



BUSSLINE

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The Newsletter of the Central Florida Computer Society, Inc. Established 1976

January 1990

COMING UP

JANUARY FEATURE: SHAREWARE AUTHOR

by: Hewie Poplock

The program for January 21st will follow the election portion of the meeting. The speaker will be Gene Davis, member of the Association of Shareware Professionals, and author of Lotto Prophet. He will speak on the lotto program, as well as discussing shareware in general, and specifically the Association of Shareware Professionals. There will be drawings of copies of registered versions of Lotto Prophet as well as some other registered versions of shareware programs donated by various members of ASP. If you are also the author of a program(s), there will be valuable information on how to use the shareware approach and what is expected of authors by ASP. Users will find out how using programs from ASP authors, is an advantage to them.

FEBRUARY FEATURE: WORD PERFECT 5.1

by: Hewie Poplock

The program for February 18th CFCSS meeting will be given by a representative of the Word Perfect Corporation. The program will feature a demonstration of Word Perfect version 5.1 and its new companion program Draw Perfect, which is scheduled to start shipping soon. The Word Perfect Corporation is a major sponsor in the Association of PC User Groups. Be sure to attend and see the improvements in Word Perfect and the

exciting new graphics program that enhances your graphics capabilities in word processing.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

By: Charlie Burge

This month's meeting will mark the end of my year as president of our society. I hope that you feel that is has been a year of progress.

I want to use this month's column to thank all the people who work long and hard to make CFCSS a success, both this year and in past years. RUTH POLLEY our retiring Librarian. CHRIS SMITH publisher of the Bussline. JOHN NEEL who has mailed it out forever. DOUG GRABOWSKI and BRUCE BANKS our Membership Chairmen. DON JOHNSON and GAIL BROOKS who managed our annual sale. BOB GARDNER our Education Chairman, who managed the High School programming contests. JIM TRULOCK, our Nominating Committee Chairman. NEAL JOHNSON who coordinated our booth at the Computer show. All those who have served as SIG chairmen, JIM BELL, JOHN DEAM, GAIL BROOKS, REUBEN MIZRAHI, GORDON FINLEY, BUD STONAKER, JIM HOWARD, HANK KORNICK, TED LONG, BILL VERMILLION, BILL BEEBE, and HAL OSBORNE. The Officers and Board of Directors; vice-president, WIN HINKLE, who monitors our telephone message service; secretary, LEE ALBRECHT, who handles our mail; Treasurer JIM COPPINS; JERRY SABIN who chairs our easel program; HEWIE POPLOCK, our Program Chairman; and STAN WALLNER,

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The Central Florida Computer Society, Inc.

is a charitable, scientific and educational, not-for-profit organization; founded in 1976 to encourage interest in the operation and development of computers through meetings, the free exchange of information, and educational endeavors. CFCS membership includes participation in the Society's activities and a subscription to **BUSSLINE**, the Society's newsletter. Annual dues are: Individual \$20.00, extra family member (w/o newsletter or directory) \$10.00, Overseas \$25.00, Corporate (with special ad rates) \$45.00. Gifts to CFCS are welcome, and because of the Society's tax status, are deductible from federal income tax. CFCS meets on the third Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM, in the Junior Achievement Bldg., on the corner of Princeton St. and Camden Rd., Orlando, Florida. Guests and the general public are invited to attend. For more information and membership application, write to CFCS, PO Box 948019, Maitland, FL 32794-8019, or call (407) 332-2883.

Several Special Interest Groups (SIGs) within the Society bring together members with common interests for additional regularly scheduled meetings. Please see: *Special Interest Groups*.

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Membership Figures

Nov. 30, 1987 321 members
Nov. 30, 1988 369 members

Nov. 30, 1989

412 members

Financial Summary

For the period Jan 1, 1989 to Jun 30, 1989

Total Revenue \$ 6,207.36
Total Expenditures \$ 4,455.02

On hand as of Oct 31, 1989

Cash \$ 3,109.46
Property \$???

Special Interest Groups

COMPUPRO SIG Contact Bill Beebe, Chairman, 345-0159. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

DATABASE SIG Contact Ted Long, Chairman, 896-4286. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 1st Sunday of each month at 3:30 pm.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING SIG (DTP) Contact Gordon Finley, Chairman, 299-8676. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:30 pm.

FOXBASE SIG Contact Ted Long, Chairman, 896-4286. Meets at 422 W. Fairbanks Ave., Suite 303, Winter Park on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 7 pm.

INSTRUCTIONAL SIG Contact Bud Stonaker, 862-7242. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 3:30 pm.

INVESTMENT SIG Contact Ruth Polley, 894-7544. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 1st Sunday of each month at 3:30 pm.

PC/MS-DOS SIG Contact John Deam, 345-1650. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 1st Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm.

TANDY/TRS-80 SIG Contact Jim Howard, 645-5001. Meets at the Junior Achievement Bldg., corner of Princeton and Camden, Orlando on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:30 pm.

who has helped in a thousand ways. I also want to thank some members who, without titles, work very diligently for our society. NANCY DEAM, STEVE CONSTANT, BILL FOLMAR, ELLIS STACKFLETH, BOB STEVENSON, DAVE BIEHL, LEE BRADY, HERB TOWLE, MIKE UNGERMAN, JIM SMITH, and BOB TATE, and that special someone who has slipped my mind at the moment.

I would also like to take a moment to remember two departed members who were very special to me, JOE POLLEY and HANK KORNICK.

I am looking forward with renewed excitement to the new year under Hewie's leadership.

DTP SIG DECEMBER MEETING

By: Bill Wildfong

First, many thanks to Reuben Mizrahi for doing the November report. I not only missed the meeting, but failed to contact Reuben afterwards to offer my assistance.

Gordon Finley opened the 17th Desktop Publishing SIG meeting with several announcements and comments: Programs for the CFCS library should be submitted to Bob Valyou. Future issues of our SIG newsletter should keep us up-to-date on our organization chart and roster, our SIG library, and the work group schedules. December 20 was the final chance to get in on the \$25 group rate for VPUG. A patch to fix the Ventura Publisher bug associated with WordPerfect files will be in our library.

Two new members were introduced: Belva Crooks and Tom Ault. Welcome to our SIG, Tom and Belva!

Gordon again discussed the Aldus vs Apple/Microsoft, "Font Fights". He predicted that Aldus' decision to make Postscript an open system -- including their "hints" for shaping fonts -- will make it the unchallenged standard within one year.

The remainder of the meeting was a round-robin discussion of laser printers, led by Jim Trulock. He distributed helpful handouts for making purchase decisions, and also recommended the Laser Printer Buyer's Guide, which is currently available at many magazine racks. One of the alternatives discussed was the HP DeskJet, which uses ink-jet technology for laser printer quality at much lower cost. Its major drawbacks are slow speed and slow-drying ink. The Cannon Bubble Jet, another ink-jet printer, has ink which dries almost instantly. The DeskJet is certainly more popular, but perhaps the Cannon would be a better choice. Since no one present had any experience with the Cannon, no recommendation was made.

DTP SIG WORK GROUP REPORTS:

Corel Draw - Laura Wellman:

This is a new work group, consisting of three members. Because of meeting place restrictions, no additional members can be accepted at this time.

First Publisher 2 - Gail Phelps (by Lee Albrecht):

Seven members were present at the November 27th meeting. Herb Towle has been hosting the meetings at his home and acting as program moderator. Due to other time commitments, Herb resigned from these positions but remains a member of the work group.

Group members expressed their appreciation to Herb for having hosted and led the meetings for the past several months.

Gail Phelps will act as group leader at the Jan. 29 meeting (there was no December meeting because of the holidays). The focus of this and subsequent meetings will be the First Publisher Version 2.0 manual, for discussion, demonstration, and general instruction.

The meetings will be held in Charlie Burge's office conference room, 422 W.

Fairbanks, Suite 303, Winter Park, starting at 7:30 PM. Enter the building from the East parking lot. Although space is limited, Society members interested in furthering their knowledge of First Publisher are invited to attend.

Layout and Design - Nancy Deam:

Schedule conflicts with several members' evening college classes have been a problem, but it appears the new term (starting in January) will have fewer conflicts. By the time you read this a new meeting time will probably have been chosen. If you'd like to know when it is, call Nancy Deam at 345-1650.

PostScript 1 - Gordon Finley:

The work group met on Dec. 13th with five members present. We reviewed new PostScript items and equipment. Tracy Marckham led the group in a training session on PostScript code headers -- those all important first few lines so often overlooked. Homework assigned: study PS Language Reference Guide pages 60-66 on coordinate systems and transformations. The next meeting date is Jan. 10th.

Ventura 1 - Gordon Finley

The work group met on Dec. 6th with five members present. The evening's work consisted of a presentation and hands-on demonstration of the process of making forms and tables with Ventura Publisher, conducted by Dr. Towle. Some members brought copies of work done, and several discussions concerning VP took place. The next meeting date is Jan. 3rd.

Ventura 3 - Ed Thomas:

The finishing touches were put on the December issue of the DTP SIG newsletter.

WordPerfect 1 - Herb Towle:

Present at the 11 Dec. meeting were Charlotte Rand, Herb Towle, Jim Trulock, and John Wagner. Charlotte discussed WordPerfect version 5.1, which she had just received. Several new features were reviewed which should make the program

easier to use. New manuals are supplied to replace those for version 5.0.

The program "MoreFonts" was discussed and demonstrated. This inexpensive (\$99) scaleable font generator comes with three typefaces and four styles: roman or upright, italic or oblique, bold, and bold italic or oblique. Five other upright typefaces are also supplied. Sizes from 2 to 999 points (nearly 14 inches) can be generated, provided sufficient memory is available for large sizes. Any generated font or font set may be installed into WordPerfect and/or Ventura Publisher. They may also be used with any program that outputs to any HP laser printer or a DeskJet.

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INSTRUCTIONAL SIG

by: LeE Brady
Bud Stonaker, Instructor

We hope you were present at the December program on NUMBER SYSTEMS which was very interesting! Everyone came away feeling they had learned a little more about 'how computers work'.

On January 21, Bud will present a follow-up on NUMBER SYSTEMS and conclude 'Representations of Alphabetic & Special Characters', which was briefly touched on in the December meeting. Also, there will be a general question and answer period (be sure to bring all those unanswered questions you have wanted to ask!) and the annual survey will be done to determine the subjects you want to discuss in 1990.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

What do you think will happen in the computer field in 1990? Write down your predictions and bring them with you on the 21st. We will keep the list and check it next January to see how our predictions turned out!

An INTRODUCTION TO MICROCOMPUTERS will continue on February 4th, with a discussion of Basic Components and Terminology, Video Displays and Bud will share his personal recommendations for computer hardware.

You are invited to come and participate in the Instructional SIG following the CFCS meetings on the first and third Sundays of each month.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

21 January 1990

I. NUMBER SYSTEMS follow-up 'Representations of Alphabetic and Special Characters'

II. QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

III. SURVEY for 1990

IV. PREDICTIONS for 1990

NOVEMBER INSTRUCTIONAL SIG

by: LeE Brady

Bud Stonaker, leader of the Instructional SIG, announced that the beginners group will continue to meet on the first Sunday of each month. "AN INTRODUCTION TO MICROCOMPUTERS" will be presented quarterly, in three segments. On 5 November, in Part II, the following will be addressed: how computers work, basic DOS commands, and advanced DOS commands. Questions are always welcome and everyone is invited to participate.

On 15 October, twenty-nine members met at 3:30 P.M. A lively discussion ensued where many questions were answered concerning hidden files, auto exec bat. files, editors, compilers, use of copy

command, and data bases.

On 19 November, Bud will be discussing the use of Public Domain Software. He will be using disks from the Computer Society library which are available from our librarian.

All interested members are invited to join the SIG and participate.

LIBRARY NEWS

by: John & Nancy Deam, Librarians

Happy New Year to you from the CFCS Librarians! It's been an exciting and hectic ending for 1989, with the prospect of a year full of new and wonderful ideas to keep us all busy and on our toes! If there weren't so many of you folks willing to help out, the job would be impossible.

Bob Valyou, who is now in charge of screening programs donated to the library by members, has garnered two assistants, Carrie McRoberts, and Donna Oros. As you can see in this month's Bussline, they are off to a roaring great start.

John Polasek is working on condensing the information on the catalog disks so there will be fewer disks involved. If you have any ideas on this, please let us know.

Apologies to anyone who received a program last month that would not work correctly. In trying different methods for extracting programs from the CD-ROM disk, we used Norton Commander's tag and copy command several times. This seemed to work fine at the time, but we later discovered that all the files were copied exactly as they had been stored on the CD-ROM - with the file attribute set to read-only! This presents a problem for any program that needs to write to one of its files on disk, because you can't edit a read-only file. This first came up with S-1278, "Fun With Letters and Words", when we got some calls saying the program

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

wouldn't save any changes. A quick look with Norton's File Attribute utility showed every file on the disk saved as read-only. Another quick run with the /clear command fixed the problem. If you have one of these disks you can fix it yourself with DOS Attrib -R, Norton, PC Tools, etc or bring your disk to the next meeting and we will fix it for you.

New in the Library:

CS-79 - PC Stockcast 89 given by Ruth Polley
CS-80 - PYRO graphics displays from Ross Rosenberg
CS-25 A&B - File Express reviewed by Ruth Fuller

New for January:

Demo 1 - MYWAY Stock Handling Program from Mike Ungerman
CS-81 - Eliza's Insanity from Ross Rosenberg
CS-82 - Calendarsl from Bill McCracken
CS-83 - Shareware Express Utilities reviewed by Bob Valyou
CS-84 - E.S.I.E. reviewed by Bob Valyou
CS-85 - Altimira v.1.0 reviewed by Bob Valyou

See reviews for these programs elsewhere in the BUSSLINE, and in Bob Valyou's dBeta Tester Report. Note too, a comparative review of Image-print (D-23) and Bradford (CS-27) printer utilities by Bill Potts.

We are always glad to get exciting new shareware and public domain programs in the Library, and if you find one you think is especially nice, consider sharing it through the Library. A short article describing the program will be appreciated, and let us get the program in the Library faster.

If you would like to help with the Library, we have immediate openings in sales. The pay is non-existent but the appreciation factor is very high. Talk to Nancy Deam or Pat Smith at the Library table if you can help us out at the following times:

1st Sunday Meeting (PC/MS Dos) from 1:00 till 2:00
1st Sunday Meeting DURING SIG meetings from 3:30 till 5:00
3rd Sunday Meeting (Main Meeting) from 1:00 till 2:00
3rd Sunday Meeting DURING SIG meetings from 3:30 till 5:00

We need YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has helped during the last few weeks. I feel sure some names have been missed, but we were glad you were there when we needed you!

* * * * *

LIBRARY REVIEWS

REVIEWS

by: Ross Rosenberg

Eliza's Insanity (CS-81)

Wow! Here's one I even tried - the usual ELIZA in several forms (if you don't know her you should). PLUS "Insanity" - strange program that builds its own personality as you work with it. Both of these are not true AI - more on the lines of II (imitation intelligence). For theorists - this may be an alternative route to the "TURING MACHINE" (you could look it up...D. Runyan)

PYRO (CS-80)

This disk includes Roses, an interesting pattern producer, and Boxes. Pyro is a fireworks show including C language source code. Pyro runs in all kinds of graphics and even without graphics!! It is best seen in a darkened room, with or without sound effects.

dBTA TESTER REPORT

by: Bob Valyou:

I didn't really know what I was getting into when I volunteered to help out with the C.F.C.S. Public Domain Software until John & Nancy Deam sent me 17 disks to review for the month of December. First thing to do was check for any possible virus infestation on the disks, print out the disk directories, unarc some program files, then print the text files and documentation to see what was included on these disks. The printouts filled a 2-1/2 inch binder, so now I had a clearer picture of what I had volunteered for. Fortunately 8 disks were donated by members willing to submit some written information, one disk was a pure demo-disk, and 2 disks are included in the PC-SIG disks. Now I was down to only 6 disks to review this month (much better than 17).

Briefly going over the 11 disks that I will not review this month other than taking a quick look at what programs and docs were included on the disks....

STIK-ME (B-61) is a Custom Labels Program, version 1.0 dated 11-12-87. The STIKME10.ARC file has already been unarced onto the disk.

SIDEWRITER (UT-506) is a Sideways-look-alike for printing text files sideways, and is **PC-SIG disk #S-523**.

LABEL-MAKERS (R-28) contains 3 different label programs that need to be unzipped, along with the PKUNZIP program and documentation.

CS-82 CALENDARS1 (R-18) contains 4 calendar.ZIP programs along with PKUNZIP.

1. JCAL = Calculates dates of the Jewish calendar (Turbo Pascal).

2. MAYAN = Uses the astrological System of the Ancient Mayans to convert modern calendar dates to its Mayan equivalent, then gives an astrological interpretation (so says the docs).

3. TODAY = It looks at the system date, or a date you supply, then tells you what things of interest happened on that date.

4. YEARCAL = Makes calendars (A) and schedules (M/W/D) for years after 1901 (up to the year 4000).

CS-81 ELIZA'S INSANITY (STG-721) contains ELIZA ver. 3.0 and INSANITY ver. 4.0 which are in the realm of artificial intelligence (AI).

EQUAL PARTNERS (STG-1107) has nothing to do with partners or equal that I know of, but contains MasterDOS ver. 1.08, MasterPRINT ver. 1.00, and MasterSCHEDULE ver. 1.00, along with *DOC.COM files.

VIRUS DEFENDER (STG-314) is a must have Shareware disk containing ARCE program and docs to unarc 3 programs, along with VACINE15.EXE.

1. CHECKUP.ARC = Virus Detection System version 3.0

2. FICHECK.ARC = File Integrity System Check version 4.0

3. FSP_16.ARC = FLU-SHOT + version 1.6, dated 5-01-89.

WEAK-LINK = Version 1.2a is a simple Master/Slave serial link-up program via RS232 ports and null modem cable; similar to Lap-Link, etc. I am anxious to try this program out - also, the author sells a \$25.00 NETWORK program for linking 2-3 computers and printers.

RELIANCE (1702) = Mailing List program, version 2.0 = PCSIG disk #503. Docs call for 2-across labels -- Avery 4143 or equivalent.

DEMO-1 MYWAY is a stock trading program designed for the investor who wants more out of the market. **DEMO ONLY** disk: does NOT contain the program.

PC-PROMPT = PC-SIG #558 disk vl. DOS HELP, memory-resident help utility. Looks very interesting; I'll have to try this program out later.

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CS-83 Now that the easy part is over, let's get down to the nitty-gritty. The first disk I reviewed is a must-have: **THE SHAREWARE EXPRESS UTILITIES** containing 20 shareware/ public domain programs. The **HELP** program uses DOS 2.0 information, but all of the other utility programs are very useful.

Here is a brief description of what each utility does. Most of the utilities have documentation files which you can look at on screen or print out using the "TYPE SPEEDUP.DOC $\frac{1}{2}$ PRN" command from dos (substitute the name of the file you want to print for SPEEDUP.DOC).

1. **ST** -- SuperType is a much better way to type information to your screen. just type ST then the name of the text file you wish to view.
2. **UPNUM** -- Tells you whether the caps lock and num lock are being used at any given point in time. The information is displayed in the upper corner of the screen from any program.
3. **QUICKEYS** -- Speeds up the repeat rate for keys which are held down. Zip through your documents.
4. **TURBOKEY** -- Same as Quickeys, but for an AT.
5. **KEYBUF** -- Expands the keyboard buffer to 160 characters.
6. **BWVID** -- This one is for folks with monochrome composite monitors who are tired of not being able to see what's going on with color programs. This program converts all gray signals into just black or white.
7. **SPEEDUP** -- This will allow you to modify DOS to make your floppy drives much faster and quieter.
8. **FASTDISK** -- Just run this once to speed up your floppy drives and make them run quieter. Must be rerun after you reboot.
9. **HELP** -- Just type HELP to get tons

of information about all the DOS commands. (Uses DOS version 2.0 for DOS HELPER).

10. **SCROLLK** -- Makes your Scroll Lock key work the way it should. Press once to scroll and again to stop.
11. **BACKSCRL** -- Allows you to recall information that has already scrolled off your screen. Very nifty program. Try it!
12. **EQUIP** -- Tells you what components are hooked up to your system.
13. **DDATE** -- For folks without an automatic time clock. Use the arrow keys to set the date on your computer.
14. **PEACOCK** -- Lets you set the colors for your screen.
15. **SETALARM** -- Yup. You can set an alarm to go off at the time you want. Great for folks who get too involved in their work at the computer.
16. **DISKPARK** -- Parks your hard disk head in a place where it can't accidentally damage any data.
17. **FASTCOPY** -- Super copying program for unprotected programs. Allows you to make multiple copies after reading in the files only once. Also the fastest copying program we know. Makes a copy on drive A then moves to drive B. You can copy double-sided disks in 40 seconds or so.
18. **SUPERDIR** -- A replacement for the DIR command. Gives you more information in a more organized way.
19. **DISRTN** -- A powerful little program that will allow you to view hidden files, hide files yourself, or undelete files in many, but not all cases.
20. **DUPS** -- This program will search through your subdirectories (or just regular floppies) and report any duplicate files. A hard disk can get

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junked up pretty easily. This program will help you delete duplicate information and free up space.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Most of the utilities on this disk are in the public domain. That means they're yours to do whatever you wish with them. A few of the programs are copyrighted and distributed as Shareware. If you use these programs on an on-going basis you should register with the program author by sending the fee he has requested. Details on how to register are displayed when these programs are run. If you don't see any details on how to register, then the chances are good that it is a public domain program.

CS-84 ESIE (tm), version 2.0, copyright 1986 by Lightwave comes with its own manual on the distribution diskette. ESIE (pronounced "easy") is the acronym for Expert System Inference Engine, an expert system shell otherwise known as an inference engine. The 7-page Novice Guide gets you started with the author's definition of AI as, "Artificial Intelligence occurs when a man-made system gathers data and makes a recommendation."; and is designed for the person who has absolutely no experience in the field of AI but is familiar with their computer. The 13-page History Guide is designed to give you a brief "run down" on the past of Artificial Intelligence; and the 29-page MANUAL guides the user through the process of building a knowledge base. There is a 6-page guide to configure ESIE for your system, and can be run on either a monochrome or color monitor. If you want to learn about AI, this is a good program disk to try.

SMACK/STRIPPER requires a CGA color monitor to run. SMAC is a Mac emulator program written just for the fun of it: Version 0.10, 2 January, 1986. SMAC is divided into eight sections as follows: Basics, Help, Files, Sketch, Mouse, Jabber, Windows, and Quit. Before reading the documentation carefully, I

did lock up my computer a couple of times (if all else fails, read the docs).

STRIPPER is distributed under the FAKEWARE concept and is X-rated. Although the active members of this multi-member, multi-racial, single sex extravaganza don't resemble Blaze Starr, it is a different program disk worth looking at.

CS-85 ALTIMIRA, Version 1.0, is a Graphics Editor for the IBM PC by Brodie Lockard. ALTIMIRA is for anyone who wants to draw pictures or diagrams on their IBM PC, or experiment with the color graphics capabilities of the machine; it will run on some PC-compatible machines. You need a color/graphics adapter card and color monitor (EGA is 320x200 4-color mode) to take advantage of all the features of this program. ALTIMIRA.DOC prints out a 22-page manual for you use; and Turbo Pascal was used to change ALTIMIRA's source code into AM.COM

MAILLIST (1706) is a somewhat outdated Mailing List program that supports the IBM line printer (Epson MX-80 or MX-100) and DOS 1.1 as mentioned in the docs under Minimum System Requirements. The program ran on my IBM-PC with a VGA monitor, PC-DOS 3.3, and printed out a list and labels on my Star NX-1000 (IBM Proprinter emulation) printer. So, if you need a mailing list program, this might fill your needs nicely.

DOS HELP (1901) is just as the name implies, a DOS Help program written for DOS Version 2.0 - also, supports the PC-JR. Although this DOS 2.0 may limit the usefulness of this program disk, there is still a lot of information on this disk; and it is one of the few disks that supports IBM's PC-JR computer.

Well, since it's about 3:00 in the morning, and the C.F.C.S. meeting is
CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

only 11 hours away, I had better make a printout of this report for Nancy and John. I'm looking forward to using some of the 11 programs I skipped over this month and wonder how many new disks I will get to dBeta test for January.

(SPECIAL NOTE FROM THE LIBRARIANS: Not all of these disks will be put in the "ready to go" library - If one is especially interesting to you, you may order it.

PC STOCKCAST DISK CS-79

By: Ruth A. Polley

PC-StockCast is designed as an expert system for forecasting silver, the Dow Jones Industrials, Standard & Poor 500, T-Bills, and the Japanese Yen.

As a financial expert system, PC-StockCast is designed to emulate human reasoning in the market place. It has six major functions: on-line manual, data input, graphics interface, forecasting module, investment advisor, and inference engine.

The on-line manual covers each function with detail and has sample values, input screens, and forecasts.

Data input is simple; enter the closing for silver, Dow Jones Industrials, S&P 500, T-Bills, and Japanese Yen. The date and record number are displayed for the users convenience.

The last twenty day forecasts are bar graphed in multiple colors. The shareware disk in the Library will not allow you to print or to forecast your own stocks or bonds. The commercial version, released in mid-November, 1989, allows users to track up to one-hundred stocks, commodities, bonds, currencies, or futures. Subscription rates for the commercial version, including on-line information service, is only \$69.95 per year. Developer is MicroApplications, 1095 Market St., #614, San Francisco, CA 94103.

FILE EXPRESS - DISK CS-25 A&B

By: Ruth H. Fuller

This is a great program for anyone who must keep a list of names and addresses and wants them sorted several ways to write reports. Of course, it will alphabetize and put in zip code order or any one of a number of sorts that you may need. A maximum of 16 million records will certainly be enough for most of us. It also lets you print all the labels or you have a Quick Label that let you print one label 1 to 4 times or you can find a name, correct it, and then print just that one label.

It will let you print all of the information you have on a person or you can select to print those columns you wish to appear in the order you wish them to appear. You customize it to suit your needs.

It is a delight to use and is self-explanatory.

MYWAY - - A STOCK TRADING PROGRAM

By: Mike Ungerman

So far in our Investment SIG, members have talked about the computer aids they use to help them choose the securities they invest in and to help them time their purchases. One of the programs demonstrated, and a program that I am now using in my investments is MYWAY, by MoneyWon, Inc.

MYWAY is a system in which you tell the software what your investment goals are overall and what your goals are for the performance of each stock in your portfolio, and the program gives you buy and sell recommendations based on the stock's price. This recommendation is based solely on the price and does not take into effect any other factor, such as volume or rate of change of price.

When you first set up MYWAY, you will tell the program how much money you have to invest in your portfolio, keeping in mind that you will need a reserve of funds to purchase more of each individual security if the price falls after you have made your initial purchase. MYWAY will attempt to lower your overall average purchase price by recommending additional purchases as the price declines. You set the percent decline you are willing to accept and MYWAY will tell you how much you need in reserves to continue to purchase the stock.

Over a period of time in a declining market, you will purchase more stock, similar to dollar cost averaging. MYWAY will recommend the selling price to start selling at, once you have made your initial purchase. Until the price rises to that point, MYWAY will recommend the HOLD range.

Many additional features are supported than just buy and sell recommendations. Portfolio tracking is supported with reports to tell you how you are doing and what your tax liability is based on profits and losses. Simulation is supported as well, so you can try out various buying and selling strategies on "paper" before committing your own funds.

One of the shortfalls of the program is an inability to enter stock prices from data files downloaded by phone. All price entries are manually entered. However, not every daily closing price is required. You will know in advance what your recommended buy and sell points are, and a glance at the newspapers will tell you when you should start entering the prices as you near that point.

MYWAY has a demonstration disk available, which is in our club's disk library. The program sells for \$495 direct from MoneyWon, Inc., 1-800-535-4002.

AN ALTERNATIVE TO "STARLINK" and "PC PURSUIT"

by: Homer Whittaker

One of the best-kept secrets in long distance is a new calling plan introduced by MCI a few months back. MCI rarely discusses or advertises this service, but it is PERFECT for BBS'ers who don't place the volume of calls necessary to justify Starlink or PC Pursuit. (both services have minimums) The name of the service is SUPERSAVER. The service MCI would LIKE to sell you is PRIME TIME. Don't get the two confused! You can't have BOTH services, either. Here are the "rates and rules" governing SUPERSAVER:

1. It is available ONLY on residential phone lines. You need not have your local phone company change your "pick" to MCI in order to use the service.

NOTE: Your "pick" is the long distance carrier that AUTOMATICALLY receives your 1+area code+number INTERLATA calls. ANY carrier of your choice can be selected by entering 10XXX before the usual 1+ info. The XXX is replaced by a 3 digit "carrier access code" This code for MCI is 222. So, to use MCI, you could dial 1022213115551212 to call 555-1212 in area code 311. (Both are invalid numbers for this illustration)

2. The service only works on SATURDAY! From 12:01 AM Saturday morning until 11:59 PM Saturday night. (A total of 24 hours/week)

3. There is a minimum monthly billing of \$5.00. This INCLUDES your first hour of use for that month. In other words, if you use less than one hours worth of time, your bill will still be \$5.00.

4. The billing method works just like A T & T's system. If you connect you will instantly be billed for 1

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

minute of time. If you are connected for 61 seconds, you will be billed for 2 minutes of time. Busy signals, wrong numbers, unanswered calls, and poor connections are free. (You have to report wrong numbers and poor connections to MCI's 800 number)

5. Only INTERSTATE calls are included in the service. (Calls outside your home state) And calls must be direct dialed from your home phone.

-Now for the ADVANTAGES!

1. The cost of the service is only .0833 cents/minute plus tax. This is only 8 1/3 cent per minute, or \$5.00 per hour.

2. You can call ANY telephone in the United States. No worrying about outdial nodes or complex user ID's and passwords. No huge list of tables and charts to look up what "outdial node" to use. No worrying about setting the network baud rate or parity to match your modem. No wondering if the number you are calling is now assigned to a voice line. (You can use the service for VOICE calls, of course, so you HEAR the phone ringing)

3. No surprises. Some packet-switched networks (like one of the two listed above) allow you to place toll calls from their outdial modems. And if you still think you can "call the operator in the distant city" to determine if a call is long distance, you are living in pre-divestiture 1983!!! Some of these "short" toll calls are \$0.25 a minute! And you only find out about it at the end of the month....

4. No hassle billing. You don't need a credit card or "checkfree" service. You get a detailed itemized bill every month, listing EACH CALL along with the TIME and DURATION of the call. This costs nothing extra.

5. No slowdowns or aborted file transfers no matter what format you are using even plain old Xmodem. In fact, no special treatment at all required! Its just like a local phone call as far as

complexity. And you can use 9600 B.P.S. modems too!

6. No "all outdial modems are busy" type messages. Your calls go through instantly, every time. No redialing over and over to get through to a network outdial modem.

7. Simple, free signup and disconnect. No tricky bulletin boards to call in order to sign up. No hookup fee. (Like the \$25 the others charge to get your first 5 hours FREE) No extra charges for password changes. NO WAY someone else can use your account. (All calls MUST be direct-dialed from YOUR home phone) No contracts to sign. And you can disconnect the service anytime for free by simply dialing MCI's 800 #.

8. Other members of your family can use the service for voice calls. At this rate, it will be hard to find the line open on Saturday once the others at your house find out about it!

9. No apparent problems with data calls. I transfer between one and two megs a week with no line losses creeping in.

As some of you know, I am a telecommunications consultant by profession. I use an MCI 800 line for approximately 1 hour daily in my work and seldom have any problems with data transmissions. My modem only goes to 2400 baud so I can not speak for the higher transfer rates. As a telecommunications consultant and a member of the STC I do not sell and products or services to my clients. I work for them, they alone pay me, and it is my function to save the client as much money as I possibly can while meeting and maintaining his quality level requirements.

So why DOES MCI offer the service? To get new customers who (hopefully) will use their long distance service OTHER days and times at full price! I know after finding out how good the

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

quality was, I use MCI for data calls on other days--so it worked on me!!

Now take a few moments and think about your long distance needs. If you can wait until Saturday to make your BBS calls, and you make ONE to THREE hours of calls, you can't lose with this service. But if you're a BBS junkie, you probably should take one of the packet-switched services. But maybe you should get both for those BBS'es that aren't reachable by the packet nodes.

IN ANY EVENT, here's the number to call to sign up for SUPERSAVER: 1-800-444-3333

Tell them you want SUPERSAVER and **NOT PRIME TIME!**

If you do not want MCI as your primary long distance service, tell MCI that you are going to access your SUPERSAVER account using "one oh x x x" (That's 10XXX in long distance carrier jargon) This way you will save the \$5 your local phone company would bill you for changing long distance carriers.

If anyone has any problems with the service call MCI, for any assistance I might be able to provide, call me, Homer Whittaker, Consulting Member, Society of Telecommunications Consultants, (407)628-8877, located at 1501 Magnolia Avenue, Winter Park, FL. 32789.

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NORTON COMMANDER - XTREE PRO GOLD SHOOT-OUT

by: Hewie Poplock

At the November meeting I did a

demonstration of two magnificent hard drive shells. Our thanks go out to Peter Norton Computing, Inc. and The Xtree Corporation, for sending their respective programs. Jim Daly will have a review of the Xtree Pro Gold and I will attempt to review Norton Commander version 3.0.

I am impressed with Norton Commander. I have used version 2.0. There are some striking improvements in the Version 3.0. One that the publisher promotes, but I have no use for, is it's ability to exchange files, faxes, telexes, any E-Mail with any MCI Mail subscriber. Since I don't use MCI Mail, Commander Mail is of no use to me, but would be handy for some. There is also a direct file transfer between 2 computers using a serial cable. It's useful if you have a laptop and need to move files from it to your desk top (or vice versa).

The features that I do find useful are many. I will touch on a few of them here. Probably the one thing that makes me use Norton over Xtree is that you are always at the main command line. No matter where you are, you still can use the DOS commands without hitting an extra key to get to a DOS prompt. Rather than go through all of the features of Norton, I would like to highlight some of the upgrades in the program.

The biggest improvement is the viewers. You can view files just by pressing the F3 key (or using pull down menus). This includes database files, word processor files, and spreadsheets. If you use any of these programs, you can view your files without going into the program itself. For instance, if you have a .dbf file and want to locate one record, by viewing with the F3 key, you can eliminate the need to load the dBase program just to search for the information. The word processor viewer looks at most of the wp files without all of the control information. The spreadsheet viewer will show you the various spreadsheets, but doesn't show the formulas. (Xtree Pro Gold's viewer does.)

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Another addition is the Quick viewer. It gives you the ability by pointing to any file, to immediately view it on the right side of the screen. You can also run programs from the panels, from the DOS prompt, or create menus to point and shoot. You can also set up menus to do specific things when pointing to a given extension. For instance, I have set up the ability to view all of the files in a ZIPped file by pressing <enter> while pointing to a file with the .ZIP extension. As soon as I hit enter, it runs a predefined series of commands (very easy to set up) to do a listing of the included files. The editor is built in. Simply pressing F4 at a filename gets you into the editor. They still haven't added the ability to shut off the insert, however, and cannot overwrite. You have to insert and delete. They have added, however, the ability to create a new file. This was missing in previous versions.

The documentation is excellent, but the on screen help will solve most of your questions. The program is very easy to use, and there are a lot of options available if you want to use them. You can have 1 or 2 panels on the screen and there are options of length and what is to be viewed in them. There is even a command to swap the panels, if you choose. This is handy when you are copying files from one drive to another and want the panels to reflect the from-to sequence. If you wish, and have EGA or VGA, you can use the 35/43 line screen.

One drawback to the program that I mentioned during my demonstration has been cleared up by further using the program. I have found that in the configuration menu, you can turn on or off an auto save function. If you have it on, when you reload NC, it will be configured it as you left it. If you have that feature turned off, when you reload, the configuration will be at the default that you set. Actually a nice feature, as we all have different needs.

I will leave the review of Xtree to Jim, but would like to say that both

Xtree Pro Gold and Norton Commander 3.0 are well written programs with many advantages to both. I have used PC Tools 5.5 and find that it tries to do too much. I have tried several other programs of the same type and they all do some things well, but each of us have different needs and we have to try to find the shell that fits us.

XTREE PRO GOLD - NORTON COMMANDER SHOOT-OUT

by: Jim Daly

I became acquainted with the XTREE series almost 3 years ago when I purchased a PC that had the original XTree on its hard drive. At that time, I was using IBM's Fixed Disk Organizer as my DOS Shell program. In fact, up until the time I discovered XTree on the used XT, I bundled IBM-FDO on every system I installed. After comparing the 2 programs, XTree became our standard DOS Shell management program. The release of XTreePRO added many new features including a built-in text editor.

XTreePro-GOLD continues building on the features that have made its 2 former versions so successful. The environment created by "GOLD" helps both the novice and power user manage their files, directories and disks faster and more easily than ever before.

I will touch on just a few of the many many features of "GOLD" in this article.

General Overview

In addition to duplicating all of the standard DOS features in its on-screen windows, "GOLD" offers some special operations either not offered by DOS or enhancements to DOS.

- View the complete Directory structure of any of your disks in one clear graphic display (split the window and look at 2 different disks at the same time).

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

- Log up to 26 drives and 13,000 files and display all files across all logged drives simultaneously.
- View every file in every directory as a single list. The files can be shown with or without sizes, dates, and attributes and can be displayed in different sort orders.
- View files created in dBASE, WORD, WordStar, WordPerfect, Multi-Mate, Hex, ASCII, and LOTUS formats (Exact LOTUS formulae are shown whereas Commander only shows that a cell contains a formula). While in the View Mode, you can also search for exact text strings in the displayed files or groups of files.

Norton Commander adds the ability to also view several types of Graphics formats. With the increasing popularity of Desk Top Publishing, this missing feature is a definite handicap in "GOLD".

- Specify up to 16 different file specifications at one time so that you can view specific combinations of files. You may also specify specifications that EXCLUDE files from display.
- Move a single file or group of files from one directory to another.
- Start Applications and perform other Batch operations using the customizable Application Menu. (When using the Application function, "GOLD" is shrunk to only 7kb resident.
- GRAFT-move an entire sub-directory and its files to a different parent.
- PRUNE-a branch of a directory, completely deleting all sub-directories and files contained in the pruned directory.
- Maintain a history of up to 15 responses for every operation or command that requires text entry.
- Change any attribute on any single file or group of files. Although "GOLD" will allow you to

enter a DOS command from within its Command Shell, Norton Commander's "always on" DOS line is a better approach.

Since I have been a User of the XTREE family for several years and have become familiar with its overall "look and feel", XTreePro-GOLD is my program of choice. However, for a new User of DOS Shell Manager, I believe either one would be well-served by either COMMANDER or GOLD.

System Requirements:
100% IBM-PC compatible
256K (Minimum)
PC or MS-DOS v3.1 or greater
GRAPHICS-All supported

WELCOME ABOARD

By: Bruce Banks

The CFCS welcomes the following new members of the Society, and would strongly urge them to avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in any or all of the many SIG's (Special Interest Groups) that meet on a regular basis. All SIG activity schedules are listed in the club calendar which appears in each issue of the BUSSLINE:

Be sure to give each of these new members a special welcome at our next meeting.

757	Muirhead	Rob	539-2221
	(Software City)		
778	Cheng	Homer	345-5645
779	Horrocks	John	898-6849
780	Oros	Donna	678-5026
781	Martin	Jerome	277-1115
782	Golden	Rosemary	859-0149
783	Ammerman	E. Clyde	894-9863
784	Hoover	Curtis	323-8852
785	Hoover	Elsie M	323-8852
786	McGrath	Joseph	339-1850
787	Gumm	Thomas O	332-6221
788	Green	Philip	677-4811
789	Voss	Jeanne K	629-5832
790	Smith	C Douglas	678-4444

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

791	Donnelly	Thomas R	647-0820
792	Corces	Eduardo	324-5172
793	Wales	Pat	426-6669
794	Smither	George	326-259
795	Taylor	Edward	273-9657
796	Gilkey	Barry	862-5187
797	Hoeflich	Ken	289-4099
798	Bushman	James	857-5802
799	Daly	Jim	767-5949
800	Brose	Andor	298-0746
801	Grist	John	830-9961

for example:

1. DOS UTILITIES
2. BUSINESS PROGRAMS
3. COMMUNICATIONS
4. SPREADSHEET TEMPLATES (123,SCalc-5,etc.)
5. FILE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS
6. GAMES
99. NEW UPLOADS (Not checked by SYSOP!!)

WELCOME

DOWNLOADING FILES from a Bulletin Board System (BBS)

by Jim Daly

HELPS - HINTS - TRICKS - SHORTCUTS

NOTE: These instructions pertain to TELIX, QMODEM and SMARTCOM Users calling a PCBoard system. Other COMMUNICATIONS programs and BBS systems will have similar protocols.

One of the primary benefits of the nationwide BBS system is access to a VAST library of PUBLIC DOMAIN & USER SUPPORTED software...and all for just the price of a phone call!!!

At first, the DOWNLOAD (D/L) process seems complicated and intimidating. In actual fact, most Communications programs completely automate the entire process and a D/L can be accomplished with just a few keystrokes.

1. The first step in DOWNloading is determining which files or programs on a particular BBS are of interest to you. Almost all BBS's will group their programs in various directories according to category and/or function...

The PCBoard BBS Main Menu command to look at the available directories is "F". This single stroke command generally gives you a listing of all the available Download directories (usually by #). When you spot a DIRectory that may hold files of interest, select that specific number and ALL of the files in that DIRectory will be listed.

NOTE: If you have logged on to a particular BBS before and remember the directory number that holds the file(s) you want, just type "F x" (where x= the directory #) at the Main Menu and you by-pass the listing of all the directories and immediately see a listing of files in that specific DIRectory.

2. When you locate a file that you wish to D/L, type "D" and the BBS will ask you for the name of the file you wish to D/L. At this prompt, type in the name of the file EXACTLY as it appeared on the listing including the extension - then hit <ENTER>.

The BBS will search ALL of its directories for a file name (and extension) match. When the file is found, you will get a listing of information about file SIZE, number of transfer BLOCKS, and approximate D/L time required.

NOTE: If you do not have enough time left on the BBS to handle the entire file, the system will advise you and abort the transfer. (See why you should UPGRADE !!) On a "friendly" BBS, you will not be disconnected during a D/L if you run out of time.

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3. As soon as the FILE information is listed, the system checks to see if you have set a DEFAULT protocol (Zmodem, XModem, etc.) in your USER Configuration. If you have, the system will ask if that is the one you wish to use for this File transfer and you may accept the protocol or change it at this point. If you have your DEFAULT protocol set to (N)one, you must tell the system what you want to use.

You will now get a prompt advising you that the BBS is.....

"Ready to Send".....
=====

4. SMARTCOM: Hit the <F1> function key which will take you to the SMARTCOM-MAIN Menu.

QMODEM & TELIX: Hit the PgDn key which will bring up the QM protocol Window.

5. SMARTCOM: Select 4. RECEIVE FILE.

a. Press 1 to select ERROR FREE protocol.

b. When prompted "ENTER FILE NAME", type the name of the file to be received (it doesn't have to be the same as the name that you asked the BBS to send to you-in fact, if you just press <ENTER> without typing a file name, the system will assign the filename "TEMP".

c. Press <ENTER>.

QMODEM & TELIX:

a. Select the SAME protocol that you specified in the BBS!!!

b. Another Window will open and show you the "Default" PATH and the filename (example:C:\UPLOAD\PKARC.EXE)

c. If the PATH is correct, press <ENTER>.

If you want the new file to go to a different subdirectory or if you want to name it something else, change whatever part of the line shown as necessary, press <ENTER> as necessary, then.....

6. As the file is being SENT by the BBS and RECEIVED by your system, the status Box or Line will keep you advised of the FILE transfer process.

7. When the D/L has been successfully completed the Status line will show "RECEIVE COMPLETE xxxxx bytes" and the system will BEEP you.

NOTE: If there is interference on your phone (called "line noise"), the Status line will indicate this showing repeated attempts to send file BLOCKS. If the attempts exceed 7 in a particular Block, the transfer will be aborted (usually very evident during electrical storms).

8. SMARTCOM: Press <F1> and you will be returned to the BBS Menu.

QMODEM & TELIX: Press <ENTER>

ADDITIONAL HINTS & HELP

=====

1. Where is the file I just Downloaded?

QMODEM and TELIX Users will set the sub-DIRECTORY to receive new files when the program is Configured (\DOWNLOAD or \DL is easy to remember).

HAYES-SMARTCOM Users will find the file in the Directory where your Communication program resides (probably C:\HAYES if you are running SMARTCOM II).

2. How do I DOWNLOAD to another DIRECTORY if I am using SMARTCOM?

At the SMARTCOM Main Menu, select "3. Select File Command" and then "S" for "Set Path". Backspace over the default directory name and type in the name of the directory to which you want the D/L's to go.

for example; C:\DL

REMEMBER!!! When you re-boot your system, the D/L path will be set at the default directory.!!!

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

NOTE: I prefer to use my C:\DL sub-directory. By doing so, I can then manipulate the new file anyway I want to without having to worry about damaging any of your Communication program files. Also, it is easier to un-ZIP files if you only have 1 or 2 to select from.

3. I want my DOWNloads to go to a floppy drive..

Follow the same procedures as above, except set the path to A:\

REMEMBER!!! You must have a FORMATTed disk in the A: drive and that the total Download cannot exceed the capacity of the diskette. (360K or 1.2MB on 5.25" and 720K or 1.4MB on the 3.50") Don't forget that if you already have files on the floppy, your available D/L space will

be reduce. (Run CHKDSK on A: to determine available space.)

4. I know that I saw a file last week on the BBS that I can't find now. Where is it?

SYSOPS periodically review the D/L activity on files and may delete the name from the DIREctory if there has been little or no interest. Or, there may have been an upgrade and the filename has been changed.

Leave a message for the SYSOP and he'll advise you how to find the file. Maybe it has been deleted and he can put it back on the system for your one-time Download.

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CFCS Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
January 21 2:00pm ** ELECTIONS** 2:00pm CFCS Meeting 3:30pm Instruct SIG 3:30pm DskTop Pub SIG 3:30pm Tandy/TRS-80 SIG 3:30pm Comm/BBS SIG	January 22 1st Pub Work Group	January 23	January 24 7:30pm ATECH SIG	January 25 BUSSLINE Editorial Deadline	January 26	January 27 Chinese New Year (Horse)
January 28	January 29	January 30	January 31	February 1	February 2	February 3
February 4 2:00pm PC/MS-DOS SIG, Jr Achv Bldg 3:30pm dBase SIG, Jr Achv Bldg	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8	February 9	February 10
February 11 7:30pm Foxbase SIG	February 12 Lincoln's Birthday	February 13	February 14 Valentine's Day	February 15	February 16	February 17
February 18 2:00pm CFCS Meeting 3:30pm Instruct SIG 3:30pm DskTop Pub SIG 3:30pm Tandy/TRS-80 SIG 3:30pm Comm/BBS SIG	February 19 President's Day	February 20	February 21	February 22 Washington's Birthday	February 23	February 24
February 25 BUSSLINE Editorial Deadline	February 26 1st Pub Work Group	February 27	February 28 7:30pm ATECH SIG Ash Wednesday	March 1	March 2	March 3

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FROM THE EDITOR:

Sincere thanks to all who contributed this month. and Welcome to all new members who have contributed. Have A Great New Year . . . Just a slight reminder to members FOR SALE or WANTED ads are free. Corporate members, a reminder - please let me know if you want any updates on your ads. Thanks. Chris

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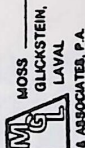
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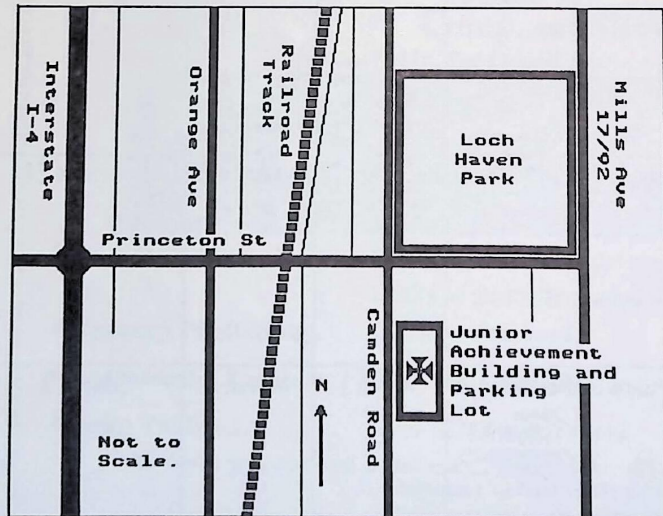
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