

It's a **Potluck and Demo** meeting this month!
 Bring a dish to share, enough for 5.
 Kathy will demo OS X and Veda will demo her latest tool, a web cam to interested parties. So come and join in the fun. The club will supply plates, napkins, utensils, refreshments (drinks). The Library's DeLong Room has plenty of tables and chairs. Bring friends, family, guests.

We're raffling off a CD Goodies Bundle!!!

President's Column

by Veda Lewis

INTERACTING WITH COMPUTERS- PEOPLE FIRST

The National Public Radio teaser was simple enough. It said, "Listen tomorrow at 10AM. The topic is the increasing importance of what people do with computers, in contrast with what computers can do." It sounded like my kind of discussion. The NPR station is in Sacramento (88.9 FM, Capitol Radio), but I twisted my antenna to catch the Tod Mundt show today. I caught the section with a professor from the University of Maryland, Ben Schneiderman. He has a book out called *Leonardo's Laptop*. He had several comments that hit home for me.

Prez. cont'd on Pg. 8

Care and Maintenance of Your CDs

<http://www.imation.com>

DRIVE CAN'T READ 700MB CD-Rs

Drive needs firmware upgrade to read close track spacing. Contact your drive manufacturer to see if there is a firmware upgrade available.

CD-R recorder not writing to optimum level for drive. Contact CD-R recorder manufacturer to see if there is a firmware upgrade available.

HOW SHOULD I LABEL A CD-R OR CD-RW DISC?

CD-R 48x 700MB/80min Discs

CDs cont'd on Pg. 2



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Sonoma Valley Computer Group

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BOARD MEETINGS

Usually following General Meeting. Open to all members. Call 935-6690 for further information.

MEMBERSHIPS

S.V.C.G. Annual Membership: \$20.
S.V.C.G. Family/Couple membership: \$30 (residing at same address). Membership renewals are due and payable at the beginning of each year.

GENERAL MEETINGS

S.V.C.G. meets second Saturday of each month at Sonoma Public Library, 755 West Napa Street; hours: 9:30AM to 11AM unless otherwise notified. Meetings free; guests welcome.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

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ONLINE NEWSLETTER:

<http://www.vom.com/svsg/index.html>
Copyright © 2002, SVCG. All rights reserved. Sponsored by our local ISP, DataProfessionals, on 19480-8th St. East.

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 649
El Verano, CA95433

Donating Unused Computer Equipment

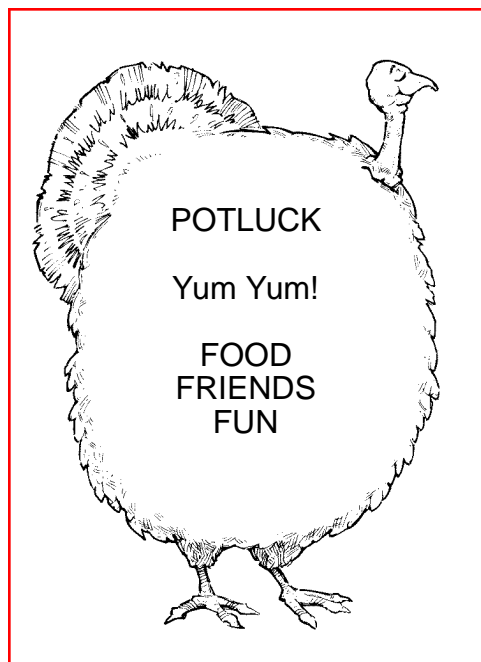
The URL listed is for the Computer Recycling Center. All of the info needed (and then some) is listed on the site.
<http://www.crc.org/>

Thanks to Wayne Till for that tip.

SVCG UG Benefits

As a benefit to being a member of the Sonoma Valley Computer Group, O'Reilly Press is giving you a 20% discount on all their books and software! For more information, please contact Kathy Aanestad at 935-6690 or email at 'aanestad@wco.com'.

In addition to the O'Reilly Press offer, SVCG belongs to the Apple User Group program whereby members can purchase Apple products at a savings. Contact Kathy Aanestad for user ID and password in order to access their online site. We need members to help with finding contacts for PC user group offers so that they can be included in the newsletter postings. ☺



Suggestions:

Write on the printed area or on the clear inner diameter of the disc. Use a permanent, soft-tipped, water-soluble ink pen that does not contain a solvent in the ink (such as Imation CD Markers).

Cautions:

- Avoid ballpoint or hard point writing utensils
- Can scratch and damage the disc.
- Avoid marking pens with non-water based inks
- Contain solvents (such as alcohol) that could dissolve the protective coating on the disc.
- Long-term damage could appear during archival storage.
- Use care when selecting adhesive labels (paper, plastic or film)
- Can interact with the disc to corrode the reflector layer and cause permanent data loss.
- Can peel or curl around the edges due to handling or to changes in the local environment.
- Peeling or curling could cause internal damage to the CD-ROM drive or CD Recorder if the lifted label contacts the internal drive mechanism or if the disc becomes lodged inside the drive.
- Attempts to remove a label that has edge curl could result in permanent damage to the disc coating beneath the label.
- Application could entrap air and debris under the label or position the label off-center, resulting in degradation of disc performance, particularly in high-speed readers.

CAN I REMOVE A LABEL FROM A CD OR DVD?

Warning - Trying to remove a label stuck to any type of CD or DVD could destroy your media causing you to lose your data.

Never remove a label, even though it is mispositioned. We purposely use a permanent adhesive in the Imation Label-N-GO!™ kit. Any attempt to remove the label

is likely to irreparably damage the disc, making the CD completely useless. As an alternative, cut off any portion of the label extending over the edge of the disc. Burn a new copy from this disc, reprint a new label and apply to the newly burned disc checking for alignment.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE, STORE, AND CLEAN CD-Rs?

Imation CD-Recordable media is labeled and packaged to provide maximum product protection. To maintain the integrity of the disc and the data stored on the disc, please use the following care and handling guidelines.

Protect your disc:

- Handle by the outer edge to prevent fingerprints and smears on the surface.
- Store in a protective case to prevent scratches.
- Store in a cool, dry environment, away from direct sunlight.
- Store Imation CD-R and CD-RW discs within the following temperature/humidity range: -5°C to +30°C, 5 to 60 percent relative humidity, (maximum wet bulb = 29°C).
- Use a soft, lint-free cloth for cleaning the disc to remove spots, dust or fingerprints.
- Always wipe from the center to the outer edges and never wipe in a circular motion.
- Use only felt-tip permanent pens when labeling. Write only on the printed area or on the clear inner diameter of the disc.

HAZARDS TO YOUR DISC:

- Touch—fingerprints will attract grime to the recording surface (the unlabeled side).
- Hard Surface Contact—hard surfaces might scratch the recording surface.
- Sunlight/Heat/Humidity/Moisture—can warp the disc.
- Abrasive or Solvent Cleaners—can scratch the protective coating.

- Audio CD Cleaners—can damage the disc.
- Ball-point Pens—can scratch and damage the disc.
- Adhesive Labels—incompatible adhesives and application method can damage the disc and in turn damage your drive.

DOES CD-RW MEDIA USE THE SAME TECHNOLOGY AS CD-R MEDIA?

CD-Rs and CD-RWs appear the same in the form and size, but are not made with the same technology. CD-RWs are made with a phase change process, which uses a thin, film metallic layer for the recording layer. CD-RWs can be erased and re-recorded. On the other hand, CD-Rs are made with dye technology, and can only be recorded once. If you have software capable of multi-session recording, you can record data to your CD-R in several sessions until the disc is full. X

Virus Protection and Downloading Q & A

Q: Should I turn my virus-protection program off while downloading stuff from the Internet?

A: If you turn Norton Anti-Virus OFF while downloading, you are, as they say, living life UNPROTECTED. The whole purpose of Norton AV is to be ON all the time so it can detect viruses entering (via a download) or activating themselves on your computer. The only time it makes any sense to turn Norton AV OFF is when you are actually installing software. In many cases, Norton AV won't cause a problem, but I find that it does cause problems during the install process on some software, so I always turn it OFF, but ONLY for that time when I am installing.

P
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Bring a favorite dish, enough for 5 and invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

We're raffling off a CD Goodies Bundle!!!

What's News

HIGH-TECH WORK GOES ABROAD

As the technology sector of the U.S. market continues to struggle, work is increasingly sent overseas, where labor is cheap and plentiful even for high-tech jobs. A report last year by Forrester Research showed that many U.S. corporations save as much as 25 percent by sending work to contract technology firms in countries including India, China, and the Philippines. According to Stephanie Moore of Giga Information Group, about 200 of the Fortune 500 companies send some portion of their software work overseas. Moore said the total revenues from offshore software work this year will be \$7.68 billion, 20 percent higher than last year. Some analysts say that the shift

overseas results not from increased demand but from heavy marketing by tech firms, especially those in India, where programmers might earn as little as 10 percent of what programmers in the United States make. San Jose Mercury News, 21 October 2002 <http://www.siliconvalley.com/mld/siliconvalley/4332783.htm>

SOFTWARE DISCOUNTS FOR NONPROFITS

CompuMentor, a San Francisco nonprofit that has been providing discounted computer consulting for other nonprofits for 15 years, in February launched DiscounTech, a store where nonprofits can purchase software products at significant discounts. For example, Paul Bongiovanni of the Family Stress Center is able to buy Microsoft's Office XP for \$60 rather than the \$500 retail price. Mark McNeil of the nonprofit

Economic Opportunity Council said that with DiscounTech, for every four licenses of Office, they save enough to buy another computer. CompuMentor serves as a single point of donation for software companies that want to make charitable gifts. CompuMentor also receives funding from Microsoft and AOL Time Warner. New York Times, 21 October 2002 (registration req'd) <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/21/technology/21DISC.html>

JUDGE SAYS WEB SITES NOT SUBJECT TO ADA

In a case involving a blind man and Southwest Airlines, a federal judge ruled last week that the airline is not compelled by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to make its Web site more accessible to those

[News cont'd on Pg. 6](#)

Invite
A
Friend



Check out the web page...
Soon to have the artists'
work on display!

<http://www.vom.com/svcg/index.html>

Sonoma Valley Computer Group Membership Application/Renewal Form

New Applicant

Use information below

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

e-mail Address: _____

Send \$20 (individual) \$30 (family) check to:
Sonoma Valley Computer Group
POB 649
El Verano, CA 95433

Renewal (expiration date on label)

Use the name and address label on Page 12

Platform: Mac PC WinNT
Operating System: OS 8x Win3 Unix
 OS 9x Win95 Linux
 OS X Win98 WinME

Computer Model: _____

How did you hear about SVCG?

class club member
 newspaper newsletter

User Level: Novice Intermediate
 Advanced Expert



: CNET's ValueWatch™

CNET's new ValueWatch™ rating helps you decide whether a product offers the best bang for your buck in today's marketplace. (go to: <http://www.cnet.com>)

How ValueWatch™ Helps You

With technology changing so rapidly and product prices fluctuating even more quickly, it's difficult to know which product offers the best value. ValueWatch™ helps you gauge a product's true value today, compared to that of its competitors, so that you can make the smartest buying decision. ValueWatch™ uses the following scale to help you decide whether the product you're interested in offers the best bang for the buck:

8.0 - 10.0	Excellent value
6.0 - 7.9	Good value
4.0 - 5.9	Average value
2.0 - 3.9	Below average value
0 - 1.9	Poor value

How ValueWatch™ Works

ValueWatch™ uses CNET's comprehensive database of current products' features and the prices at which they are available from manufacturers or resellers.

- ValueWatch™ compares a given product's features and average price* to those of other, similar products in CNET's product database.
- ValueWatch™ automatically generates a 1 to 10 rating to tell you how the product you're interested in stacks up.
- CNET's product database is updated twice a day, and the ValueWatch™ rating is updated daily.

*The price component of the ValueWatch™ calculation is derived by taking the average price at which the product is listed on CNET (not including shipping and handling) and removing any extremely high or extremely low "outlier" prices.

The CNET touch

Not all product features are equally important, especially when you're deciding whether to make a purchase. For example, a digital camera's resolution and weight in ounces should both be taken into consideration, but we believe that its resolution is more important to the vast majority of users.

Keeping this in mind, our editors assign each feature a relative importance rating according to the editors' knowledge of how most consumers use products. This human touch makes the ValueWatch™ rating even more powerful.

As new features are introduced into the market, our editors adjust importance ratings as necessary.

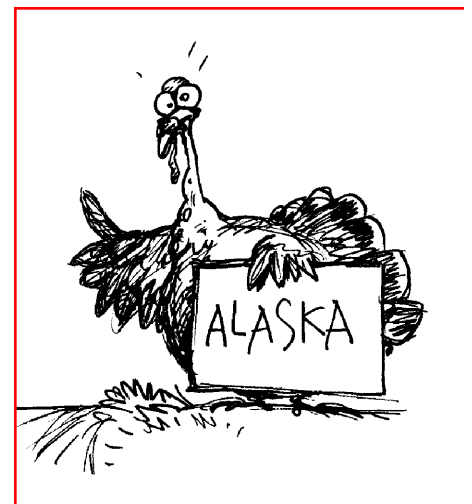
What ValueWatch™ doesn't measure

ValueWatch™ is based strictly on objectively measurable features, as supplied by the manufacturer or other, similar sources of such information. It does not currently measure:

- Brand value
- Quality, such as the image quality of a digital camera
- Performance, which can be reliably measured by CNET Labs, such as the actual battery life of a notebook (as opposed to what the manufacturer claims the battery life to be)

For this reason, the ValueWatch™ rating is only one component of our overall recommendation. Z

[Check out www.cnet.com. They had a terrific site chalk full of information and useful tips and tricks... just for you!-.ed]





STUDY SHOWS WHO PREFERS DISTANCE EDUCATION

A report from the U.S. Department of Education confirms the notion that distance education appeals to working parents, especially women, more than to other groups. The report is based on a study of distance education during the 1999-2000 academic year. The study data show that of women who took college courses, 8.5

percent did so through distance education, versus 6.5 percent of men. Nine percent of college students over 24 years old took distance courses, compared to 6 percent of those under 24. The results confirm what many have noted: distance education offers those with work and family responsibilities the flexibility to advance their education when they are able.

Chronicle of Higher Education, 21 October 2002

<http://chronicle.com/free/2002/10/2002102102t.htm>

SENATE RECESSES, COPYRIGHT OWNERS GRANT EXTENSION

After a revised royalty schedule for small Webcasters was left unsettled when the Senate recessed last week, the recording industry and artists granted an extension to the deadline for royalty payments. Small Webcasters had complained that the royalty rates would put them out of business, and a new deal was struck between Webcasters and the entertainment industry for different rates for small Webcasters. The deal was approved by the House, but the Senate recessed for the election without having taken up the agreement. The extension only applies to those Webcasters that the deal classifies as "small Webcasters," and the extension is set to stay in force until the Senate acts on the new agreement.

Associated Press, 21 October 2002 (registration req'd)

<http://www.nandotimes.com/technology/story/584771p-4556589c.html>

DIGITAL ARCHIVE RECORDS DEFUNCT FEDERAL AGENCIES

The CyberCemetery is a project at the University of North Texas (UNT), in Denton, to archive the Web sites of defunct federal agencies, including the National Bankruptcy Review Commission and the National Partnership for Reinventing Government, an initiative of then-Vice President Al Gore. Several years ago, Congress ordered the Government Printing Office (GPO) to shift its storage to more electronic media, and Cathy Nelson Hartman of UNT suggested that colleges and universities had the necessary computer resources to aid that effort. UNT paid for the development of the CyberCemetery site (<http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/>) and pays for its maintenance. The GPO identifies materials for archiving. So far, the site includes materials from 15 federal agencies and receives 20,000 to 30,000 visitors each month. The National Partnership for Reinventing Government is the most visited agency at the site. Washington Post, 21 October 2002

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A56970-2002Oct20.html>

LAWSUIT ALLEGES SNOOPING ON PUBLIC WEB PAGES

A small technology company in Sweden has filed a lawsuit alleging that Reuters violated the law when it obtained and published information from an earnings report on the Web. The data were on a Web page accessible by anyone who entered the correct URL. The Web page, though, was not linked from elsewhere on the company's site, according to the company. A spokesman from the company said the lawsuit could have important implications about what is considered public versus private information. If the court rules that the information Reuters obtained was public, he said, then potentially everything on a company's Web server could be considered public. Associated Press, 28 October 2002

<http://www.nandotimes.com/technology/story/595343p-4624080c.html>

DELL GOES FOR SMALL

Dell has introduced the OptiPlex SX260, putting the company in competition with Sony and Gateway, among others, in the growing market for small-footprint computers. The SX260 is about half the size of other OptiPlex models and can be mounted on the back of its flat-panel monitor.

NEWS cont'd from Pg. 4

with disabilities. According to judge Patricia Seitz, the ADA applies only to physical spaces, not to "virtual" spaces like Web sites. The advocacy group Access Now had filed the suit against the airline on behalf of Robert Gumson, who argued that, although he was able to use the Web site to buy plane tickets, it was "extremely difficult." The suit asked Southwest to modify its site, particularly the graphics, so Gumson could more easily use the site. The judge's decision presumably has significance for many other businesses, whose Web sites could have been subject to ADA standards of accessibility. CNET, 21 October 2002

<http://news.com.com/2100-1023-962761.html>

UNIVERSITY NULLIFIES DEGREES OVER DISTANCE EDUCATION CHEATING

The governing board of the University of Mississippi has nullified the degrees of three students it said had credits for distance-education courses the students did not take. The incident dates to 1999, when evidence of the cheating first came to light. An employee of the university was fired after evidence surfaced that the employee had changed transcripts for eight students. Of the eight, one presented what university officials called a "persuasive case" and was exonerated. Of the others, three were expelled, one lost credit for the suspect courses but did not lose her degree, and the remaining three lost their degrees based on the loss of credits for those courses. Chronicle of Higher Education, 18 October 2002

2 0 0 2

<http://chronicle.com/free/2002/10/2002101802t.htm>

Because the SX260 is a modular unit, unlike some competing all-in-one designs, it can also sit horizontally or vertically on or under a desk. The computer debuted in Japan, where space considerations are stronger than in most other parts of the world, but analysts noted that companies are increasingly aware of the cost of space for computers and are willing to pay extra for smaller machines.

NewsFactor Network, 28 October 2002
<http://www.newsfactor.com/perl/story/19797.html>

SURVEY SAYS COPY-PROTECTED CDS COULD BACKFIRE

Results from a survey by Gartner indicate that many consumers do not see copy protections as a reasonable precaution against music piracy because such protections would infringe on consumers' right to copy CDs they purchased. Sixty percent of those surveyed said they should be allowed to make copies of CDs for family members; 77 percent said they should be allowed to make copies for other devices; and 82 percent said backup copies should be allowed. Researchers involved in the study suggested that music companies that opt for copy protections are likely to annoy many consumers, possibly resulting in lower revenues. IDG, 25 October 2002

http://www.idg.net/ic_959522_4394_1-1681.html

MICHIGAN TO PROVIDE PERMANENT OFFICES FOR INTERNET2

Michigan's governor last week announced that an upcoming facility at the University of Michigan will provide permanent office space for Internet2. The Michigan Information Technology Center, located near the university's Ann Arbor campus, is a 100,000-square-foot, \$10 million facility that will also be home to the state's research and education network, Merit Network, as well as an Internet Hall of Fame. The facility is scheduled to open by the end of next year. Internet2 counts more than 200 colleges and universities as members. Greg Wood of Internet2 said most of the work of the organization is done at member institutions spread across the United States. Chronicle of Higher Education, 28 October 2002

<http://chronicle.com/free/2002/10/200210>

2802t.htm

AD-FREE PORTAL FROM PURVEYORS OF ADS

A new, ad-free portal has been introduced by Bulldog Holdings, the company behind Iwon.com, a portal that some consider one of the biggest abusers of online ad space. Iwon.com was one of the first to use banner ads, and the portal allows pop-up ads that obscure content that users are trying to read. In contrast, MyWay.com promises no banners and no pop-ups. Jonas Steinman and Bill Daugherty, the two men behind both portals, said their new project will be profitable in the first month of operation because they already had the technology to deploy it and because MyWay.com depends on sponsored search results, provided by Google. Steinman said users of Yahoo, which has a large number of ads and, said Steinman, a revised privacy policy upsetting to users, are a prime target for the new portal.

New York Times, 28 October 2002 (registration req'd)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/28/technology/28WAY.html>

SUN UPDATES APPLICATION SERVER SOFTWARE, GIVES IT AWAY

In an effort to lure customers in the application server market, Sun Microsystems announced that the Platform Edition of its updated application server software will be free for Solaris and Windows operating systems. The free version will be offered for SunLinux, HP-UX, and AIX operating systems in January. The Standard Edition of the new software, which includes additional management tools, will cost \$2,000 per server processor. The application server market is currently controlled by BEA, although its lead in the market has shrunk recently. According to IDC, Sun ranks fourth in the market. Analysts said Sun's free product might draw significant numbers of customers from BEA, most of whom run Solaris.

CNET, 28 October 2002

<http://news.com.com/2100-1001-963532.html>

Cookies Q&A

Q: I have upgraded my browser to Netscape 7.0 and cannot access my eBay account. When I enter my account and password info, eBay returns the message "The browser you're using is rejecting cookies."

I have set the preferences to "Enable all Cookies" restarted Netscape, then rebooted and restarted Netscape and still get the same error message. I viewed the cookie files in the cookie manager but don't see any cookies that look like eBay. —Crumbling

A: I don't have Netscape 7 but do use Mozilla. Take a look at the Cookie Manager again. You should find ebay cookies under ebay.com as well as www.ebay.com.

You can safely delete these cookies. Next time you visit the original cookies will be gone and ebay will set new cookies. Hopefully this will solve your problem.

A refresh at the ebay home page may help also. Click on the reload button. —Eblers

Reply: Netscape 7.0's cookie manager has two tabs. "Stored cookies" and "cookie sites". I was looking for eBay under "stored cookies", didn't see it and gave up. (Too easily) Per your suggestion, I checked again and found eBay under the "cookie sites tab." I deleted that record, fired it up and all is fixed. V

Happy Thanksgiving



Corny Jokes for A Thanksgiving Chuckle

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter:
Eskimo Pi

2000 pounds of Chinese soup:
Won ton

1 millionth of a mouthwash:
1 microscope

Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement:
1 bananosecond

Weight an evangelist carries with God:
1 billigram

Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour:
Knot-furlong

365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer because it's less filling:
1 lite year

16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone:
1 Rod Serling

Half of a large intestine:
1 semicolon

1000 pains
1 kilohurtz

Basic unit of laryngitis:
1 hoarsepower

Shortest distance between two jokes:
A straight line

454 graham crackers:
1 pound cake

1 million microphones:
1 megaphone

1 million bicycles:
2 megacycles

2000 mockingbirds:
two kilomockingbirds

10 cards:
1 decacards

1 kilogram of falling figs:
1 Fig Newton

1000 milliliters of wet socks:
1 literhosen

1 millionth of a fish:
1 microfiche

1 trillion pins:
1 terrapin

10 rations:
1 decoration

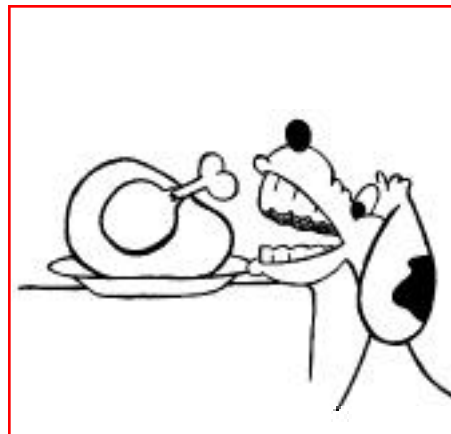
100 rations:
1 C-ration

2 monograms:
1 diagram

8 nickels:
2 paradigms

2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital:
1 I.V. League

100 Senators:
Not 1 decision



Prez cont'd from Pg. 1

He is one of those forward thinkers who has been discussing these matters since the PC (personal computer) came onto the scene and we started pecking away at the keyboard. He's working on heady software applications that can help people find what they need much more easily using computers. He's written software to help people find rental apartments that meet their needs. Currently, he's working on something called *Timefinders*, I think. It will be able to search the web and do analysis. For example, you want to invest in a certain company, so you can use the application to go out to the web and collect categories of information about the company and do some analysis on that information.

Professor Schniederman touched on the move to get computers to do speech recognition to 'replace' the keyboard. Refreshingly, his view is that this is not the way to go for the general public. His research shows that people function best on a computer when they can integrate the hand/eye coordination, not with voice. There's something about the short-term memory involved there where speech is just too slow. Research with airline pilots has shown that in many tasks, they cannot get the words out fast enough. Hand/eye coordination is much more effective.

My personal observation is that the invention of the GUI (graphic user interface), repurposed by Apple from the Xerox thinkers at the PARC place, has made the difference in getting more than one person in my sphere to adapt to the computer. The world of DOS and no graphics was a grim environment. Now that we have that hand/eye method, more people are on board than would be otherwise. Thank you Marc Andriessen for Mosaic/Netscape.

I recently overheard a colleague talking about learning modes regarding electronic learning. He stated that the auditory mode with graphics was the best (can you say television?). Second, came auditory with text backup. Last, was pure text with no auditory. His concern was that his e-learning web page was in the third category. This doesn't address the activity side of learning, of course. It is easiest (and most economical) to just crank out text and put it on a web

site and call it a training tool. However, how much reading can you expect a person to do without a little variety?

Professor Schniederma opines that there is an urgency to getting developers to do what is needed to adapt programs to work best for people, not just for programmers. He shared his frustration with the great deal of time we spend solving computer problems (about half of the time we're at the keyboard). Just the night before, he installed a Spam filtering program and lost all of his e-mail. It is encouraging to look at how many of us are learning to work with graphics and integrate them into our daily computer lives.

Current applications are just too big and cumbersome, he states. They have way too many features. Many features means many menus, too many.

What does it all mean? Where will it go? I don't know, but it is fun to ponder.

I'll look up his book, *Leonardo's Laptop*. Meanwhile, keep on simplifying and concentrate on what you need to do with the computer, not what the computer can do.

Happy Computing. — Veda Lewis

Happy Thanksgiving



Tiny Font Problem in Netscape Q & A

Q: Can anyone help me with the type showing up REAL TINY in Netscape 4.7.2? I tried setting the Preferences - Fonts to bigger, restarted and everything, but that only worked on part of the sites where you type in information. The rest of the pages insist on showing tiny type that I can't read! Help! —Fawn C. Dat

A1: In the lower half of the Fonts Preferences, click the radio button that says "Use my fonts . . ." You should get the font and size you chose in the upper box for most, if not all, web pages. You can switch back and forth from this setting to either of the others whenever you want. I used to do this with British newspapers that used 10-point eyestrain type in their web pages. — No Longer Blinded

A2: I sometimes need to use the "enlarge type" command and find that it almost always requires being done two or three times to get any result. Sometimes it needs more than one bump up in size. But it always works. Changing your preferences to use a larger size (and more legible font) is probably a better overall solution.

Regarding fonts: many people still go by the old typesetting rule that serif fonts are more legible. This is still mostly true in print. However, just the opposite is true on screen, due to the limitations of 72-dpi monitors. They are not capable of doing a good job of rendering the small details of serifs, and actually yield more readable type using a good sans-serif font. Arial is a great default. Verdana is maybe even better because the basic letter forms in Verdana are slightly oversized, and the "x-height" is greater, relative to Arial. —Smarty

A3: I never thought to use the "Always use my fonts" option in Netscape for

this. I will try it too next time. By the way, I think the reason this happens is Netscape 4.x does not support cascading style sheets in an external style sheet document. They must be imbedded in the page being read. The problem pages have external style sheets. — Enlightened Lad

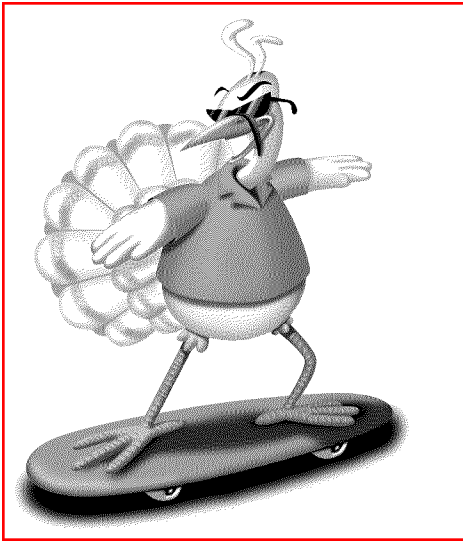
A4: To enlarge the font size in Netscape, go under "VIEW" (while in Netscape) and click Increase Font Size or Decrease Font Size. Do this a few times until you get the size you want. —Lookie Lew

Setting Outlook Express as Default Q&A

Q: A member of a .org I'm working with wants to make Outlook Express his default email client when he is online. He uses only IE, I believe 5. When he clicks on an email link on a web page, it opens up Eudora, I believe E-light 3.1.3. I made a quick look at the prefs but didn't see an OE prefs file, didn't check for Eudora. Should I? I looked in IE, but didn't see where to designate the default email client (the help mentioned the fields to fill out SMTP, etc., which we found). If he clicks on an email link in a doc offline, OE does open up as the default email client. So it's just while online, where it's the wrong email client. Thank you. —Looking for Enlightenment

A: I believe the place you want to go to in the Mac OS is under the Apple Menu to Control Panels then to Internet. Click on the e-mail tab, fill out the sections then at the very bottom is a tab...hold down to change it to Outlook Express. Also if you want, you can go to the Web tab and go to the very bottom, set the default web browser to Internet Explorer. — Enlightened

A: In IE preferences under Network, Protocol Helpers is where you set the application you want to be used for the various types of links. In your case you want to set the mailto application to OE. — Bulb Salesman



Acronyms 101 -- Acronym Dictionary A-L

[from About.com]

Before you OMIK, brush up on those TLAs. LOL ... FAQ ... It can sometimes seem as if the Internet has its own language. Especially if you spend time in chat rooms, forums or reading email, you may come across **many mysterious abbreviations**. Some, like FYI, you may recognize from life before the Internet. Many, like EAK, came along much later.

Internet acronyms are widely popular on the Internet because of the speed in which they are typed. If you wanted to tell someone you were rolling on the floor laughing at what they just said, it's much faster (and easier) to type ROTFL.

New acronyms are being invented in chat rooms and on message boards every day. What follows is an acronym dictionary with a long list of Internet acronyms you might come across online, and their definitions. GL and I'll CWYL!

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - A

AAMOF — As A Matter Of Fact
AAYF — As Always, Your Friend
ADN — Any Day Now
AFAIK — As Far As I Know

AFAIC — As Far As I'm Concerned
AFK — Away From Keyboard
AGAN — As Good As New
AISI — As I See It
AKA — Also Known As
AMBW — All My Best Wishes
ANFAWFOWS — And Now For A Word
From Our Web Sponsor
AOAS — All Of A Sudden
ASAP — As Soon As Possible
A/S/L? — Age/Sex/Location?
ATST — At The Same Time
AWA — As Well As

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - B

B4N or BFN — Bye For Now
BAC — Back At Computer
BBFBBM — Body By Fisher, Brains By
Mattel
BBIAB — Be Back In A Bit
BBIAF — Be Back In A Few
BBL — Be Back Later
BBN — Bye Bye Now
BBS — Be Back Soon
B/C — Because
BCNU — Be Seeing You
BF — Boyfriend
BFD — Big Friggin' Deal
BHOFF — Bald Headed Old Fart
BITGOD — Back In The Good Old
Days
BL — Belly Laugh
BM — Byte Me
BMGWL — Busting My Gut With
Laughter
BOT — Back On Topic
BR — Bathroom
BRB — Be Right Back
BS — Big Smile
BSOD — Blue Screen Of Death (in
Windows)
BTA — But Then Again
BTDT — Been There, Done That
BTW — By The Way
BTWBO — Be There With Bells On
BWDIK — But What Do I Know?
BWL — Bursting With Laughter
BYAM — Between You And Me
BYTM — Better You Than Me

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - C

CID — Consider It Done
CIO — Check It Out
CMIW — Correct Me If I'm Wrong
CNP... — Continued (in my) Next Post

CRBT — Crying Real Big Tears
CU — See You
CUL — See You Later
CUL8R — See You Later
CUS — See You Soon
CWYL — Chat With You Later
CYA — Cover Your A**
CYAL8R — See Ya Later
CTS — Consider the source

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - D

DBEYR — Don't Believe Everything
You Read
DETI — Don't Even Think It
DGT — Don't Go There
DHYB — Don't Hold Your Breath
DILLIGAD — Do I Look Like I Give A
Damn
DKDC — Don't Know Don't Care
DL or D/L — Download
DLTBBB — Don't Let The Bed Bugs
Bite
DOM — Dirty Old Man
DOS — Dozing Off Soon
DQYDJ — Don't Quit Your Day Job
DRIB — Don't Read If Busy
DTRT — Do The Right Thing
DWB — Don't Write Back
DWPOTL — Deep Wet Passionate Kiss
On The Lips

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - E

EAK — Eating At Keyboard
EG — Evil Grin
EMSG — Email Message
EOD — End Of Discussion
EOL — End Of Lecture
EOM — End Of Message
EOR — End Of Rant
EOT — End Of (message) Thread
ES — Enough Said
ESO — Equipment Smarter Than
Operator
ETLA — Extended Three Letter Acronym

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - F

FAQ — Frequently Asked Questions
F2F — Face To Face
FC — Fingers Crossed
FCOL — For Crying Out Loud
FNB — Football And Beer
FOAF — Friend Of A Friend
FOB — Fresh Off The Boat
FOFL — Falling On The Floor Laughing

FOMCL — Fell Off My Chair Laughing
FUBAR — Fouled Up Beyond All Recognition
FUD — Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt
FTASB — Faster Than A Speeding Bullet
FTTB — For The Time Being
FWIW — For What I's Worth
FYA — For Your Amusement
FYI — For Your Information

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - G

G — Grin
G2G — Gotta Go
GAL — Get A Life
GAS — Greetings And Salutations
GD&R — Grinning, Ducking And Running
GF — Girlfriend
GFN — Gone For Now
GGP — Gotta Go Pee
GIGO — Garbage In, Garbage Out
GIWIST — Gee, I Wish I'd Said That
GL — Good Luck
GLYASDI — God Loves You And So Do I
GMAB — Give Me A Break
GMBO — Giggling My Butt Off
GMTA — Great Minds Think Alike
GNBLFY — Got Nothing But Love For You
GR8 — Great
GTG — Got To Go
GTSY — Glad To See You

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - H

H&K or HAG — Hug And Kiss
HAGN — Have A Good Night
HAND — Have A Nice Day
HB — Hurry Back
HCIT — How Cool Is That
HF — Have Fun
HHIS — Hanging Head In Shame
HHOK — Ha Ha, Only Kidding
HIG — How's It Going
HIIK — Heck If I Know
HMOFG — Holy Mother Of Friggin' God
HOAS — Hold On A Second
HT — Hi There
HTH — Hope This Helps
HUB — Head Up Butt

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - I

IAC — In Any Case
IAE — In Any Event
IAG — It's All Good

IANAL — I Am Not A Lawyer, (but...)
IBTD — I Beg To Differ
IC — I See
IDGI — I Don't Get It
IDST — I Didn't Say That
IDTS — I Don't Think So
IDTT — I'll Drink To That
IGP — I Gotta Pee
IIRC — If I Recall Correctly
IIWM — If It Were Me
IKWUM — I Know What You Mean
ILICISCOMK — I Laughed, I Cried, I Spat Coffee (or Coke) On My Keyboard
ILY — I Love You
IMNSHO — In My Not So Humble Opinion
IMO — In My Opinion
IMHO — In My Humble Opinion
INMP — It's Not My Problem
INPO — In No Particular Order
IOW — In Other Words
IRL — In Real Life
ISS — I Said So
ISWYMI — See What You Mean
ITIGBS — I Think I'm Gonna Be Sick
ITM — In The Money

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - J

J4G — Just For Grins
JFYI — Just For Your Information
JK — Just Kidding
JIC — Just In Case
JMHO — Just My Humble Opinion
JMO — Just My Opinion
JMS — Just Making Sure
JTLYK — Just To Let You Know
JTYWTK — Just Thought You Wanted To Know
JW — Just Wondering

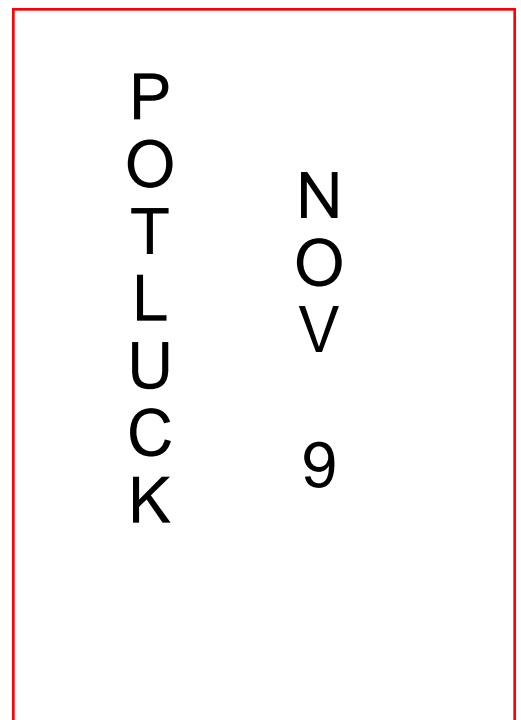
ACRONYM DICTIONARY - K

K — OK
KISS — Keep It Simple, Stupid
KIR — Keeping It Real
KIT — Keep In Touch
KMA — Kiss My A**
KMYF — Kiss Me You Fool
KOC — Kiss On Cheek
KOL — Kiss On Lips
KOTC — Kiss On The Cheek
KWIM — Know What I Mean
KYPO — Keep Your Pants On

ACRONYM DICTIONARY - L

L — Laugh
L8R — Later
L8R G8R — Later 'Gator
LAB&TYD — Life's A Bitch & Then You Die
LDTTWA — Let's Do The Time Warp Again
LHM — Lord Help Me
LHO — Laughing Head Off
LHU — Lord Help Us
LLTA or — Lots And Lots Of Thunderous Applause
LMAO — Laughing My A** Off
LMHO — Laughing My Head Off
LMK — Let Me Know
LMSO — Laughing My Socks Off
LOL — Laugh Out Loud
LSHMBB — Laughing So Hard My Belly is Bouncing
LSHMBH — Laughing So Hard My Belly Hurts
LTIC — Laughing 'Til I Cry
LTNS — Long Time No See
LTR — Long Term Relationship
LTS — Laughing To Self
LUWAMH — Love You With All My Heart
LY — Love Ya
LY4E — Love You Forever
LYL — Love Ya Lots
LYLAS — Love You Like A Sister

[to be continued next month]



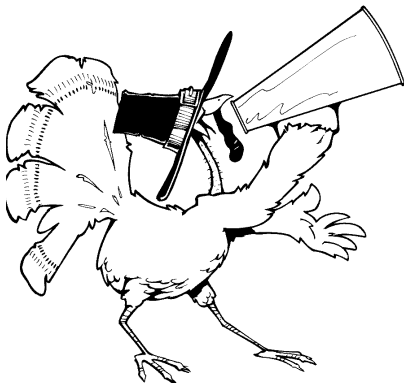


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Next Meeting: Saturday, 11/9/2002

Place: Sonoma Public Library
755 West Napa Street

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00a.m.

Topic: *Potluck and Demos.*

CD GOODIES BUNDLE raffle