THE WYSIWYG

TUESDAY June 6
Main Meeting.
7:30PM

Home Networking, including interconnecting computers with hubs, and sharing printers

VISIT THE SHCC WEB PAGE AT:
http://member.apcug.org/shcc/

The President's Pen
by Don VanSyckel

This month is a virtual potpourri of computer thoughts and musings. I'd like to start by thanking Rick Schummer, last month's presenter. Rick did an excellent presentation, "File Compression (Zip Files) and Data Backups." The presentation went a little long because there was so much interest and audience interaction. Frankly I was thrilled that there was as much interest because I can't emphasize enough the need for regular backups. Backups are not glamorous or glitzy but very worthwhile, just ask anyone who's lost a lot of important files with a hard drive crash. Anyway, it was a good presentation about an important topic.

The Novice SIG started last month. See the write-up on page 3.

Is anyone running Linux? Does anyone want to? Contact me, we might get a Linux SIG going in the fall if there's enough interest. Linux is much more compact than Windows (any flavor) and can run comfortably on the computer you put in the closet when you bought your new one. So what can you do with it? Well, how about letting it be your internet firewall, file server, print server, practice web site, and home controller (X10 remote control stuff).

I know quite a few SHCC members enjoy playing games. If you like gaming and want to match your wits live you might check out the Metro Detroit Gamers Michicon Gamefest 2000 (I've not been to one). As far as I know it's not computer games but real live people interacting with each other. Do you Geeks still remember what that is? This is a three-day event (June 23 - 25) which has more than 160 scheduled items. Admission ranges from $14 for one day to $24 for the three days. The categories range from railroads to civil war, pokemon to highlander, star trek to Custer's last stand, much more. I'll have a flyer with me at the meeting.

Remember, if you're looking for information about technical subjects including web sites, html, java, active-x, and any programming language, check out the O'Reilly web site. Association of PC User Groups (APCUG) members get a 20% discount. SHCC is a member organization of APCUG. O'Reilly has a line of excellent books and your savings will go a ways toward covering your SHCC membership. Use priority code: DSUG.
www.oreilly.com; 800-998-9938

Guests and visitors are welcome. People may attend any of two consecutive months of club meetings before deciding to become a member or not. Membership includes admission to all SHCC functions and the newsletter. Membership is open to anyone. It is not limited to residents of Sterling Heights. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month, except for July and August. There is a monthly drawing for door prizes at the end of the meeting.

DUES: $25/YEAR

CLUB ADDRESS: PO Box 385, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385
CLUB E-MAIL ADDRESS: SHCC@aol.com
CLUB WEB PAGE: http://member.apcug.org/shcc/

Resource People:

Excel	Mike Greenen
Family Tree	Rick Schummer
FoxPro	Rick Schummer
Microsoft products	Mike Greenen
MS Publisher	Rick Kucejko
Professional Write	Mike Greenen
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer
Word	Rick Schummer
WordPerfect	Jim McNeil

2000 SHCC Officers

President: Don VanSyckel
Secretary: Rick Schummer
V. President: Mike Greenen
Treasurer: Dick Morawski

SHCC Coordinators:

Net/Comm. SIG	Betty MacKenzie
Door prize	Paul Anderson
Greeting table	Lindell Beck
Newsletter pub.	Rick Kucejko
Novice SIG	Don VanSyckel
Power Users SIG	Jack Vander-Schrier
Publicity	Patrick Little
Resource People	Mike Greenen
Vendor Press Rel.	Jim Waldrop
Web Site	Rick Kucejko

Four Month Meeting Schedule:

JUNE 2000
6 - SHCC - Home Net-
**   working**
11 - SEMCO meeting
12 - Net/Comm SIG
16 - MCUG meeting
19 - Novice SIG
28 - PC SIG

AUGUST 2000
No Main Meeting in July or
**   August**
7   - Net/Comm SIG
13 - SEMCO meeting
17 - MCUG meeting
21 - Novice
23 - PC SIG

JULY 2000
No Main Meeting in July or
**   August**
9   - SEMCO meeting
10 - Net/Comm SIG
17 - Novice SIG
20 - MCUG meeting
26 - PC SIG

SEPTEMBER 2000
5 - SHCC -
10 - SEMCO meeting
11 - Net/Comm SIG
15 - MCUG meeting
18 - Novice SIG
25 - PC SIG

Special Interest Groups:

MS-DOS (Main)	IBM compatibles
Net/Com	Computers communicating with other computers
PC	Intermediate users discuss various topics
Novice	Those starting out

Contact Information:

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Dick Morawski	810-573-9648	RMorawski@aol.com
Rick Schummer	810-997-1451	RSchummer@compu-serve.com
Don VanSyckel	810-731-9232	vansyckel@voyager.net
Jack Vander- Schrier	810-739-7720 (after 12 noon)	jvanders@myself.com
Jim Waldrop	810-731-6481	jwaldrop@tir.com

Other Computer Clubs:

As a member of SHCC, you can attend meetings of other clubs where we have reciprocating membership agreements, at no charge.

MI Computer Users Group
Time: 3rd Thursday, 7:00PM
Place: South Lake HS, 21900 E. 9 Mile Road, St. Clair Shores, 585-2050
Reciprocating: No

South Eastern Michigan Computer Organization (SEMCO)

Time: 2nd Sunday at 1:30PM
Place: Science Building; Oakland University; 248/398-7560
Web page: http:\\www.semco.org
Reciprocating: Yes

The OPC (Older Persons Commission) Computer Club
Time: Every Tuesday at 10:00 - 12:00
Place: OPC in Rochester
 248-656-1403.
Web page: http://www.geocities.com/

Newsletter submissions are due 10 days before the club meeting, but the earlier the better. They should be sent to :
    WYSIWYG Publisher
    5069 Fedora
    Troy, MI 48098
OR at the e-mail addresses: rmk2@home.com

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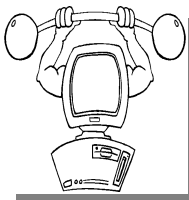
SIG Meetings

Net/Com SIG
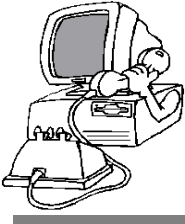
The next meeting of the Internet/Communications (Net/Comm.) SIG is Monday, June 12, 2000, starting at 7:00PM, at the Macomb County Library. The SIG meeting is 'generally' the second Monday of the month.

Each month the members of the Net/Comm SIG discuss the Internet to help members of the SHCC learn more about this communications media.

For more information about the SIG, call or e-mail Betty MacKenzie (numbers are on page 2), or check the club web site.

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PC SIG

The next meeting of the PC SIG is Wednesday, June 28, 2000. The SIG meeting is 'generally' the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Intermediate level topics are discussed, aimed at users with some knowledge of computers. Specific PC questions and problems encountered by members are also discussed.

For more information about the SIG, call or e-mail Jack Vander-Shrier (numbers are on page 2)., or check the club web site.

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Novice SIG

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 19, 2000, starting at 7:00PM, at the Macomb County Library. The SIG meeting is 'generally' the third Monday of the month.

New computer training sessions have started. The training sessions are free to club members, but members will be advised to purchase a book for $14.

All new members are invited to come and learn the DOS and Windows basics here. There is always a question and answer period at these meetings.

A writeup of the first meeting appears on this page.

For more information about the SIG, call or e-mail Don VanSyckel (numbers are on page 2), or check the club web site.

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Directions To The Macomb Library

The Macomb County Library is located at 16480 Hall Road, in Clinton Township, between Hayes and Garfield, close to the light at Garfield, on the south side of Hall Road. A large blue sign says "Macomb County Library". The phone number is (810) 286-6660.

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Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach him to use the 'Net and he won't bother you for weeks.

Novice SIG Meeting
by Don VanSyckel

In May the 'new' Novice SIG got off the ground. Like a lot of Beginnings, the SIG had a rough birth, complete with pain for the parent(s). As the SIG coordinator I decided to start the SIG by doing the first chapter. Well, the company that publishes the book being used had promised the books would arrive by Friday (three days before the first SIG meeting), and they didn't arrive until the Thursday after. So hand-outs were prepared.

Then a lap top computer was borrowed to use in the presentation but it didn't have a composite video output which the TV in the library meeting room uses. Luckily, club member Bill Luft who works at the library is attending the Novice SIG, and remembered the library had a VGA (normal computer monitor) to composite video (TV) adapter, and rounded up one of the Library technical staff to bring it over. Another disaster avoided, thank you Bill!

About a half of the first chapter was covered in the meeting. I thought we'd get a little farther, but there were a lot of questions. This is good, since the goal is to understand the stuff, not to see how fast we can get through the book. It appears as though there's a good group of people attending, because the questions asked add to the meeting. If you have any question come to the SIG or call. Contact info is located on page 2.

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Attend A SIG

If you do not attend the SIG meetings, you are missing out on important club benefits available to you. These small groups get into more detail and question and answer sessions than is possible at the main meeting.

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SHCC Business

"Ask The Experts"
by Jerry Carson

Please send questions to "Ask the Experts" at the club's PO address, or e-mail your question directly to Jerry Carson at his e-mail address: jerrycarson@email.com

Q: Expert,

I take my laptop to hotels on trips, and many people at the check-in desks don't know about connecting to the Internet in the hotel. I know there could be a problem connecting to a digital phone system. Is there something I can do to test the line for a computer hookup to see if the connection can safely be made?

Worried

A: Dear Worried,

You're right to be concerned. Most hotel used a digital system (most offices too). This is much cheaper than using a separate phone line to each room and allows the front desk to be able to forward calls, provide automatic wake-up and voice message. However, most modems are not equipped to work properly on a digital system. In fact, some modems can be damaged just by plugging them into a digital system. To make matters worse, the jack for a digital system looks exactly the same as a jack for an analog (regular) system.

Many hotels are now including a separate jack marked "analog" or "modem" or "data" that can safely be used for modems. I would not use any hotel phone jack unless it was marked correctly, even if the front desk said it would work. There are test kits you can buy for around $60 that will determine if the line is digital or analog. Better is a digital converter that will allow you to use your modem on a

digital system. This runs a little over $100. It's a little pricey but if you need to be in touch, this ensures that you can communicate regardless of the phone system.

The Expert

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Resource People

If you have some knowledge about a program that could help other club members, please consider volunteering to be a Resource Person. Page 2 has a list of the present people and software or hardware supported. Please contact Mike Greenen - phone and e-mail number are on page 2.

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Copiers Needed

If you have access to a copy machine and can volunteer to duplicate some *WYSIWYG Gazette Special Editions*, please contact Don VanSyckel. We are looking for several members to ease the burden of one individual who has been duplicating

our source of printed advertisement. The more copiers, the merrier. We are looking for approximately 500 to 1000 copies a month to be handed out to locations like the Sterling Heights and Macomb Libraries, computer stores and various retail outlets.

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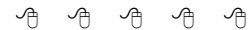
Door Prizes

The SHCC offers door prizes at most regularly scheduled club meetings. The specific door prizes for the June meeting were not known at the time of publication.

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New Door Prize Coordinator Needed

The club is looking for a new Door Prize coordinator. This person will be responsible for obtaining and delivering the door prizes we give out at the meetings. If you have an interest in this position, or want more information about this important position, please contact Don VanSyckel.

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New SHCC Members
Please welcome the following new members:

Patty Greenen	**Regina Locke**
Andrew Lonyo	**Pinky Ulrich**
Benny Smith	**Kathy Wojas**
Janet Schenk	**Helen Ulrich**

Jack's Place
by Jack Vander-Schrier

After listening to many questions and emails from our members and the students in my classes, I found out that many people have problems finding their files. Hopefully if you put some of these suggestions to use, you will be able to find them. The key to finding them is by using your "My Documents" folder. You should have an Icon on your desktop for this folder. If you don't have one, open up your "My Computer" icon and click on the up folder Icon until you see "My Documents". Once you have located the folder do a right click on the folder name and then do a left click on create shortcut. The shortcut to the "My Documents" folder will appear on your desktop. Double click on the folder to open it. If you are the only user on this computer, skip this step. Otherwise, click on file, then on new, then on folder and create a folder with your name on it. Do this for each one of the computer users. So you should now have a My Document folder with your name and your significant other. Open up your folder and click on file, new, and create another folder and call it, "My Pictures", another for "My Music", another for "My Letters" and another for "My Downloads". Now you have multiple folders in your "My Documents" folder. Now begin moving your files out of My Documents and into your new folders. The easiest way to move the files, is by holding down your CTRL key and begin by right clicking on all the files that you want to move to "My Pictures" until they are all highlighted. Then click on the Cut Icon at the top of your window. This places all the files into your clipboard. Then double click on your "My Pictures" folder. Next, click on Paste and all the files will appear here. Once you have cleaned up your folder, the next time you are saving your letters, or your pictures, or your favorite MP3 files, automatically save them in "C:\my documents\my music\xxxx.mid", where "xxxx.mid" is the name of the file you are saving. When you are downloading a program and not sure where to put it, put it into your "My Documents\my download" folder and you will always be able to find where they are. One word of advice when downloading files. Do not save them to your desktop. If you do you might get a few extra icons you weren't planning on.

My email address is jvanders@myself.com. If you have any questions or suggestions for future columns or future presentations, please feel free to send them along to me.

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The Good Old Days(?)
Submitted by Ralph Osinski

Today's MailBits.com Trivia Question:

Question: How much more powerful are today's personal computers compared to the first machines in widespread use?

The Answer: Compared to users of the first widely used personal computers two decades ago, you are the master of the universe when you press the "on" button. (Crashes? What crashes?)

Since the original IBM PC set the standard for computing, let's look at it (the Apple machine of that day had similar specs). Debuting in 1981, the PC plodded along at 4.77 MHz, about a hundred times slower than the slowest business machine today. It's 64K of ram was puny compared to today's 128MG. It also sported a single 5 1/2 diskette drive holding 160 kilobytes of data. Today's 20-gigabyte hard drive stores 125,000 times as much. Modems, operating at about 300 bits per second and physically attached to the telephone, were optional. Your built-in 56K modem is 186 times as fast. And they didn't have Windows. (Well, some things were faster then!)

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10 Commandments of E-mail

Thou shalt include a clear and specific subject line.

Thou shalt edit any quoted text down to the minimum thou needest.

Thou shalt read thine own message thrice before thou sendest it.

Thou shalt ponder how thy recipient might react to thy message.

Thou shalt check thy spelling and thy grammar.

Thou shalt not curse, flame, spam or USE ALL CAPS.

Thou shalt not forward any chain letter.

Thou shalt not use email for any illegal or unethical purpose.

Thou shalt not rely on the privacy of email, especially from work.

When in doubt, save thy message overnight and reread it in the light of the dawn.

And, here's the "Golden Rule" of E Mail:

That which thou findest hateful to receive, sendest thou not unto others.

(author unknown)

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From the Secretary's Notebook
by Rick Schummer

So you are surfing the web, hitting all your favorite sites and all of a sudden your hard drive starts spinning for no apparent reason. Should you be concerned? If you are using someone else's computer then there is no need to place fear in your heart for what you are about to read. If you are not using a protective firewall, you could be exposing your computer to a "hacker". If you are lucky, this person could be friendly. If not, this person might be out to get data or destroy files on your computer.

Anyone who knows me well understands that I hate hype! So please do not take this lightly. I did not know there was a problem with PC/Internet security until recently. I had always heard that we did not need to worry about people trying to gain access to our computers unless our computers were connected to the web with a high-speed, broadband connection (like Cable Modem or DSL). This is not a true statement. Dial-up is just as accessible.

So how does one find out what is freely available for access from the Internet? There is a site called Gibson Research Corporation (www.grc.com), created by Steve Gibson (of SpinRite and "Trouble in Paradise" fame) that will check out your Internet exposure. This site has a program called Shield's UP and Port Probe. This is a free check. Go to this site and follow the easy instructions. It is as simple as point and click.

I did this recently while dialed-up to my ISP. The results were a bit more than scary. The site displayed my computer name, displayed all the shared resource (drives, workgroup, and printers) that I have set up for my home network. It could not get at data since I have the drives password protected,

but this does not mean I was safe from a hacker.   There are automated "hacking" tools that can break passwords faster than you can say "Holy Bits Batman". All this was done with access to the NetBIOS port which is commonly used for peer-to-peer networking with Microsoft Windows Operating Systems. Fortunately, the Port Probe found all ports closed except for the NetBIOS, but it could still see them, which is a bad thing.

The next step was to surf the web for a personal firewall. Firewall software runs on your PC and monitors Internet traffic going out and coming in. This software restricts traffic that is not authorized. I have several friends that are running BlackIce Defender (http://www.networkice.com/html/blackice_defender.html) and several others running ZoneAlarm (www.zonealarm.com). There are several other packages in this category. I selected ZoneAlarm because of the favorable reviews I have heard. The other good news is that it is free for people using it for personal use (i.e., not to run a business). Each time I run software that accesses the web ZoneAlarm asks me if it is okay (unless I granted permanent permission previously). Each time an outside source is accessing my computer ZoneAlarm "bubbles" me a message and logs the intrusion. The software was easy to use and does not appear to slow me down.

Is there a catch or drawback? Yep. If you are running a home network, the firewall will stop other PCs connected legitimately from using shared resources like drives and printers if you do not have the firewall configured for this situation. Also, for every security implementation, there is another "hack" trying new methods of breaking in.

So what is the morale of this story? Check out what your exposure is. Some ISPs already protect you from outside attacks by running a version of a firewall at their site so you may be just fine. This is very typical for ISPs that offer high-speed lines. A friend of mine who has DSL through Ameritech had no problems reported by Gibson Research. What is your web exposure? Don't wake up in a sweat at night; find out what you can do to thwart an attack.

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The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)
To stay in tune, visit the SHCC web page at:
http://member.apcug.org/shcc

Lots of work has gone into the web site over the last few months. Meeting topics, schedules for the main meeting and SIG meeting, the current and past article of the month, the listing of web sites reviewed in the WYSIWYG WEB WATCH column, and other items of interest.   Please send constructive suggestions and criticisms to the web coordinator by clicking on one of the hot links on the various web pages.

SHCC does not hold the main meetings during July and August, and the WYSIWYG is not published either. Currently the three SIG's are each scheduled to meet through the summer. See the schedule on page 2.

Stay tuned to the web site for any changes or other late breaking news. Have a great summer and see you in September (or at a SIG).

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Know what to expect before
you connect

KVM Computer Switch: Secret Weapon For Small Offices
by Ken Fermoyle

For some time I have been advising friends, relatives and my readers not to get rid of an old computer when they buy a new one. First, you can't get much for it, and second, it can still be a useful tool. Use the older machine for such tasks as word processing, simple spread sheets or the like, and save the new computer fo applications (scanning, image editing, desktop publishing, complex games, etc.) that need more speed and memory.

I've also pointed out that if you install a simple, inexpensive network (often cheaper than a tape drive) you can easily back up data from one computer to the other.

Several readers have written to say they would like to do just that, but complain: "We don't have room for two computers!" What they usually mean is that they don't have enough desk space to accommodate two keyboards, monitors and mice.

Better than a shoehorn!

I had a similar problem: squeezing two more computers into a small office that measures just 11x12.5 feet and already held two computers (both with 17-inch monitors), three printers, two scanners, a fax machine and a Mita copier, plus many shelves and bookcases. I wanted to add a new server, bring our #3 computer in from another room and combine everything in one peer-to-peer LAN (local area network). I could fit in the #3 computer and the server tower, but there just wasn't desk space for a fourth keyboard, monitor and mouse.

Knowing that various switches were available that allowed control of two (or more) computers from one keyboard, video display and mouse (KVM switches), I started checking the Web

SwitchView

Keyboard/Video/Mouse   Computers

and catalogs from companies like Belkin and Cybex. Belkin has been my main source of switches since I bought my first A-B switch (to share a printer) in 1985. I have since used a variety of Belkin products, mostly switches and cables, and always found them to be well made and reliable. Several experienced computer pros recommended Cybex KVM switches. I tried KVM switches from both firms because they offered slightly different features.

I first installed the new 2-port PS/2 KVM OmniCube(tm) switch from Belkin; it proved to be an excellent choice!

The new server tower fit neatly under my desk. My minitower computer was on the desktop, next to my monitor, so it proved easy to run cables from both machines to the OmniCube and from the switch to the keyboard, video and mouse. I rigged a small shelf above my monitor to hold the OmniCube and the bass speaker of my QIC computer sound system.

I say "small shelf" advisedly because the tiny OmniCube switch (4.75"D x 4.5"W x 1.75"H without cables attached) takes up little space. Size aside, the switch is reasonably priced and offers features I find invaluable.

No boot-up problems, easy switching.

Belkin claims that OmniCube's full mouse and keyboard emulation "eliminates boot-up failures," and my experience verifies that. I also like the fact that it supports video resolutions of up to 1200x1600 dpi. That can be important in some of our graphics and

desktop publishing work. Also, switching from one computer to the other requires just a touch of the "Select" button on the switch's front panel. You can also use hot-key or autoscan switching, but I prefer the simple pushbutton. A red light indicates which computer is active in any case.

Suggested price of a 2-port PS/2 OmniCube (no AT version offered) currently is $139.99; a 4-port model is $179.995.

Next, I replaced the OmniCube with a Cybex SwitchView(tm) model because of two features it offers. First, although physically larger than the Belkin switch (5"D x 8.1"W x 2.7"H), all cables plug into the rear of the SwitchView, whereas two cables (to keyboard and mouse) plug into the front of the OmniCube. Either way works fine but one setup, and size, may be better than the other for a given desktop arrangement.

Second, the Cybex switch works with PC/AT and PS?2 systems, VGA and SVGA video, PS/2 keyboard and PS/2 and serial mice supported through the rear of the unit. This could be important if you have an older computer with a serial mouse and newer one with PS/2 mouse. Like the OmniCube, this switch supports Microsoft's Intellimouse and 1200x1600 video resolution. A 2-port SwitchView costs $149.99; a 4-porter is $199.99.

Another plus: you can work with one computer while booting up the other one with SwitchView. Using OmniCube, you have to switch to the second computer and wait until it boots up completely before you can use

either machine.

No external power, IRQs or drivers needed

Neither switch requires an external power supply, IRQs, drivers or other software. Installation is a simple matter of unplugging and plugging cables. Connecting cable kits run about $20 per set of three 6-foot cables for either switch. Each kit contains cables that run between the switch and the keyboard, video and monitor ports to the switch. You use existing cables to connect switch to keyboard, video and mouse.

Some manual KVM switches are available for less money (from about $40 to $65), but I didn't try one. I wanted to be sure I had automatic mouse and keyboard emulation to eliminate potential boot-up problems. This is important because I frequently alter or reconfigure my computer systems for test reports or other research. Besides, I figured that not having to buy another monitor (especially a 17-inch model), keyboard and mouse saved more than enough to pay for either switch.

Running my workstation computer and our network server from one set of controls is a snap with the OmniCube or SwitchView products. I have no hesitation in recommending either one to others with limited office space and growing computer needs.

Copyright 1999 by Ken Fermoyle, Fermoyle Publications. Ken Fermoyle has written some 2,500 articles for publications ranging from Playboy and Popular Science to MacWeek, Microtimes & PC Laptop. He was cohost/producer of a radio show on computers and a partner in a DTP service bureau during the '80s. Ken's Korner, a syndicated monthly column, is available free to User Groups, educational and non-profit organizations.

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Vendor Press Releases

by Jim Waldrop

This column lists new vendor announcements and specials available to club members.

NOTE: When contacting any of the companies listed in these press releases, always mention that you are a member of the *Sterling Heights Computer Club* and that the telephone number etc. was printed in our newsletter.

NOTE: See James Waldrop for the full text of press releases.

Caere Corp.
Phone: 1-800-535-7226
Fax: 1-408-354-2743
Web: www.caere.com

OmniPage Pro 10.0 combines three OCR applications, includes a new recognition engine that reduces the number of errors by 30%, has voice readback which gives users the easiest way to proofread scanned documents, and also includes OmniPage Web Personal Edition.

SPECIAL USER GROUP PRICING:
Call 1-800-535-7226 (use offer code 225 to receive special user group price)

OmniPage Pro 10.0 Retail Upgrade Win $69.95
OmniPage Pro 8.0 Retail Upgrade Mac $49.95
Image AXS Professional-Win/Mac $99.95
PageKeeper Pro 3.0-Win $19.95
OmniForm 4.0-Win $79.95
OmniPage Web 1.0-Win $99.95
OmniPage Pro Scanner Suite Win $74.95

Add Michigan sales tax and $10.00 S&H per package.

O'Reilly's
Phone: 1-800-998-9938
email order@oreilly.com
Fax :1-707-829-0104
Web: www.oreilly.com

"OUTLOOK 2000 IN A NUTSHELL" by Tom Syroid & Bo Leuf 1st Edition May 2000, 680 pages, $29.95

SHCC discount 20% (use code DSUG when ordering to receive discount)

"Outlook 2000 in a Nutshell" is a must-read for any user who wants to get as much out of this software as possible without wasting time weeding through hundreds of pages of useless information.

Outlook is much more than just an e-mail client. It includes contact, calendar, notes, task, and journal tools, all tightly integrated to give users quick access to vital information and fast, easy ways to share that information. You can arrange virtual conferences with NetMeeting, send office documents through Outlook Mail, and save calendars as Web pages and publish them to the Web.

Chapter 10, Notes, from the book, is freely available at:
http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/out2000ian/chapter/ch10.html

For more information about the book, including table of contents, index, author bio, and samples, see:
http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/out2000ian/

For more abut the "In a Nutshell" series, see:
http://www.oreilly.com/news/nutshell_0598.html

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Too many clicks spoil the browse.

WYSIWYG WEB WATCH (www)
by Paul Baecker

If you have a particularly enjoyable or helpful (or just plain useless) site which you would like to share with the membership, e-mail the site address, with a brief description of the site for inclusion in a future WYSIWYG issue, to excuser@excite.com. Additionally, send in a website category in which you are particularly interested, and all eyes will watch out for related sites.

New to the cablemodem or DSL experience, or just investigating the possibility? These sites offer info for newbies, local broadband service searching, speed tweaks, and some security checks you can run on your system. How really safe is your connection?
http://cablemodemhelp.com/
http://dslreports.com/
https://grc.com/x/ne.dll?bh0bkyd2
http://getspeed.com/

This site explains in great detail the subject of personal internet firewalls. The site discusses their importance, and describes five different firewall software packages. If you have a broadband internet connection (such as cable or DSL), you will find this content very informative and useful.
http://grc.com/su-firewalls.htm

Buying or selling an abode? Or just staying put? This site provides the tools and information you need to save time and money in the real estate game. Whether you are buying, owning, or selling, this site helps you make informed decisions about your most valuable asset --- your home.
http://domania.com/

FastWeb will match you up with both well-known and obscure college scholarship programs based on your personal criteria (do you have a distant Civil War relative, or were you once a golf caddy?).
http://fastweb.com/

Pick from this site's inventory of over 1000 short films and documentaries, including some Academy Award winners, and watch them in their entirety on-line.
http://www.atomfilms.com/

As of this writing, Napster, the on-line interface with which you can locate and download your favorite music in MP3 format, is still operational. This site offers a simple tutorial to joining in on this innovative technology.
http://music.zdnet.com/features/napster/

Surf Monkey is a friendly cyberspace guide and companion that safely helps kids meet, learn, play, shop and explore online.
http://kids.surfmonkey.com/

Launch has more that 300 music videos on demand from major and emerging artists. Also has many MP3 and WIndowsMediaPlayer audio files for downloading.
http://www.launch.com/

This site claims the web's largest pc help directory, consisting of tools to tune up your computer, virus and bug protection, and various tips and tricks, as well as "resources for thousands of products" (drivers, patches, upgrades, config help, FAQs, etc.).
http://myhelpdesk.com/Membership/HomeVisitor.asp

Zack's motto is 'Empowering and Educating the Individual Investor'. This site tracks endless stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, with late-breaking market news, and an educational section. Especially useful is their Fundscreener tool, which searches for mutual funds based on your specific criteria input.
http://my.zacks.com/index.php3

Digital classics are delivered to you via this site from England. Download their custom player, and receive eight channels of opera and classical music. Their Classical Site Directory features over 1700 sites dedicated to classical music, instruments, conductors, singers, festivals, organizations, etc.
http://operadio.com/

Several web sites assist consumers with complaints about products or services. All will forward complaints to respective companies (except thecomplaintstation.com) -------
http://bbb.org/
http://bitchaboutit.com/
http://ecomplaints.com/
http://feedbackdirect.com/
http://planetfeedback.com/
http://ugetheard.com/
http://thecomplaintstation.com/

An immense collection of reference tools, periodicals and online texts, library information and much more. You gotta see it to believe it.
http://www.libraryspot.com/

This site helps teens sort out medical problems and situations. A team of public health and medical professionals, journalists and youth advocates contribute content to the site.
http://zaphealth.com/

Take a 360-degree virtual tour of a prison. Rotate camera in each view with your mouse. Nice place to visit, but......
http://www.dcor.state.ga.us/default.html
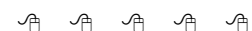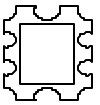
STERLING HEIGHTS COMPUTER CLUB

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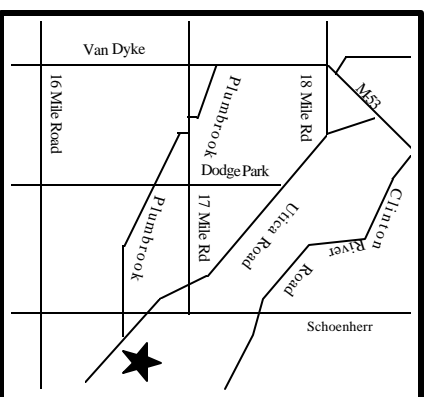
JUNE AT SHCC:

TUESDAY June 6
Main Meeting.
7:30PM at
Carpathia Club.
38000 Utica Road
Sterling Heights

Home Networking, including interconnecting computers with hubs, and sharing printers.

SIGs

MONDAY June 12
Net/Com SIG
7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

MONDAY June 19
Novice SIG
7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

WEDNESDAY June 28
PC SIG
7:00PM at the Macomb County Library.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

The club does not meet in July and August. There will be SIG meetings during these months.

September
Topic To Be Determined