PPCUG

NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE PRINCETON PC USERS GROUP

Calendar

General Meetings

Second Monday of the month at the Lawrenceville Library.
Route 1 and Darrah Lane.

7:00-7:45 PM:
  Tech Corner is Open / Social Time

7:45 PM:
  Meeting Comes to Order

8 PM:
  Featured Presentation

Board Meetings

Third Monday of the Month
8 PM at Lawrenceville Library
Route 1 and Darrah Lane.

Board meetings are open to All.

Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the newsletter are due by the last Wednesday of the month.

Articles will be accepted via e-mail to: kurivchack_p@compuserve.com in the following formats: Word for Windows 6.0, 7.0 or 97; Ami Pro / WordPro, or Ascii Text.

This Month
Monday August 9, 1999

Security On The Internet!

Jon Abolins
**Member of the International
Security & Information Systems Security Association**

**Jon will discuss Internet privacy and security issues.
Is it safe to buy things on-line?
What about computer viruses?
How do you protect yourself?**

At

Lawrence Library
Meetng Rooms 1 & 2
US Route 1 South & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, NJ
☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ **Our New Meeting Location** ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
☆ ☆
*Meetings of an organization at any of the facilities of the
Mercer County Library System in No Way implies endorsement
of its programs*

In this issue

Vic Laurie getting some help from Paul Kurivchack and Sol Libes in setting up for his Windows 98 Tips and Tricks presentation at the July 12th meeting.

Digital Photo by Ed Weiss

Voice Mail System

For information about, meetings, etc. call 908-281-3107 to leave a message.

Web Site

http://www.ppcug-nj.org

Board Members

President:
Paul Kurivchack 908-218-0778
Vice-President:
TBA ....
Secretary:
Ed Weiss 609-586-1395
Treasurer:
Tom Canavan 732-422-9055
Members-At-Large:
Kim Goldenberg 609-671-9188
Vic Laurie 609-924-1220
Vince Polignano 609-586-1466
Jon Abolins 609-883-8126

Chairpersons

Disk Library:
Tom Canavan 732-422-9055
Hospitality:
Bill Hawryluk 609-655-0923
Member Records:
Larry Lewis 609-771-9536
Newsletter Editor:
Paul Kurivchack 908-218-0778
Program Coordinator:
Sol Libes 609-520-9024
Web Master:
Jon Abolins 609-883-8126

Annual Dues Rates

Normal dues rate is $25 per year.
New Members Only: after February, the rate is $2 per month times the number of months remaining in the year.

Member of

APCUG

Coming Events

September 13, 1999 - Bill Machrone - Editor PC Magazine

October 11, 1999 - Adobe Systems

Acrobat 4.0 & GoLive! 4.0 Web Design demonstrations

November 8, 1999 - Visual Basic Programming

Ron Rouse will build up a simple VB application, showing how VISUAL programming differs from old fashioned text programming, and how writing code for WINDOWS differs from the old fashioned kind.

December 13, 1999 - Gift Idea's for the Hoildays - Microsoft

Microsoft will be here to present the hotest items for the holidays!
Remember! ! 2000 Board Elections & Holiday Party also!
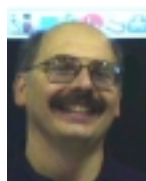
Presidents Message
by Paul Kurivchack

Coming back from a very relaxing vacation to the real world is always tough. Coming back to a voice and e-mail message that a friend and member of PPCUG died suddenly of a heart attack really snaps you back instantly. Jerry Henney died Friday morning, July 30th. You may remember Jerry as the person who always had the free PC Expo passes to give to the PPCUG members. He also was one of the faithful who attended the end of the month SIG meetings and helped at the parcel pickup area at TCF. Jerry you will be missed!

On a more upbeat note, Vic Laurie out did himself again with his Windows Tips & Tricks presentation at the July meeting. Vic was fired up and ran through a bunch of utilities that we should all have in maintaining Windows 95/98. See Vic's new article in this month's newsletter and visit our web site: http://www.ppcug-nj.org for the complete collection of his articles. I hope that Vic will have more to say about Windows in future articles. Great job Vic!

Thanks to Microsoft and Cassady & Greene for providing the software we were able to raffle off at last months meeting, Albert Axelrod went home with MS Office2000 Premium while Tito Wee and Alex Lin received C&G SpellCatcher.

Please plan to attend the August meeting to hear from Jon Abolins about Internet security. A subject of great importance as we continue to move to a web based world. We also are planning to offer another copy of Office2000 plus three copies of PC-cillin 6 (Antivirus software) that Trend Micro Inc. so nicely provided to our group, but you must be there to win!

See you all on Monday August 9!

Minutes for the General Meeting
July 12, 1999
By: Ed Weiss

At 7:52 PM, Paul called the meeting to order. At this time, he asked that all members keep their email addresses up to date. Paul also covered the trip to APCUG in limited detail, explaining that both Sol and Paul attended many of the events, and discussed the APCUG benefits, ads, and ways to generate revenue. Items from the APCUG meeting will be further discussed at the board meeting, and how they can be applied to PPCUG.

At 8:08 PM, Paul turned the meeting over to Vic Laurie who spent the rest of the time discussing how to tweak both Windows 95 & 98 to make them just a bit more useable and comfortable. Vic ended the discussion at 9:05 PM. There were a considerable number of guests who stayed for some time to continue to ask Vic more questions than time permitted.

The Raffle was held, and four prizes were given away. $77 in raffle ticket money collected.

My count of guests = 51.

Windows 9X Tips: Potpourri II

By: Vic Laurie - PPCUG

Continuing along the lines of last month's article, here is another assortment.

Last month the use of the Run command line from the Start Menu to enter an URL and open a web site was mentioned. The Run line can also be used to send an e-mail message. To send a message to somebody@somewhere.com, enter (without quotes) "mailto: somebody@somewhere.com". Your e-mail program will pop up with a blank new message accordingly addressed. This works most smoothly with versions of Internet Explorer and Outlook working together, but if configured properly, it can work with other software. The application used to send the message for MailTo is determined by the "URL: MailTo Protocol" file type. Advanced users can edit this entry in the Windows Explorer View-File Types menu. (See the article "File Facts" in the PPCUG Newsletter of August, 1998 on how this is done.) Installations of Netscape as the default browser may or may not automatically set this up properly for Messenger. It will <u>not </u>work with AOL.

A way to send a file attached to mail without first opening the mail program makes use of SendTo in the right-click context menu. The SendTo sub-menu may contain a number of mail entries but for most people " Mail Recipient" would be the appropriate one. (Advanced users can tinker with the other mail categories in the SendTo menu through the file types menu or the Registry.) Right-click a file you wish to send, open *Sendto|Mail Recipient* and a new blank message form from your e-mail program will appear. Address it, enter any desired message, and mail it. The file will be attached. Again, this may or may not work with Netscape. This is another thing that does not work with AOL.

If the three step shutdown procedure in Windows (*Start|Shut Down|shut down*) takes too long for your taste, you can reduce it to one double-click. Create a shortcut by right-clicking on the desktop and choosing New|Shortcut from the Context Menu. For the command line, enter (no quotes) "C:\windows\rundll.exe user.exe, exitwindows". Now one double-click and you are out. Or you can make exiting into a keyboard command. Create a shortcut key(s) by **right clicking** on the shortcut, opening the **Properties** sheet and typing the desired key(s) into the **Shortcut Key box.**

After installing new software, an upgrade, an antivirus update, or for many other reasons it may be necessary to restart your computer. Again, if you want to reduce this to a single step, you can create a shortcut. In this case, the command line is a function of the exact nature of the restart desired. Usually rebooting just Windows rather than the whole system is sufficient. (Power management software can introduce complications. See the PC Magazine article at http://www.zdnet.com/pcmag/pctech/content/solutions/oe1804a.htm)

One shortcut for restarting Windows that I have used has the command line
    "C:\windows\rundll.exe user.exe, exitwindowsexec".
Another that gives a very fast restart, but shows a Log On prompt and thus needs you to hit the Enter key, uses the command
    "C:\windows\rundll32.exe shell32.dll, SHExitWindowsEx"
As above, Hotkeys can also be assigned in each case.

Last month I mentioned using the Run line to open files.

If you want to avoid rummaging through Windows Explorer or My Computer, folders can also be opened directly in the Run line. If the folder is in the path environment (usually \Windows, \Windows\System) simply entering the name will do. Folders not in the path environment need their full pathname entered- *e. g.*, "C:\myfolder\mydata". If you find yourself frequently opening a particular folder, you could consider putting it in a path statement in the *autoexec.bat* file or adding an App Path entry to the Registry. (Of course, you could also just make a shortcut on the desktop or in a toolbar.) If you already have a folder open, Windows will use it as the root for any file or folder name entered into the Run line. For example, if "myfolder" is already active, then entering "mydata" is sufficient to get to "C:\myfolder\mydata".

Another way to go right to a frequently used folder is to set up a shortcut to open Windows Explorer in a particular place. The command line entry for a shortcut is (no quotes) "C:\windows\explorer.exe /n,/e,C:\myfolder\mydata". The switch /n opens a new Explorer window (not usually necessary), the switch /e opens in expanded view and the last entry is your desired opened folder. If you want a particular folder to actually head the Explorer tree, then the syntax for the command line entry is a little different. It becomes "C:\windows\explorer.exe /n,/e,/root,C:\myfolder\mydata".

If you have Windows 98 or Windows 95 with Internet Explorer 4 or 5, you have another speeded up route available. Create an address bar. Right-click on an empty part of the menu bar and check *Address* in the *Toolbars* menu. Both file and folder paths and URLs can be entered just as in the address bar of IE 4/5 without having to open the browser first.

Please remember the general rule that any pathname that contains blank spaces must be enclosed in quotes when being entered into Run or other command lines. *My folder* may be easier to read than *myfolder* but it requires more careful syntax.

Are you finding that logging on to your Internet provider seems to take a long time? If you are using an Internet service provider that uses Microsoft's TCP/IP (most ISPs but not AOL), you may be able to speed things up. (Microsoft Knowledge Base Article Q130073. <u>*Please note*</u>: this suggestion is only for stand-alone computers using dial-up. It is not applicable if you are attached to a LAN, cable, or anything that uses a network card.) By default, many computers come with unnecessary protocols and network bindings installed. When logging on to a dial-up ISP, the system wastes time checking these out. Go to M*y Computer|Dial-Up Networking*. (*Dial-Up Networking* may also be on your desktop.) Find the Connectoid for your ISP. Open its Properties Sheet with a right-click. Click the *Server Types* tab. The entry for *Type of Dial-Up Server* should read "PPP: Internet, Windows…" Under *Advanced options* make sure *Log on to network* is <u>not</u> checked. Under *Allowed network protocols* <u>un</u>check NetBEUI and IPX/SPX. <u>Be sure to leave TCP/IP checked.</u>

Finally, something that <u>does</u> work for AOL. To sign off and close up AOL in a hurry, hit the keyboard combination *alt+F4*. AOL will be gone in a jiffy. (Unless, of course, they start one of their interminable and irritating update downloads.)

Quicken Tecnical Support is an Oxymoron!

By: David Kerslake - PPCUG

I really had little in the way of options. My bank sent me a Qicken99 CD and issued an ultimatum, "Upgrade to quicken99 by September, or no more online banking!"

As soon as I installed Quicken99 I found the first big disadvantage. My old version connected via an 800 number, using good old telephone connections all the way, and the whole transaction would be completed in12 to 20 seconds. Quicken99 uses the Internet, and I use America On Line, so if it's evening time, it can take 10 to 20 minutes to establish a connection before I can connect with the bank via the Internet. When I do download or upload the data, it takes much longer than the phone version did. I'd gladly pay for the call if I could use the old system, but it's not an option.

Two of the options in Quicken99, selected by clicking the appropriate radio button are:

After downloading Quicken data:
· Disconnect from the Internet
· Stay connected to the Internet

My choice would have been to disconnect after downloading. However, the default is to stay connected, but both options are grayed-out and therefor cannot be changed.

My big mistake was to call Quicken Tech Support and discuss the problem with a techie there. The conversation went something like this:

Me: I've just installed Quicken99 and I want to accept the option to automatically disconnect after downloading, but it's grayed out and I can't find how to change it.

Techie: You can't change it.

Me: If it can't be changed, why put the option there in the first place?

Techie: You have to make the choice during installation, and after that it cannot be changed.

Me: Well, it sounds crazy to me, but I suppose I'll just have to uninstall Quicken99 and reinstall it and make my choice then.

Techie: It's not quite that easy.

Me: Why?

Techie: The uninstall in Quicken99 doesn't really do too good a job. It leaves lots of files that you would have to locate and erase, otherwise it will corrupt the program and you'll have big problems.

Me: Don't take this personally because I know you're only doing your job, but the more I hear from you, the less I like your company.

Techie: I understand.

Me: Can you give me a list of the files I need to locate and erase?

Techie: If you would feel comfortable going into Windows Explorer and finding files and folders and erasing them, I could talk you through the whole procedure.

Me: Let's do it.

Forty-five minutes after I first spoke to the technical support person:

Techie: I'll leave you now. The uninstall is complete. You can insert the CD and do a new install and choose the options you want.

Me: Thanks for your help and your patience. Please tell your manager to include me in the database of Unhappy Customers.

I very carefully installed Quicken99 again, paying particular attention to any options, but I did not see the option I was looking for. So here I am, about an hour-and-a-half later and I'm back to square 1.

A few days later I was browsing in the Quicken99 folder and I took a look in the Quicken.ini. file. The following lines caught my attention:

[Internet]
Stay_Connected=TRUE

Could the answer to my problem really be that easy? I made a copy of Quicken.ini and renamed it Quicken.ani, then I made the following change in Quicken.ini:

[Internet]
Stay_Connected=FALSE

Now for the acid test; I restarted my computer and went to Quicken99 and looked at the Internet options: they were still grayed out, but now the default had changed Disconnect from the Internet. A test showed that it did indeed work!

Hello… ?
Tech Support…?

Minutes for the Board Meeting
July 19, 1999
By: Ed Weiss

Attending the board meeting were, Tom Canavan, Vic Laurie, Sol Libes, John Abolins, Bill Hawryluk, Paul Kurivchack, Jerry Henney and Ed Weiss.

At 08:00 PM, Paul opened the board meeting. The APCUG 3-day conference was the first major topic of discussion. Both Paul and Sol attended different seminars in order to get the best coverage of information to bring back to the group. The conference ran Saturday, Sunday & Monday. The seminars on Saturday and Sunday were oriented toward the user groups in the areas of financial, legal, setting up meetings, web sites, newsletters, recruiting, and retaining membership, etc. Monday's seminars were provided by the manufactures, such as Adobe, Borland, Microsoft, etc.

The second point of discussion was using advertising to raise more money for the club. This also was a topic covered at the APCUG convention by HAL-PC. The idea would be to sell space in the newsletter via a national advertising program run by HAL-PC, who would do all the leg work in getting the ads, etc. All we do is place the ad in our newsletter. Since the newsletter is on our web page, the ad would be seen there also, giving advertisers an in to our membership, as well as the web site browsers. Ads would be a full page, a half page, or a third page. The ads would be printed in black and white in the newsletter, but would appear in color just at the newsletter does on the web site. Paul will email off our ad prices, and stay current with the user group that does this.

The treasurer made mention that our current treasury balance is approx. $4200.

The idea of raising dues was mentioned, but the board decided against it until other methods of fund raising have all been considered.

At 09:43 PM, the meeting was adjourned, and all left the library for the night.

PPCUG Member E-mail Directory

Name Last	First	E-Mail Address
Abolins	John	jda-ir@njcc.com
Ancier	Sherman	sancier@ibm.net
Axelrod	Albert	aaxelrod@erols.com
Best	John J.	JJbest57@alum.mit.edu
Canavan	Thomas	TCanavan1@aol.com
Caris	Paul	pd_caris@csi.com
Carman	Tom	tom_carman@compuserve.com
Chilton	Neal	chilforce@aol.com
Clerke	Len	lenc@castle.net
Cohen	Jon	jon@pluto.njcc.com
Colucci	Frank	dasweb1@aol.com
Crossley	Helen	CrossleyHM@aol.com
Davis	Perry	perrydavis@compuserve.com
Dinkins-Belton	Joyce	Joyce8NJ@aol.com
Dodge	Bill	B-Mdodge@juno.com
Duggins	Marsha	msd@gfdl.gov
Edge, Jr.	Lewis	lewis@edgeassoc.com
Einthoven	Bella & Wim	einthoven@mail.eclipse.net
Ewer	Tim	tjewer@worldnet.att.net
Foulkes	Frank	ffoulkes1@aol.com
Gazzillo	Vince	vgazzillo@otis.state.nj.us
Gerwers	Hank	PSCI@idt.net
Gilstrap	William	wkgbill@earthlink.net
Gnandt	James	Jim8541@erols.com
Goldberg	Ed	EdGoldberg@home.com
Goldenberg	Kim	kim_goldenberg@bigfoot.com
Griegel	Wayne	wgriegel@ix.netcom.com
Hardy	Wayne	wayne97wh@aol.com
Hawryluk	Bill	hawr@compuserve.com
Henry	Chuck	chenry@eclipse.net
Holly	Lois	lholly@ariel.Princeton.EDU
Houlihan	Bill	lorrainebill@cybertours.com
Johnson	Florence	kredit@erols.com
Juelch	Karl	karljnj@nerc.com
Kahan	Maurice	mkahan@juno.com
Kerslake	David	Dongsung@Juno.com
Kleinerman	Milt & Irma	Rafiki5513@aol.com
Kocsis	John	JKocsis234@aol.com
Konvalinka	John	jkonvalinka@msn.com
Koosman	Milton	miltonk2@aol.com
Kurivchack	Paul	kurivchack_p@compuserve.com
Landis	Houston	judge@alumni.princeton.edu
Laurie	Vic	hampsi@bigfoot.com
Lazar	Joseph	joelazar@nerc.com
Levine	Robert J.	rjl@gurus.com
Lewis	Larry	ll@gfdl.gov

Name Last	First	E-Mail Address
Lewis	Lloyd	Budnorth@juno.com
Libes	Sol	sol@libes.com
Lin	Alex	first@bellatlantic.net
Lindbloom	Loree	loreezl@aol.com
Lipscher	Betty	forenexts@att.net
Lukpetris	Sylvia Sila	lukpetris@erols.com
Markward	Margaret	mteragram@aol.com
Maruska	John	maruska1@Juno.com
Metzler	Joseph	76116.3117@compuserve.com
Miller	Doug	d.n.miller@worldnet.att.net
Oldenburg	Tom	oldenburg-ta@worldnet.att.net
Olson	Gaylord	go@electrim.com
Papier	Philip B., Jr.	papierp@superlink.net
Parker	Nicole	nparker239@aol.com
Phadke	Laxman	lgphadke@home.com
Polignano	Vince	vincepo@worldnet.att.net
Pratt	Zeblon	zpratt@aol.com
Pruden	David	nedurp@aol.com
Reichart	Richard	reichart@pluto.njcc.com
Rothstein	Frederick	fnroth@aosi.com
Rouse	Ron	DrRonRouse@aol.com
Sivakumar	Ganga	gsivakum@dol.state.nj.us
Sked	Bill	billsked@aol.com
Sneath	Blanche	PettieJ@Juno.com
Stockwell	Hunt	huntstock@aol.com
Steinman	Arthur	amsteinman@juno.com
Suber	Michael J.	MPSuber@Juno.com
Sweeton	Andrew	andrew.sweeton@response-analysis.com
Tayyabkhan	Mike	tayyabkhan@aol.com
Tenner	Edward	tenner@clarity.princeton.edu
Treadwell	Isaac	itreadwell@aol.com
Walthall	Ron	DKDM83A@prodigy.com
Weaver	Perry	Weaver@home.com
Wee	Tito	tito@dragonagro.com
Weinberg	Robert	bweinb@worldnet.att.net
Weiss III	Edward	eweiss@eweiss.jvnc.net
Williams	Jan	SianiPowys@aol.com
Williams	Ken	krw1948@worldnet.att.net
Williams	Rick	rick75@aol.com
Willis, Jr.	Lloyd	lwillis1@prodigy.net
Willis	Robert	robert4269@aol.com

(Last Update: 1 August 1999)
Send Updates to kurivchack_p@compuserve.com for inclusion in this listing.

The Lawrence Library is at the corner of Business Route 1 South and Darrah Lane.

From Princeton and North: Take US Route 1 South, past the Quaker Bridge / Mercer Shopping Centers. Continue on approximately 1 3/4 mile past I295 to the Route 1 split, stay to the right to Business Route 1(Brunswick Pike). First traffic light is Darrah Lane. Library is on right side. Park in lot towards Route 1 and to the rear. Enter Library at main enterance in front. Meeting rooms A & B are located through glass door on Route 1 side of building.

From Trenton and South: Take I295 North to US Route 1 South. Library is approximately 1 3/4 miles south of I295. Continue south to Business Route 1(Brunswick Pike). First traffic light is Darrah Lane. Library is on right side. Park in lot towards Route 1 and to the rear. Enter Library at main enterance in front. Meeting rooms A & B are located through glass door on Route 1 side of building.

Map showing routes 31, 569, 503, 533, 64, 546, 295, 1, 636, 206, 503, ALT 1, 634, 29 with Library location, Rm A & B, Parking, Darrah Lane, Bus. Rt 1, N.
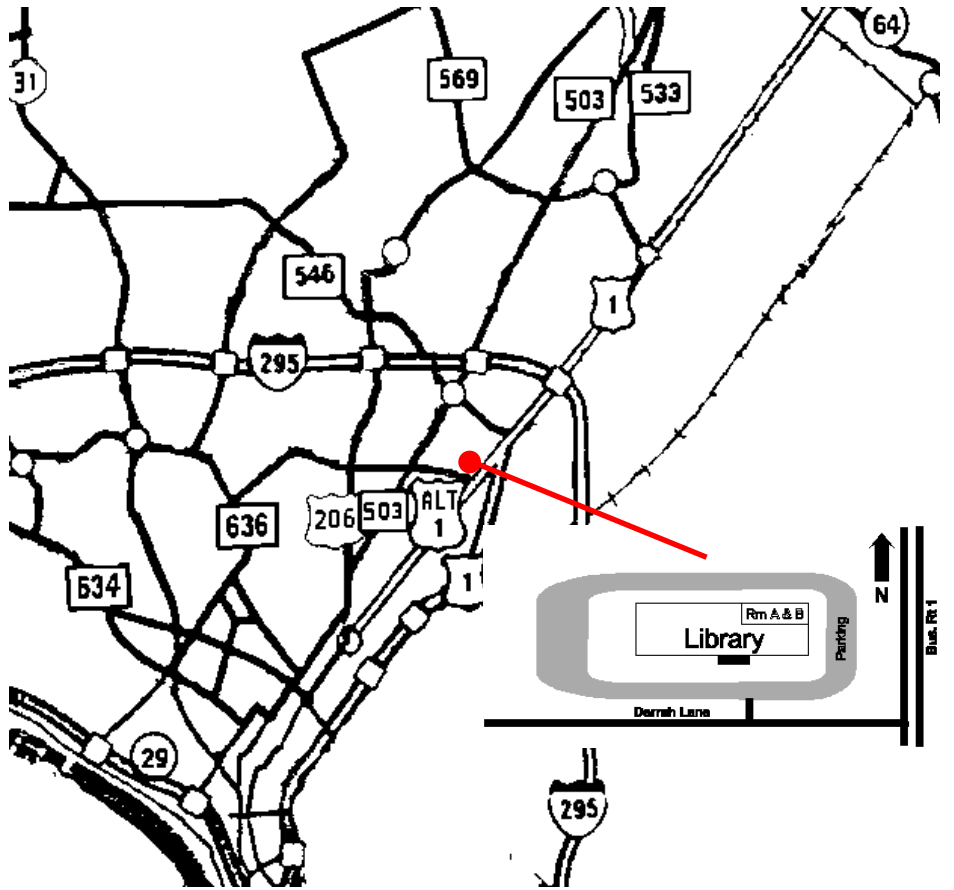
Security on the Internet!
August 9, 1999
Lawrence Library

Princeton PC Users Group
P.O Box 291
Rocky Hill, NJ 08553