MI Grand Rapids  
**Ryan's Bar BBQ** Thomas Ryan  
 MVP home BBS, files.  
 X 29 D 8+ 2

617-247-3383 MA Boston  
**Data Express** Will Crawford  
 Technical, files, WWIV support.  
 V 19 DV 32+ 1

617-278-9759 MA Brookline  
**Power Surge** David Peterson  
 Shareware, ANSI, no ULDL ratio.  
 B 29 V 15+ 1 1

617-354-8873  
**Channel 1 BBS** Brian Miller

617-581-9980 MA Lexington  
**VIDEODROME** M Lammons  
 Total movie information.  
 T 09 D 9 2

617-749-0526 MA Hingham  
**The Fun-House** Bruce Kelly  
 Family BBS.  
 Q 19 V 12 1 1

617-964-6028 MA Newton  
**PAL Online** PAUL LITVAK  
 Programming, messages, games.  
 B 19 V 17+ 1

619-423-4970 CA Imperial Bch  
**The Music Shop** Judy Letostak  
 Music related.  
 X 09 V 14+ 1

619-435-0036 CA Coronado  
**Daily Calendar** E. Copper  
 Home office, files, Internet.  
 B 29 FV 6 1 7

619-463-9378 CA San Diego  
**ZenWest** Chris Sickels  
 C/S, MajorNet, chat, games.  
 X 09 VF 10 8

619-582-2402 CA San Diego  
**The Free Zone** Paul Cavnar  
 Christian files, CalvaryNet.  
 W 19 D 3 1

# The A-List

619-630-7437 CA Oceanside  
**Shepherd Flock** John Scudder  
 Christian files, CalvaryNet.  
 B 19 D 4 1

619-779-9402 CA Palm Desert  
**Desert Oracle** Jim John  
 Adult gay & lesbian.  
 M 29 VF 14+ 10 \$ 3

701-225-1951 ND Dickinson  
**The Mirage** Loren Steyer  
 Games, technology, and news.  
 X 19 FV 14+ 2 1

701-280-2343 ND Fargo  
**Spectrum BBS** Dale Hill  
 General interest.  
 A 29 VF 10+ 1

701-772-5399  
**City Lites** John Lundell

701-839-2664 ND Minot  
**CyberStar BBS** Glenn French  
 Files, Apogee dist site.  
 W 29 FV 5 1

701-852-8072 ND Minot  
**Infinity** Ronnie R. Herr  
 Online games, email, files, etc.  
 X 29 V 4 1 \$ 1

702-324-0301 NV Reno  
**CENPAC WEST** Rob Pittser  
 Files, multi-player games.  
 M 29 V 12 8

703-427-0226  
**Mountain Air** Edward Wood

703-435-8644  
**The Last Resort** Derek Figg

703-478-5502 DC Washington  
**APO** Mark Maxey  
 Appraisal data.  
 M 19 FV 100+ 86 F

703-532-7143  
**Arlington Softwr** Jay Falvey

703-560-1168 VA Falls Church  
**The Cooks Cnr** Bob Chrisp  
 Cooking & crafts.  
 B 29 F 40+ 2 3

703-620-8900  
**World Data Net** Tony McClenny

703-638-7580  
**Xsword's Haven** R Hedgecock

703-671-7135 VA Alexandria  
**Dragonfire BBS** David Green  
 Messages, games, internet, adult.  
 W 09 VF 22+ 2 3

703-729-5728 VA Ashburn  
**Flightline** Robert Orsino  
 Flight simulators of all kinds.  
 B 19 FV 20+ 1

703-730-3115 VA Dale City  
**Circle Circus** Bob Lotspeich  
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 B 29 V 5 1

703-731-0601  
**Dockside BBS** Danny Cook

703-771-4268 VA Leesburg  
**Necroscope BBS** Jason Englander  
 General focus, HSNat support.  
 L 19 V 4 1 3

704-327-3682 NC Hickory  
**The Furntiure** Sharon Wycoff  
 Online shopping furniture.  
 T 29 V 5 2

704-657-6898 NC Cliffside  
**Gentle Breeze** Larry Beheler  
 Games.  
 X 19 FV 14+ 2 2

704-757-9949  
**Enchnt Forest** Brian Miller

704-983-2877 NC Albemarle  
**Small Wonder** Mark Brooks  
 Internet email.  
 X 19 HB 10 1 \$ 1

705-727-0824 ON Barrie  
**Igniton Factor** Ben Vinegar  
 Music, games related.  
 R 09 V 1 1

708-247-9068 IL Vernon Hills  
**Power Palace** S. Hauswirth  
 Games, email & newsgroups, OS2.  
 B 09 F 28+ 2 3

708-260-8818  
**Adline U.S.A.!** Charles Parker

708-367-7851  
**System Software** Wayne Lawton

708-543-4629 IL Addison  
**Panther Post** Ken Root  
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 Q 29 V 5 1 1

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**Castle KingSide** Don Martin

708-634-9368  
**Great Northern** Michael Wilson

708-635-8050 IL Des Plaines  
**The Daze Inn** John Mc Climent  
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 Q 09 D 5 3 3

708-636-6694  
**Suburban Softwr** Chuck Valecek

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 S 19 F 30+ 1

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**The Flo Igloo** Brian Greul  
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 X 09 V 12+ 3 \$ 3

713-873-5702  
**Bowlers Acr Amer** Dennis Asfour

713-888-0496 TX Houston  
**CD Caddy** William Sanders  
 Online electronic tax filing.  
 X 29 V 999+ 6 F

714-362-9675 CA Laguna Hills  
**Hillside BBS** Robert Savage  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 B 19 D 4 1

714-533-7104 CA Anaheim  
**Mike's Mail** michael box  
 Military info.  
 O 19 DF 11+ 1 1

714-548-1900 CA Newport Bch  
**Eden BBS** Dan Vesely  
 Adult social club w/ Internet.  
 M 09 V 32+ 52 \$ F

714-669-8823 CA Tustin  
**Vivid Image** Veno Dossantos  
 Manufacturer's updates.  
 W 29 F 14+ 2 \$ 1

714-675-2175 CA Newport Bch  
**Christ-U-Serve** M Riechmann  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 B 19 D 4+ 1

714-720-3801 CA Newport Bch  
**DB BBS** Grant  
 GUI interface, sounds.  
 X 29 F 14+ 2 \$ A

714-837-9677  
**Solar System** Peter Guethlein

714-839-0553 CA Garden Grove  
**His Place** Glenn Frank  
 Christian church, Mac, IBM.  
 X 19 V 1 1

714-850-1539 CA Santa Ana  
**Salt Shaker** Jeffery Haney  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 P 19 D 3 1 3

714-951-7311 CA Mission Viejo  
**A Helping Hand** Scott Leighton  
 Family oriented.  
 W 19 VF 6 1 3

714-957-2881 CA Santa Ana  
**The Good Sam** Mike DeTomaso  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 B 19 D 3 1

714-996-7777  
**The Liberty BBS** Steven Grande

715-398-7141 WI Superior  
**Info Central** Bob Slowinski  
 Games, business, genealogy.  
 Q 19 FV 10+ 2 1

715-449-3071 WI Birnamwood  
**BBBBS** Rick Mehre  
 Hometown BBS, files, games.  
 W 19 FV 13+ 2

715-652-2758 WI Auburndale  
**TwilightZone** J. Hrusovszky  
 Conspiracy/Patriot.  
 T 19 DF 36+ 7 F

# The A-List

715-726-0501 WI Chip. Falls  
**Storm BBS** Clay Busker  
 Doors/mods/demos/KBBS support.  
 X 19 V 10+ 1

715-842-2545 WI Wausau  
**Cellblock BBS** Cliff Johnsen  
 General.  
 W 29 D 12+ 1

716-627-3246 NY Derby  
**The Hazard BBS** Rick Kramer  
 Business-related + some games.  
 Q 29 V 10 1 1

717-246-9666 PA Red Lion  
**Lion's Den** Brent Sowers  
 No charge, online ordering.  
 X 19 V 8+ 1

717-290-8139 PA Lancaster  
**soft connect** Travis Siegel  
 Programmers and disabled users.  
 W 19 V 22+ 1 3

717-383-9661 PA Peckville  
**Data Connection** John Mulderig  
 Multi-media, games, ham radio.  
 X 29 FO 06 0

717-427-3338 PA Weatherly  
**InTheFeetOfNight** Jim Gillespie  
 For foot lovers; scans, chat, Intrnet.  
 X 09 VF 20+ 10 \$ 9

717-691-1041 PA Mechnsburg  
**Sunburst** Mike Smeal  
 Online door games shareware.  
 X 19 F 5+ 1

717-730-8504 PA Lemoyne  
**Stimpy's Sandb** Mark Friend  
 Free, ASP member.  
 I 19 F 10+ 3 1

717-840-1444  
**Cyberia** Sara/Adam Viener

717-876-0152 Pa Jermyn  
**NE File Bank** Stuart Wilson  
 Files, Fidonet, email, newsgp.  
 Q 09 D 20+ 2 3

718-234-6905 NY Brooklyn  
**Maddog BBS** Ilya Kushnirsky  
 Shareware, games.  
 R 09 VO 2+ 1

718-366-6165  
**Rama One BBS** Tommy Brunning

718-743-2430 NY Brooklyn  
**Bklyn BBS** David Kaufman  
 Topical discussion, networking  
 W 29 V 13+ 1

718-779-5801 NY woodside  
**blarney bbs** maureen c.  
 Doors.  
 B 29 VF 2+ 1

718-837-3236 NY Brooklyn  
**Consultant BBS** Jay Caplan  
 Resource for computer professnls.  
 B 09 D 999+ 8 \$ 1

718-848-8342 NY Ozone Park  
**Squid Shack** Ron Kulick  
 General.  
 B 29 VD 5 1

718-882-5683 NY Bronx  
**BBSLineTraveler** Ray Checko  
 Many new updated files.  
 I 29 V 05 0

719-540-9728 CO Colo Springs  
**Co. Connection** Scott Carter  
 Online games and adult areas.  
 W 09 FV 39+ 3 7

770-232-9827 GA Atlanta  
**All Business** J. Domaleski  
 Business related, files, mail.  
 O 19 F 14 1 3

770-760-8494 GA Conyers  
**ACS OnLine** Wolfgang Platt  
 Real estate & PC support.  
 W 99 V 8+ 1

770-943-0173 GA Pwder Sprgs  
**Computer Connx** F. Osborne  
 General, outdoors, healthcare.  
 P 09 V 4 1

770-944-2470 GA Atlanta  
**PC Plus BBS** Tim Manns  
 Airline industry, photography.  
 B 29 V 10 1

770-967-6888 GA Flowery Br.  
**S/Ware Monster** R.P. Meggs  
 Latest around-the-world files.  
 X 29 F 220+ 4 7

770-972-4999 GA Atlanta  
**GraffitiOnline** Jim Maddox  
 Gay & lesbian news and chat.  
 M 29 V 40 45 \$

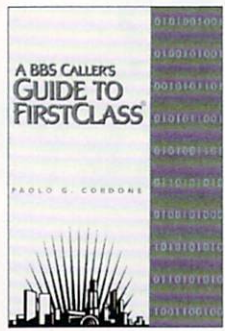
770-978-1153 GA Grayson  
**Binary Zone** K Bagheri  
 GIFs, games, sound, utilities.  
 W 29 FD 9+ 2 1

801-627-3351 UT Ogden  
**PCF** David Nielsen  
 For posting, gaming, file tran.  
 X 19 O 1 1

802-433-1367 VT Williamstown  
**hillside bbs** David Sutton  
 file hunters paradise-adult.  
 M 09 V 3+ 2 \$

803-233-0824 SC Greenville  
**Optical Delusi** Bruce Murphree  
 Files, doors, messages.  
 W 09 F 14+ 1

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 Prepared by the publishers of the book:  
 The Complete Business Guide to a Profitable Internet, BBS, or Online Service.

803-679-0873 SC Effingham  
**GranPremierBBS** Stevan Hill  
Graphics, Windows, games.  
X 29 V 5+ 1

803-871-8761 SC Ladson  
**Carolina Chat** Robert McElwee  
Full Internet, chat, Doom.  
M 19 VO 14+ 20 \$ F

803-873-5797 SC Ladson  
**Dazed&Confused** Bunny McElwee  
Games.  
B 19 FV 14+ 8

803-963-3773 SC Simpsonville  
**Kitty's Cafe** Diane Hayes  
A little bit for everyone.  
W 09 BF 10 10 \$

804-420-2880 VA Chesapeake  
**Thin Blue Line** Scott White  
Law enforcement.  
Q 29 F 8 2

804-474-9635 VA Va. Beach  
**The Zone! BBS** Tony Babb  
Win 95, tech support, doors.  
W 19 F 100+ 20 3

804-520-0536 VA Chesterfield  
**Joe's Place BB** Joe Landers  
Ham radio, games and adult fun.  
W 09 FV 14+ 2

804-541-0517 VA Hopewell  
**Cracked Windows** Daniel Slagle  
Game crack, cheat, hint files.  
S 99 F 14+ 1

804-590-2161 VA Matoaca  
**Servant of Lord** Dr C.A. Wootten  
Christian.  
W 19 BV 10 0 3

804-596-2131  
**Time Out! BBS** Mark Solomon

804-853-0636 VA Norfolk  
**Cupids Playpen** Bill Agreste  
Entertainment.  
M 29 FV 680+ 107 F

805-499-5717  
**Formula 350** Eric Lundberg

805-735-3315 CA Lompoc  
**Granola Board** Deborah Taylor  
IBM files, games, internet.  
M 09 VF 50 31 \$ F

805-964-4766  
**The Seaside** Les Jones

809-781-4207 PR Guaynabo  
**Hurricane BBS** Luis Benitez  
Something for all.  
W 19 D 10+ 2 F

809-832-4984 PR Mayaguez  
**The Glass BBS** Heber Soto  
Dedicated to Windows shareware.  
I 19 F 80+ 1 3

810-412-8177 MI Clinton Twp.  
**ShareWarehouse** Rick Wadowski  
MS-DOS related shareware.  
B 19 DF 210+ 4 \$ 3

810-477-6695  
**The Soul Conn** Mike Demski

810-546-4467 MI Ferndale  
**Comm Connect** Jeff Squires  
Information, genealogy, games.  
Y 09 DF 16+ 1 1

810-631-6885  
**The Casual BBS** Pat Cargill

810-685-9382 MI Comm. Twp  
**The Office BBS** Bob McCurdy  
Messaging, and gaming.  
W 29 V 12+ 1 3

810-751-6704 MI Warren  
**Short Circuit** Eric Dobis  
Family based - NO adult material.  
W 29 DF 20+ 2

812-426-0477 IN Evansville  
**Graphic Statio** Tony Hite  
Large file base, Pov Ray utils.  
W 29 FV 14+ 2

812-475-0434 IN Evansville  
**Rustic Inn BBS** Ronald Benjamin  
Messages, hobbies, games, contests.  
W 09 VO 20+ 2

812-949-4904 IN New Albany  
**DataCom USA** Frank Fendley  
News, files, Internet.  
X 29 F 21+ 2 \$ 3

# The A-List

813-621-7547 FL Tampa  
**OneWay BBS** Dave Kenyon  
Free Christian family BBS.  
W 29 FD 47+ 2

813-841-7231 FL Port Richey  
**TOoM** James Sumner  
How-to, adult avail.  
X 29 F 5 1 3

813-857-9684 FL NPort Richey  
**TOoM** James Sumner  
How-to.  
X 29 FO 5 1 3

813-934-7881 FL Holiday  
**Planet Alderan** Dale Hutchinson  
Star Wars Universe.  
B 19 D 20+ 2

813-942-0323  
**Genesis Network** D Thompson

813-961-0788 FL Tampa  
**Nordevald SW** Marianne Cowley  
DCI BBS software headquarters.  
X 19 FD 14 2 3

814-336-3294 PA Meadville  
**The Mach 5** Joe Formanek  
Files, games, messages, etc.  
X 19 V 55+ 1

814-827-0123 PA Titusville  
**Data SuperHigh** Mark Harcourt  
Northwest PA, Internet ISP.  
S 09 D 14+ 8 F

815-458-3910 IL Braidwood  
**Monkeys Corner** George Rozak  
General interest/lots of files.  
S 09 V 10+ 1

815-727-1195 IL Joliet  
**Hookline** Mike McCormick  
Hobby, fishing, fun.  
Q 09 F 5+ 2 3

815-795-6371  
**Squirrel's Nest** Neal Roberts

815-868-2422 IL McConnell  
**Boomtown** K. Zimmerman  
Tech talk & gaming.  
Q 19 D 14+ 1 1

continues...

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# The A-List



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Rusty n Edie's BBS  
7393 California Ave.  
Youngstown, OH 44512

817-280-9943 TX Hurst  
**Ocean Breeze** Ted J. Mieske  
Lots of electronic items.  
A 19 V 10+ 1

817-355-9252  
**Contrails BBS** Joe Richter

817-565-9165 TX Denton  
**Mezzanine** Walter Bowen  
Macintosh user support.  
X 09 DF 23+ 1

818-353-8891 CA Tujunga  
**Mysteria** Phil Hansford  
Metaphysics/occult.  
O 09 DV 39+ 2 3

818-360-9611 CA Northridge  
**Biz Link BBS** Todd Taylor  
Business-related.  
T 29 F 12+ 8 \$

818-727-7639  
**Sleuth** Mark Valentine

818-919-6285 CA Diamond Bar  
**NightPlayer** Leon Lien  
Movies for Win.  
B 99 F 14 2 \$

901-278-6518 TN Memphis  
**Closed Doors** Peter Reilly  
Adult only.  
F 09 VO 9+ 2 \$

901-327-1895  
**Metroplex BBS** Rick vanHooser

901-452-4779 TN Memphis  
**Memphis Online** Jane Hayden  
Conference & chat board.  
S 09 V 10 12 3

903-589-0575 TX Jacksonville  
**The Pride Lands** Ben Shiplet  
Disney-related, DOS, Windows.  
W 29 VF 12+ 1

903-813-0287 Tx Sherman  
**Fly-N-High** Brandon Morris  
General family oriented BBS.  
Q 09 V 5+ 1 1

903-892-6784 TX Sherman  
**CC64C** Joe Marr  
Messages, files, games.  
X 19 V 3 1

904-254-0911 FL Daytona Bch  
**StarShipSirius** Anthony Malena  
Family oriented. Fun for all.  
M 09 FV 23+ 14 F

904-262-7329 FL Jacksonville  
**M. Dillusions** Mastermind  
General support & enjoyment.  
L 09 V 1 1

904-323-8684  
**Up All Night BBS** Rob Warren

904-383-9866 FL Mount Dora  
**HIRS BBS** Byron Felts  
Online information exchange.  
X 19 V 5 1

904-438-2648 FL Pensacola  
**The Land** Donald Lee  
Games, files and chat.  
X 29 V 14+ 8 \$ 3

904-673-1983 FL Orm Beach  
**Aeronet Online** Jean Jenner  
Aviation, space, weather, etc.  
M 09 BV 40+ 5 3

904-757-0281 FL Jacksonville  
**Jim's Place** Jim Loos  
General.  
R 19 VF 6+ 2 1

907-562-7348 AK Anchorage  
**Back Woods** Pat Barnes  
Files.  
W 29 FF 20+ 1 7

908-247-2273 NJ New Brnswk  
**ACGNJ Main BBS** Bob Berto  
Shareware & I-net mail & news.  
B 19 DF 13+ 2 3

908-276-4405  
**The Vector** J Delvecchio

908-335-1135 NJ Holmdel  
**KDF** David Kaiserman  
We are a general BBS that also.  
W 19 V 11+ 1

908-354-6979 NJ Elizabeth  
**Comp. Junction** Jeff Shapiro  
Messages, Internet email, Doors.  
W 99 FV 10+ 4 3

908-363-2760 NJ Lakewood  
**Bytewise™** Steve Hajducek  
Amateur radio, astronomy.  
B 29 FF 40+ 2 3

908-572-5762  
**Dataland! BBS** Rick Young

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305-425-0929

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908-572-7490 NJ Edison  
**ADAMSCOM** Mark Adams  
 Computer professionals online.  
 W 99 V 10 5 7

908-753-6784 NJ N.Plainfield  
**The Other Side** Jeff Groth  
 Something for everyone.  
 B 99 F 10+ 1

908-873-0001 NJ Somerset  
**dr Ones Oprom** Bob Berto  
 Support for DOS and OS/2.  
 X 19 D 3 1

908-888-2158 NJ Holmdel  
**KDF** Ken Morgan  
 Wide variety for every need.  
 W 19 VO 11+ 1

908-940-1426 NJ Somerset  
**MOTHER BBS** Robert Harris  
 Something for all callers.  
 W 29 VF 14+ 2

908-964-4357 NJ Union  
**Sunset-East** Rick Norton  
 Ham radio, scanner/SWL.  
 W 09 FV 16+ 1 3

909-626-1054 CA Claremont  
**Zone Twist Bars** S. Cmpden-Main  
 Technical Issues. OS/2, DOS.  
 R 09 VF 05 0

909-697-0031 CA Moreno Valle  
**The Library** Kim Martin  
 <ASP> software, small business.  
 W 99 VF 14+ 3

909-785-4586 CA Norco  
**In His Service** Lucky Hughes  
 Christian files, CalvaryNet.  
 F 19 D 4 2

909-797-3135  
**CyberCulture** Todd Novak

909-860-9668 CA Diamond Bar  
**NightPlayer** Leon Lien  
 Movies, movies, movies.  
 B 99 F 15 2 \$

909-924-9693 CA Moreno Valey  
**Armour o Light** D. Klingelberg  
 Christian files, CalvaryNet.  
 F 19 D 3 1

909-925-9564  
**The Ouija! Board** Keith Burgner

909-947-2278 CA Ontario  
**The Berean Unv** John Carter  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 V 19 D 3 1

909-948-9967 CA Alta Loma  
**Christian Conn** Brent Griffith  
 Christian, CalvaryNet.  
 W 09 VB 5 1

910-292-1979 NC Greensboro  
**The Billboard** Bill Bailey  
 Computer professional/hobbyist.  
 W 19 V 10+ 2 3

910-591-8512 NC Germantown  
**N State Online** Gary Dudley  
 Internet access, shop online.  
 W 29 D 2+ 1 3

912-328-9935 GA Warner  
 Robin  
**Kitty's Cafe!** M. Mendez  
 Online advertising/business.  
 W 29 F 14+ 150 \$ B

913-784-7171  
**The Publishing** Mike Robinson

914-426-0729  
**Mirage Network** Brian Buffell

## The A-List

914-524-0388 NY N. Tarrytown  
**CyberSpace HWY** Douglas Zolkind  
 Games, reference, etc.  
 I 09 FV 5+ 2 F

914-528-4194 NY Mahopac  
**Computec BBS** Rik Line  
 Computer tech support, business.  
 I 19 D 10 1

914-621-2865  
**Drk Side of Moon** Peter Cacchioli

914-665-1725 NY Mt Vernon  
**Go Diamond** C. Brewington  
 General.  
 I 09 FU 4 1 1

914-667-9385 NY Mt Vernon  
**Joe Brown's** Joe Brown  
 Amateur radio.  
 Q 29 FU 14 1

914-683-3788 NY Valhalla  
**Skywave One** Larry Spinner  
 Message oriented, ham radio.  
 W 19 D 2 1

914-793-5060 NY Bronxville  
**Applewise** Mike Baumann  
 Entertainment.  
 M 99 F 35+ 8 \$ F

915-590-3817 TX El Paso  
**The Other Side** Sean Dunbar  
 Family oriented.  
 X 29 FD 20+ 3 3

916-247-1232 CA Redding  
**EBSMicro** Bruce Knapton  
 File distribution system.  
 B 19 F 253 15 \$

916-332-4217 CA Sacramento  
**Sleepy Hollow** Chuck Sinclair  
 Programming DOS/Windows.  
 X 29 V 11+ 1 B

916-534-5329 CA Oroville  
**TDEC West BBS** John Young  
 Email, games, technical.  
 I 29 D 16+ 2

916-585-2281  
**Golden State** Gregory Smith

916-622-3910 CA Placerville  
**Paradise** Digger Porter  
 Author directories and support.  
 B 29 D 47 3 1

916-624-9368 CA Rocklin  
**StarshipEntprz** Aaron Bond  
 DOS, PDA's, Doom, tech, Trek.  
 T 19 FV 35+ 3

916-635-4157 CA Sacramento  
**VacationTravel** Ron Ablang  
 Adult games/text/pictures.  
 Q 09 FO 9 1

916-688-8996 CA Sacramento  
**Falcon & Eagle** Chris Darrow  
 Mid Evil.  
 I 09 VF 5 1

916-929-7511 CA Sacramento  
**BOBsBBS** Bob Breedlove  
 Home of the USBBS List.  
 X 09 F 2 1

918-455-5806 OK Broken Arrow  
**Sword** Matt Weese  
 Games, mail, role playing.  
 Q 09 FD 20+ 1 1

918-272-7779  
**Black Gold BBS** Michael Cline  
 918-627-0923  
**The Hub! BBS** W Farrimond

919-420-0065 NC Raleigh  
**ArenA** Paul Newton  
 Star Trek, NASA, Texas, radio.  
 B 29 D 3 1

919-735-6889 NC Goldsboro  
**PowerHouse** James Bleacher  
 Chat.  
 T 09 V 8+ 5

941-337-5999 FL Ft. Myers  
**TNT Online** Jay E Wigginton  
 Infotainment.  
 M 09 FD 980+ 32 \$ F

941-424-3286 FL Davenport  
**BugLips BBS!** Daniel Huff  
 24-bit color & 16-bit sound support.  
 X 99 VF 14+ 1

954-452-5226 FL Davie  
**Looking Glass** Ken Wiren  
 Files.  
 W 29 F 45+ 1

954-792-3887 FL Ft Lauderdale  
**Photo Image** M R Dolliver  
 Photo, original, amateur/pro.  
 S 19 VF 11 3

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It's time to start the voting. The keeper of this list of **TELNET-TABLE BOARDS**, Richard Mark, has put together a page or so on the Web where you can **VOTE** for your favorite Internet-accessible BBS. This is the first go-round for such an event and *BBS Magazine*, as a sponsor of the fun, will shine the equivalent of 15 minutes of the limelight (read: a little ink) this spring on a handful of those garnering the most votes. And **PRIZES?** Oh, do we have prizes! (Well, not really.) Remember, this is a friendly contest so please, please — as that gap-toothed, late-night sardonic says — no wagering. (OK, maybe some prizes for a few randomly picked voters.) Now, head over to the **SBI HOME PAGE** ASAP and check out the full details. Then, get out the vote!

The following collection of Telnet-accessible BBSs is a unique version of the SBI List maintained by Richard Mark, sysop of Dragon Keep BBS (904.375.3500/Telnet: dkeep.com, or 198.79.54.10). Versions of the list can be found at the sites noted in the box below. Bulletin boards new since the last revision are given full descriptions.

**Color = New since last revision**

- (I)ndustry BBS**  
industry-dm.com ..... 204.157.46.2
- A Clockwork Online**  
clockwork.com ..... 199.234.182.56
- A World Locally**  
bbs.locally.com ..... 205.147.78.131
- Absolute Connection**  
a-c.in.net ..... 199.0.62.164
- Access Nevada**  
spillway.accessnv.com ..... 199.2.253.3
- ACE InfoSystems**  
aceinfo.com ..... 199.190.76.2

**WWW:**  
http://dkeep.com/sbi.htm  
Includes a "Guided Tour of Internet," BBSs from around the world.

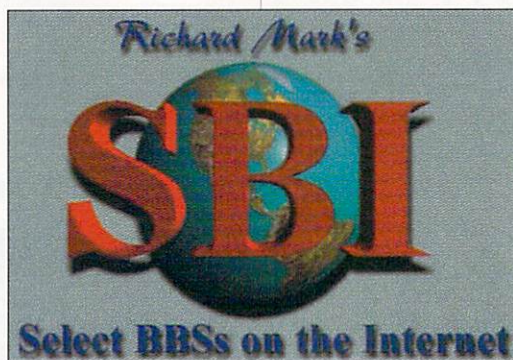
**FTP:**  
dkunix.dkeep.com (in /pub/sbi)  
login: anonymous  
gcomm.com (in /internet)  
login: anonymous  
ftp.rahul.net (in pub/wco)  
login: ftp

**Finger:**  
sbi@dkeep.com  
(Information about the SBI List)  
sbiq@dkeep.com  
("Quick" Guide to Select BBS's on Internet)  
sbi-info@dkeep.com  
(Revision Information for current list)  
sbi-sysop@dkeep.com  
(How to Become a Part of the SBI list)

**BBS:**  
Dragon Keep — dkeep.com / 904.375.3500  
(signup, then type /GO SBI)

- AdeptXBBS**  
adeptsoft.gate.net ..... 199.227.57.1
- Advanced Data Services BBS**  
bbs.adsinc.com ..... 199.190.70.3
- AECNET™**  
aecnet.com ..... 204.89.131.100
- After Hourz BBS**  
ahbqs.com ..... 204.134.204.10
- Afterimage Information Matrix**  
aim.novasys.com ..... 204.178.181.2
- Aladdins Palace**  
aladdin.bc.ca ..... 204.174.112.253
- Albuquerque ROS**  
abq-ros.com ..... 204.68.29.244
- Alien's SpaceShip BBS**  
aliens.com ..... 199.190.82.2
- Alien's World Wide Chat**  
chat.aliens.com ..... 199.190.82.10
- Almac BBS**  
almac.co.uk ..... 193.114.248.81

- Atlas BBS**  
gilroy.com ..... 204.189.37.1
- Austin Clubhouse BBS**  
club.fc.net ..... 198.6.198.98
- Badlands**  
Badlands.com ..... 204.137.129.31
- Barney's Rubble**  
rubble.fidouk.org ..... 194.70.36.10
- Barter America BBS**  
barter-usa.com ..... 192.207.47.72
- BBS One Online Service**  
bbs.prgone.com ..... 199.18.119.129
- The Behavioral Health Network**  
behavnet.com ..... 199.190.85.2
- The Big Easy**  
bigeasy.com ..... 204.251.2.10
- The Black Dragon BBS**  
Black-Dragon.com ..... 166.82.197.95
- Black Gold BBS**  
bgbbs.com ..... 198.65.131.18



- Amateur Radio INTERNET BBS**  
wb3fv1.sed.csc.com ..... 206.42.80.130
- America's Suggestion Box**  
asb.com ..... 165.254.128.1
- Anarchy Online**  
anarchy-online.com ..... 199.1.91.250
- Anarchy-X BBS**  
bbs.ax.com ..... 199.184.188.10
- The Annex!**  
annex.com ..... 204.74.67.1
- Another World™**  
awol.com ..... 204.160.88.13
- AOP BBS**  
..... 198.232.144.101
- APPLEWIZE ONLINE**  
Chat, multi-user interactive games.  
Applewise.com ..... 198.232.143.2
- Appraisal Profession Online**  
apo.com ..... 199.172.5.2
- Aquila BBS**  
aquila.com ..... 204.95.88.5
- Arizona InterActive Systems**  
azi.com ..... 199.190.114.2
- ASERTEL Servicios On-line**  
hermes.asertel.es ..... 194.140.141.5
- AstroBBS**  
astrobbs.com ..... 204.215.32.26
- The Atlanta Windows BBS**  
bbs.atlwin.com ..... 155.229.44.2
- Atlantis BBS**  
atlantis-bbs.com ..... 199.4.124.69

- Blastertronics BBS**  
Blast.Neta.Com ..... 204.177.236.30
- Blitzkrieg Information BBS**  
blitzinfo.com ..... 199.190.90.2
- Boardwatch Magazine BBS**  
boardwatch.com ..... 204.144.169.1
- Boston Dungeon Society**  
bdsbbs.com ..... 199.242.194.90
- Brainstorm BBS**  
bstorm.bgs.com ..... 198.84.216.1
- Bryant Software**  
bryant.com ..... 199.45.158.193
- Canned Ham Bulletin Board**  
anarky.tch.org ..... 199.173.177.250
- Caribbean Online Network for Info**  
..... 204.183.157.10
- CAROLINA CHAT**  
Eighteen & over chat, multi-player games.  
carolina-chat.com ..... 205.148.236.2
- CAROLINA ONLINE**  
Total online service, full Internet access.  
nconline.com ..... 204.215.211.211
- CATANIA ON LINE**  
Internet, interactive games, shareware.  
ctonline.it ..... 151.99.143.3
- CCS World**  
ccsnet.com ..... 199.172.47.2
- CedarNet Online**  
bbs.cedarnet.com ..... 205.148.200.3
- Cetys BBS**  
cetysbbs.mxl.cetys.mx ..... 158.122.1.9

- CHANNEL 1®**  
bbs.channel1.com ..... 204.96.33.5
- CHATMASTER BBS**  
All-ages system with full Net access.  
cmaster.com ..... 199.190.80.2
- Christie's Internet Matchmaker**  
bounced.email.net ..... 199.33.241.97
- Cinci-Net**  
cinci.net ..... 199.6.38.4
- Cincinnati Multi-Player Connectio**  
cinmpc.com ..... 205.133.194.10
- The City Lights**  
tclbbs.com ..... 199.199.122.4
- Cleveland's Worldnet**  
worldnetoh.com ..... 204.248.180.53
- Close Encounters Adult**  
Close.packet.net ..... 199.1.77.17
- Closer To Home BBS Systems**  
closer2.brisnet.org.au ..... 203.4.149.98
- Cloud City**  
cloud.city.com ..... 199.190.94.2
- Club BBS**  
club.gdl.iteso.mx ..... 148.201.1.18
- Colossus Box**  
colossus.com ..... 198.3.118.19
- Columbus Online**  
columbus.com ..... 205.133.92.2
- Comm 2**  
..... 199.92.200.58
- COMM Port OS/2**  
juge.com ..... 199.100.191.2
- Comp-U-Find Online**  
..... 199.79.146.33
- ComPart BBS**  
compart.fi ..... 193.64.198.201
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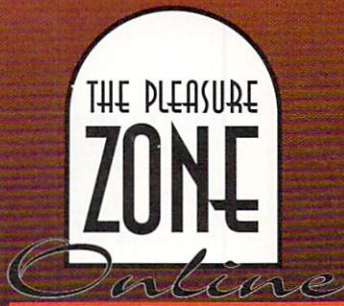
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<b>SLONET REGIONAL INFO.ACCESS</b>		
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SVIS	svis.org	198.77.8.11
Synergy Entertainment Network	sen.com	199.190.79.2
Synergy Online Communications	bbs.soc.com	204.117.97.2
<b>SYSOP NEWS BBS</b>		
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TDS Online International	dstar.com	205.139.177.3
Techlands BBS	bbs.techlands.com	199.67.37.132
TnT Online	TnTonline.com	204.145.237.2
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Top Secret BBS	topsecret.com	204.180.236.101
Topgun BBS	topgun.cvinet.com	204.97.71.2
TPL	tpl.com	199.3.240.65
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Vail OnLine	vailonline.vailnet.org	199.45.148.25
VIA*Net		165.247.47.7
Villa BBS	rvik.is	193.4.107.2
The Virtual Gateway	vgateway.com	199.227.60.2
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The WELL	well.sf.ca.us	198.93.4.10
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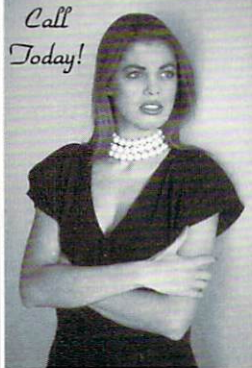
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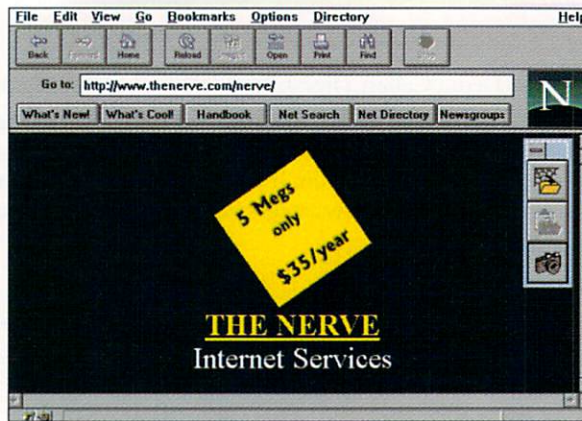
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Quicken Financial Network — QFN) and full Internet service for seven hours/month at \$9.95.

"This new service is the breakthrough that underscores the potential of Internet-based services to enhance customer intimacy and increase product value," said Henry R. Nothhaft, Concentric's CEO and president. On the other side, Intuit's executive vice president, Bill Harris, said, "We decided to partner with Concentric Network Corporation because they represent a new breed of network solutions provider with the capability and flexibility to meet our requirements."

Concentric's also running a special (till the end of '95) called the "Outrageous Internet Offer" — two months of Net access and the Netscape Personal Edition software for a buck. With local dial-ups in 207 cities and Canada, that is pretty outrageous. Reach them (vox) at 800.745.2747.



## The Nerve!

The Nerve. Not only is that the name of one Canadian Internet service company but it's also what competitors might be exclaiming when they take a gander at The Nerve's prices.

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ness opportunity: segment resale. Buy a bunch of segments now and resell them later at a monthly fee (accounts activated when you're ready for a full 12 months). Hear that sysops?

One downside is that the deal is for 1996 only and must be secured by December 31, 1995.

Another is that if you want a custom domain name, plan on spending \$40 a month. And you better know HTML: The Nerve charges a chunky \$580 to design your pages.

Sonny Jelinek of The Nerve says it's likely the system will soon be bumped up to a T1 line (perhaps by publication). Let's hope so.

For more info, check out [www.thenerve.com/nerve/](http://www.thenerve.com/nerve/), or call (vox) 905.845.2570. ■■■■■

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## FUTURE TENSE FROM PAGE 76

lic school system made me recall my own carefree days of youth... My elementary school was lucky enough to get its very on Tandy Trash 80 (I swear I don't remember the real name of it) when I was in fourth grade. I remember the day I got to use it well — it was a Monday. I believe I had control of the computer from 10:15 a.m. to 10:22 a.m. A whole seven minutes... but what a seven minutes they were! You get the point. The future of American youth (and that of any other nation where Web TV lands) won't be the only target, however. The second primary market will be "people at work who have expensive equipment to send email and type memos." Laursen estimated that corporate America spends up to \$5,000 per person, per year in maintenance and upgrades, just to keep up with the current technology. These costs obviously would go down if you are only paying for one copy of everything. Plus, the-end user will never

notice the difference, Laursen said. Everything looks basically the same. Except, of course, you won't be able to put Tetris on your computer at work, either, unless your employer is unusually cool about these things.

I guess you're all ready to cash in your Power Macs and Pentiums by now. Well, before you run to your local used PC dealer, keep this in mind: God only knows when Web TV will become available, and the deity is not saying.

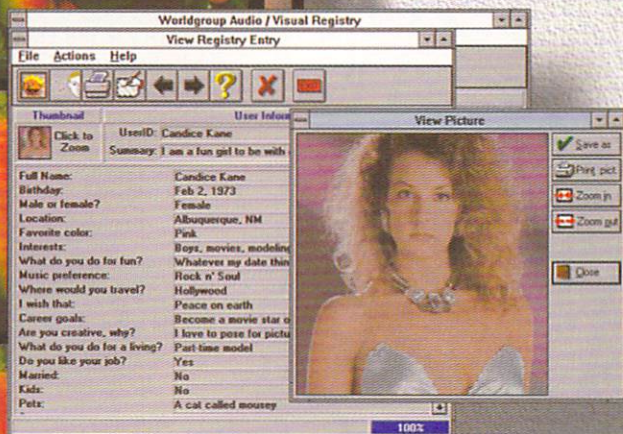
Not to me, anyway. ■■■■■

## This just in...

At press time, Intel announced the fall of civilization. Well, not exactly, but the company did mention the development of a new technology that will allow you to watch television while surfing the 'Net — all on one computer. Look for full details in the next issue. (I got 'em now but, hey, I like suspense.)

Jacqueline Kramer can be reached at [reeltime@voicenet.com](mailto:reeltime@voicenet.com).

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# WEB TV!

(Uh, just kidding)

**S**ometimes it just does not pay to hold a press conference. That is the lesson to be learned from Oracle, which was contending with a few spin control problems not too long ago. It seems Oracle Chairman Larry Ellison made a brief announcement about a new product, Web TV, during the Telecom 95 trade show in Geneva. The press wire services (read: companies that can afford to send reporters to Switzerland) dutifully noted the arrival of a really cool new product that Oracle was working on for release next year. You know, the one that brings cable television service home to your PC. The one Walt Disney and Time Warner are all a-twitter about. The one that will revolutionize the industry.

The one that doesn't exist.

Yep, its amazing what a really bad name — and too little information — can do. Judging by Oracle's post-announcement spin cycle, this is a prime example. Just one short week after the fab news hit the 'Net, an Oracle exec was blowing his afternoon doing damage control with some of the finest journalistic pens around.

Oh yeah, he talked to me, too.

And so, without further ado, here's the official word on what, exactly, Web TV will be (and will not be, for that matter):

FALSE: Despite what the overzealous press said, you will not be watching Nick at Night on your computer anytime soon, and Oracle is not — repeat, not — in bed with Time Warner or Walt Disney... at the moment. Oracle also is not getting into the cable television business in any way, shape or form, despite the ill-chosen name of this particular standard. (Lessee, it isn't exclusive to the Internet, and it has nothing to do with

television per se... Gee, Web TV would certainly be *my* first choice for a name.)

That said, here is how Andy Laursen, vice president of Oracle's media division, sort of explained it to me: "The general idea is to make available multimedia service over a platform such as the World-Wide Web, although it's not just for the PC — it could be over any network." (I see...)

Laursen stressed that Oracle, which makes server software, is not producing the physical product. In fact, the company is essentially developing a standard it hopes other companies will want to license and market. (Another, unnamed company is making the hardware.) Laursen compared the prospective Web TV product to the old IBM mainframes and dumb terminals of yesteryear, but noted that Web TV will have a graphical user interface (an apparent nod to my generation, which thinks DOS is a four-letter word). You'll be able to run software, per-

haps the latest versions of WordPerfect or Quicken, remotely. In essence, Web TV will be one really hot looking mainframe.

Oh, goody.

Given that my generation is extremely wired (to coin a stereotype), it's difficult to imagine who the audience for this thing will be.

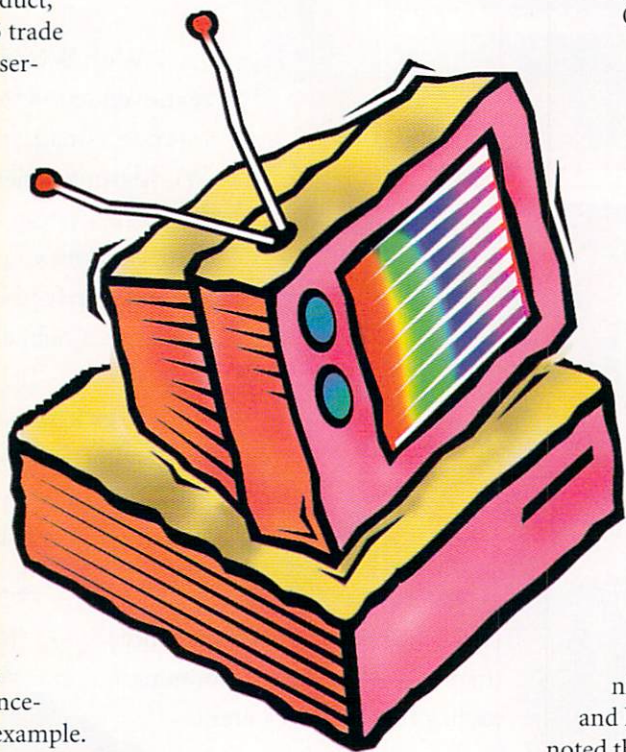
Fortunately, Oracle was willing to share its marketing strategy with me.

"We have two audiences we are actually targeting," Laursen said. "The first target is schools. Right now, at best, you have one Macintosh per classroom, or even one Macintosh or PC per school.

The idea is to work with network companies (such as the telephone and cable television companies) to put the equipment in the schools and let kids have access to the services." He noted that these services could be closely monitored and/or equipped with the latest chastity belt software to ensure that the only Madonna that kids are reading about is Our Lady of Fatima. This type of setup would also prevent little Jimmy from playing Doom on the taxpayer's dime.

The primary advantage for schools would be a greater number of terminals per student, thus ensuring everyone has a chance to use the computer. For those of you outside the U.S. (and you lucky dogs who went to private school), there is a shameful lack of technology in the U.S. public schools.

Discussing the appalling state of technology in the U.S. pub-

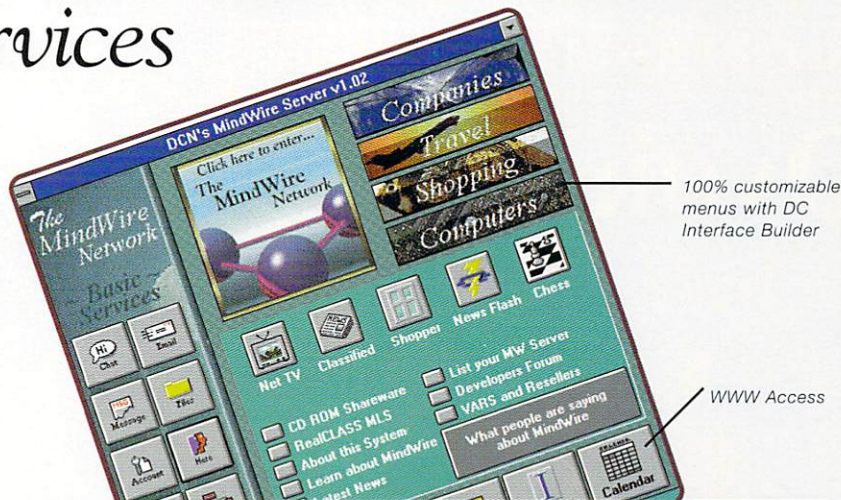


CONTINUED ON PAGE 75

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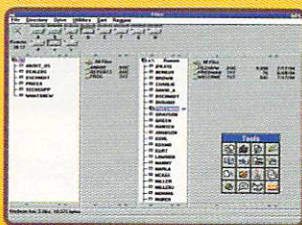
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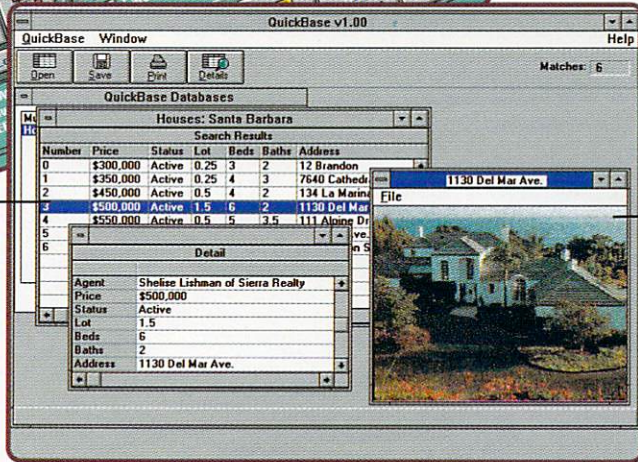


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