



January 4, 2001 Meeting Announcement

MGI

The Steve and Alan Show

The January DVPC meeting is a double-header. We'll have MGI with their latest products including *PhotoSuite 4*, *VideoWave 4*, and the webTools line which includes *PhotoVista 2.0*, *PhotoVista 3D Objects*, and *Reality Studio*. We'll see demos of many of these products and perhaps even some of MGI's other packages like *Pure DIVA*, *Looney Tunes Photofun*, and *YM Digital Makeover Magic*.

And then, held over from the December meeting because Steve got caught in traffic and didn't make the meeting, we'll (finally) have our annual Comdex reprise, **The Steve and Alan Show**, complete with show-and-tell, product scoops, tidbits, rumors, and random data direct from Las Vegas venue of Comdex.

DVPC meetings are held in the lobby conference room in Building B at the Bank of America Technology Center office complex in Concord, located near the northeast corner of Clayton Road at Galindo (see the Map to Monthly Meetings on page 15). Please use the main entrance of the building, which is in the center of the front of the building that faces Clayton road.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. We will have the next installment of **PC 101**, our New Users SIG class run by Craig Peterson on how to use the computer, at 6:15 p.m. This month's class is titled "Data transference — or how to get the stuff from here to there". The classes are open to all members.

We'll also have the Networking Table from 6:30 to 7:00; if you have something to sell or trade, need technical help, or just want to exchange views, visit the Networking Table. We may have one of our ever-popular mini-auctions with great products, so bring your checkbooks and cash! Also, as usual, we'll have library disks and those great DVPC mugs (version 2) for sale, SIG news, random access, and some of our usual great door prizes.

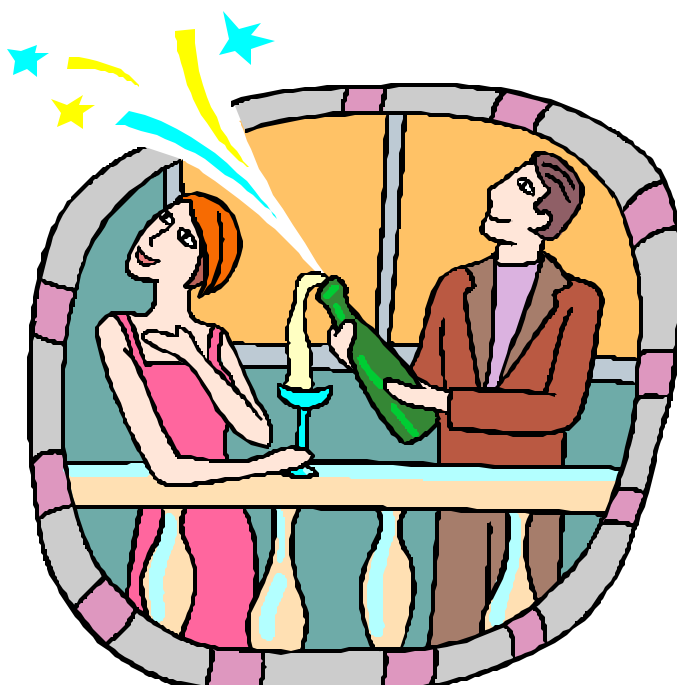
See you at the meeting!

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President's Corner

by Alan Mildwurm



Have a happy New Year!

Controversial Cue-Cat by [Barbara Kreiss](#), Amador Computer Users Group

There is a catfight going on about a cat-shaped scanner called a "CueCat," being given out by companies such as Radio Shack and *Forbes* and *Wired* magazines to their customers. The maker, Digital Convergence, began shipping more than 1 million of the scanners in hopes of introducing customers to a new technology that bridges the printed word with the Web. By installing the little hand scanner to your computer, customers can swipe bar codes either on products or within printed ads in magazines or catalogs to go to related Web sites with more information. Users must first go to the Digital Convergence Website and register personal information such as name, email address, gender, age range and ZIP code. "Whenever you scan something, your browser will make a connection with Digital Convergence's site, reports the bar code, your device number and a token that identifies you as an individual," a spokesman at an Internet security consultant group called Interhack said. Privacy advocates have expressed concerns about the possibility.

Recently a security breach at Digital Convergence caused 140,000 consumer names, email addresses and zip codes to be exposed. "For the people that registered via our Web site... a hacker exploited a known error in the data script and was able to look into the data file," said Dave Mathews, vice president of new product development at Dallas-based Digital Convergence. "From there, they could extrapolate the name, email address, age range, gender and Zip code of new members." DigitalConvergence took immediate steps to close the hole, and sent details about the problem and \$10 gift certificates to the compromised customers. Similar problems at companies such as Eve.com, IKEA's catalog order site and Amazon.com have occurred within the last few months.

The fact that data has been compromised due to security breaches and the "appearance" of customer tracking by Digital convergence has some privacy groups concerned. Researchers say each scanner's unique ID number could be used to trace the actions of an individual user and create a detailed database on what the consumer is interested in, along with their email address and personal information they have registered. A Digital Convergence spokesman said however, that the company is not tracking this type of information. He said customer registration information is retained only for the purposes of general demographics. "There is a unique ID within the CueCat so that we can see that some Cats came from Forbes and some came from Wired," said Dave Mathews, vice president of new product development at Digital Convergence. "(But) individualized serial numbers are not designed to track individual behavior." Privacy advocates counter that the company has not adequately disclosed its practices.

Meanwhile, inventive programmers have found a way to use the CueCat without registering. One way is not to use the Cat's software. Cat Kit 32 at members.aol.com/powercntrl lets you download free software that decodes the output of the scanner into any 32-bit windows application. Or check out www.readerware.com, where you'll find a product that can catalog your book library by swiping the bar codes on your books. And because you don't have to use the software that comes with Cue Cat, privacy issues aren't a concern. Readerware has been around for a while, and they now support Linux. (This software is \$40, but you can try it free for 30 days.)

Get your kitty-cat when you ask for a catalog at your local Radio Shack.

(This article is brought to you by the Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer Users Groups (APCUG), an international organization to which your user group belongs. Excerpted from *Seen In The News*, Amador Computer Users Group's Bytes & Bites Online ©2000 Barbara Kreiss. Reprinted with permission.)

Ken's Korner by [Ken Fermoye](#)

Is Relief in Sight from the Barrage of Irsome TV Commercials

Are you fed up with the seemingly endless barrage of commercials crammed into your favorites TV shows and sports events? If so, join the club! But relief may be in sight, according to Electronic Digest (Sept. 5, 2000 issue).

The magazine reports that sophisticated new integrated circuit controllers will improve performance of Set-Top Boxes and Personal Video Recorders (STBs/PVRs). The new ICs will make the devices less expensive and more versatile. This should eventually change their status

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Ken's Korner...

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from novelties with appeal to a limited market of "early adopters" to appliances that gradually will take the place of today's VCRs.

Electronic Design also notes that the new controllers "can be used to manage arriving and departing data streams, into and out of set-top boxes, storage devices, digital TVs. PVRs," from a variety of sources, including broadband cable, satellites, terrestrial and IP (Internet Protocol) networks.

What does this have to do with computers? PVR technology is digital, like computers, not analog like VCRs, and data is stored on a hard drive, like computers, not on magnetic tape. A PVR will do everything that a VCR can, but with significant improvements.

For example, I have about given up on watching a lot of TV when it is aired, especially movies. Instead, I record them on a VCR and play them back later, fast-forwarding through commercial breaks. This scenario works even better with a PVR. You can record a program in real time but pause it at any point, at a commercial break, for example.

The PVR keeps recording the program while you get fresh coffee, go to the bathroom or whatever. When you return and hit the Pause button again, the recorder picks up where it left off, playing the program back from the hard drive. Now you can fast forward quickly through the commercials and enjoy what you really wanted to see.

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Adobe LiveMotion Special Offer by Harry Skevington, Adobe Systems

**Adobe LiveMotion Competitive Upgrade
Now Available to DVPC Members for Only \$99!**

As a service to a long time sponsor I am sending this special offer to all members of the Diablo Valley PC User's Group who may be interested.

Adobe Systems is currently offering LiveMotion for **only \$99** to any of our members who have an Adobe or competitive Web product. That's a *savings of \$200*. This special offer ends **February 28, 2001**. Qualifying products include Adobe® Premiere®, Photoshop®, Illustrator®, GoLive(tm), After Effects®, Photoshop LE, PageMill®, ImageStyler™, or ImageReady™, or Macromedia® Flash™, Dreamweaver®, or Fireworks®.

Adobe LiveMotion lets you rapidly create vector-based Websites with motion, sound, and interactivity. With this innovative software, you can unleash your creativity, enhance your productivity, and streamline your workflow through superior integration with Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and GoLive. LiveMotion is a must-have for creating cutting-edge, sophisticated Web graphics and animations.

DVPC members can order Adobe LiveMotion at:

www.adobe.com/offer/71405>www.adobe.com/offer/71405.

Or phone 800-967-7853 and mention offer 71405.

Don't miss this opportunity to add Adobe LiveMotion to your Web design toolset for only \$99.

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Moving? Changing Your E-mail Address?

Tell us so you will continue receiving Diablo Blue!

E-mail your name and new information to changes@dvpc.org

SIG NEWS Compiled by [Nick Chase](#), SIG Coordinator, DVPC, 680-4211

Be sure to see the DVPC Calendar on [page 16](#) for the date and time of each SIG meeting, and any changes in meeting location or schedule.

Access/Visual Basic SIG [Ron Ogg](#) (283-7900 Ext. 201) and [Ted Armstrong](#) (939-4096) SIG Co-Leaders

The Access/Visual Basic SIG meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. We are meeting at the San Francisco State University Extension at 1990 N. California Blvd., Suite 20, in Walnut Creek across the street from the Walnut Creek BART station and upstairs from the Federal Express office. Everyone who is interested in Access, Visual Basic, and VBA is encouraged to attend the SIG meetings.

Advanced Developers SIG [Ron Ogg](#), SIG Leader – 283-7900 Ext. 201

The Advanced Developers SIG is a learning co-op. Every month we choose a topic and let people know where they can learn about it. We then get together and go over the information on a computer with a projector. We hope that if everyone learns a little on their own, and when we get together everyone can learn a lot. If you are an advanced developer you are invited to join the ADSIG. Beginners will want to get some serious development experience before joining the SIG.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 2000 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 185, in San Ramon. Take the Crow Canyon exit off of 680 and go east to the first signal. Turn left and go to the third driveway on your left; there is a large sign at the driveway entrance that says "2000". Turn in and enter into the building at your left.

Advanced Users SIG [Jeff and Sharon Noyer](#), SIG Co-Leaders – 778-4348

The Advanced Users SIG meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at 4208 Amargosa Drive in Antioch. Directions: Go east on Highway 4 through Antioch to the Hillcrest Avenue exit. At the light at the end of the exit ramp, go right onto Hillcrest Avenue, and then stay towards your left. At the 3rd light, Hillcrest Avenue turns to the left. Go left and stay on Hillcrest. (Landmark: "The Crossings" Shopping Center is at intersection). At the 4th light, go left onto Wildhorse Drive. (Landmark: 7-Eleven on corner at intersection). At the 2nd left turn, go left onto Meadow Lake Drive. At the 4th right turn, go right onto Amargosa Drive. 4208 Amargosa Drive is the 3rd house on your right, blue and white one-story. The Advanced Users SIG is for anyone interested in discussing advanced topics such as hardware and software issues, cutting-edge technologies, networking, Windows NT Server and Workstation, troubleshooting, etc. Please join us to participate in this very informative and educational forum. We hope to see you at the meeting!

Genealogy eSIG [Peggy Johnson](#), SIG Leader – 676-7522

The DVPC Genealogy SIG is a group of computer genealogists who share helpful websites, databases and source information found on the internet. It's an opportunity for members seeking help to put forth a question or problem to the SIG and receive suggestions and advice. When you locate a useful website, database or visit a research facility, please email the group of the details so we also can take advantage of this information. If you wish to be included in this Genealogy SIG, please email Peggy Johnson, pegszone@aol.com.

Education and Entertainment SIG [Alan Mildwurm](#), SIG Leader – 510-770-5770

The Education & Entertainment SIG usually meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Montevideo School in San Ramon at 7:30 p.m. Check the DVPC web site (www.dvpc.org) for information about each month's meeting. The E&E SIG is oriented to exploring the best in education and entertainment software for the PC. Come back in the fall when everyone is invited to attend our meetings, and bring your kids along - they'll have a great time, too! Directions for our next meetings: Take 680 to Bollinger Canyon Road, go west to San Ramon Valley Blvd., go south to Montevideo Rd. and turn left. Proceed east on Montevideo about 3 blocks to Broadmoor and turn left. The school is 1 block on the right. We meet in Room 22.

Internet SIG [Craig Peterson](#), SIG Leader – 671-7025

The Internet SIG meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at Computer Renaissance, 959 Contra Costa Blvd. in Pleasant Hill. We cover everything about the Internet, [\(Continued on page 5\)](#)

SIG NEWS...

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from browsing and email to creating your own web site and the tools for doing so. For more information, please call Craig Peterson by email at compmail@pacbell.net or by phone at 671-7025.

The SIG would like to recommend the following sites: For those New Year's resolutions: www.all-4-free.com/specials/newyear.html; now that the new millennium is here at long last: www.greenwich2000.com/; to observe Dr. King's birthday: www.thekingcenter.com/. If you like these sites or have others you would like to share, come to the next Internet SIG meeting. There you can find and share all that is out there in the "wild, wild web".

Linux SIG *Mark Allen*, SIG Leader (680-7746)

The Linux SIG meets on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Fireside Room of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Concord at 7:00 p.m. The SIG will be exploring the usefulness of Linux, primarily for the power computer enthusiast on the workstation, but it will also be sponsoring special emphasis nights exploring the web server and administrative server, skills development for expanding Linux markets and workshops for advanced computer tweaking strategies. Our own InstallFests for people who can experiment with their equipment are inevitable. I'd like to see as many current DVPC members who have an interest in the possibilities of Linux at the meetings as possible, to see what directions we should concentrate on. We should have some seasoned Linux system testers on hand to speak, plainly, about what is possible and what currently isn't on the hardware and software sides and what areas of the computer world market Linux is likely to be useful in. We would appreciate it if you would read some of the materials on the Linux SIG News page on the DVPC website for directions to the meetings, site links, and member white papers on different aspects of configuring, learning, and using Linux.

Microsoft Project SIG *Elias Asmar*, SIG Leader – 299-8500

The Microsoft Project SIG meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at InterPro ADF's office at 3569 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 210 in Lafayette. Park in the lot behind Radio Shack. The entrance to suite 210 is at the back of the building. Enter through the door marked "210" at the parking lot end of the walkway from the street and take the stairs to the second floor. Everyone who is interested in Microsoft Project and project management is invited to attend. If you plan on attending, please call Elias Asmar at 925-299-8500, Fax 925-299-8511, or send an email message to him at: elie.asmar@iadf.com.

New Users SIG *Bill Earl*, SIG Leader – 939-5874

The New Users SIG holds its meetings at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular DVPC monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at Bank of America building B. We discuss whatever is confusing or puzzling new PC users. If you are a new user of PCs who would like to meet with other new users – and some experienced users who can answer your questions as well – then join us at the New Users SIG meetings at 6:30 p.m. prior to each DVPC monthly meeting. Also, remember that PC 101 (a class on how to use the computer; see the Meeting Announcement on page 1 for more information) will start at 6:15 in the back of the room. The classes are open to all members.

Photo SIG *Chuck Graham*, SIG Leader – 680-1333

The Photo SIG usually meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Graham Family Photo, 5100-35 Clayton Road, Concord. Vineyard Center at Ayers Road next to KMart. Call for directions at 925 680-1333 or check out our map at www.grahamphoto.com. Please bring anyone that is interested the Photo SIG. Please continue to let me know what your interest are. Also be sure to see our page on the DVPC web site at www.dvpc.org/photo.html.

Real Estate SIG *Bill Thompson*, SIG Leader – 693-0174

The Real Estate SIG meeting location is still being researched, so meetings are postponed until a new location can be finalized. The relocation is required because the Insurance Commissioner's office is prosecuting 5 other title companies for current RESPA violations. My

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SIG NEWS...

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boss and I are trying to figure out how to side step the commissioners office and make our efforts legal. If you have any ideas they would be appreciated. Contact SIG Leader Bill Thompson at 925-998-8530 or email at thompson@dlsnetwork.com for additional information.

Windows SIG [Ron Ogg](#) (283-7900 Ext. 201) and [Walt Parsons](#) (934-0775), SIG Co-Leaders

The Windows SIG usually meets at the Community Room at the Concord Police Department Building on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Everyone who uses, is interested in, or is curious about Windows on their PC is invited to attend.

We aren't meeting in January because the first Monday is New Year's Day. See you on February 5.

Directions: The Concord Police Department is at 1350 Galindo Street in Concord. From the 242 Freeway take Clayton Road east to Galindo and turn right; the Police Department building is 3 blocks south on your left. From Highway 24 take Monument Blvd. east and continue on Monument Blvd. to where it changes to Galindo; the Police Department building will be on your right a short distance past the signal at Cowell Road.

Switch to the Diablo Blue Web Edition

*"I am a real computer person and as such recognize the ultimate reality of the **'Paperless Society'**. In keeping with this spirit and in an effort to help DVPC reduce overhead costs, I say "Nay" to a written newsletter. Give it to me electronically, I want to get my copy of DVPC's Diablo Blue off the Web. (I can always print it out on blue paper and don't even have to admit that I did!)"* Turn in this form at the monthly meeting – or email to:

nopaper@dvpc.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email address for meeting notification: _____

Also notify me about these SIGs:

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DVPC Board Meeting Minutes by Tom Krauss, DVPC

Meeting Date: December 12, 2000 **Time:** 7:00 p.m. **Location:** Alan Mildwurm's house

Bank Account: \$1,700 (approximately)

Despite the best attempts of Alan and my fellow Board members to keep me away from the pizza, I made it to the meeting, which was moved to Tuesday this month. I was late, but I made it and there was still pizza left.

New Business:

Next Speakers: The next few meetings should be pretty interesting (but then, aren't they all?). January brings *The Steve and Allan Show* and MGI. Steve and Alan were to have been at the January meeting, but were held over in Las Vegas or something and had to postpone. MGI, as always, will offer tremendous discounts on products that will appear as surprises in cereal boxes the following day. February, if I read Ron's notes correctly, will bring Power-Quest, and March MP3 music. You may want to tell your kids about the March meeting: MP3 is really popular with the younger crowd. My kids listen to their records all the time.

Elections: And then, in April, our elections. Hopefully the results won't take a month to be known. (Someone pointed out that as we got down to business at the November Board meeting the polls had just closed and Bush had been declared the winner in Florida. As we sat down at the December meeting, the Supreme Court was in the process of de facto declaring Bush the winner and the Court's prestige the loser.) When I started programming, in the late 60's, we had to deal with hanging, dimpled etc. chad on our punch cards. Only we didn't call it "chad" back then. It's taken us over thirty years to learn it's name. If I remember correctly, the technical term we used was "paper hole crap", especially when it got in your desk drawer and your lunch.

Web Site: Ron reported we are running out of room on our we site. To free up space he has deleted the PDF versions of Diablo Blue editions older than three months. Ron also reported on a little know URL where you can download Widows 98 SE for **free**. This is a legitimate deal. Look for the details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Video Projector: Ron reported having seen one that weighs only five pounds and has all the [\(Continued on page 9\)](#)

Email Meeting Notification Available by Ron Ogg, DVPC

We're providing an Email Notification service for the DVPC monthly meeting, and for SIGs as well, for all current, paid-up members. If you're interested in receiving an email message announcing each monthly meeting, and for the SIGs you attend, fill out this form and mail to the address on page 16 of this copy of *Diablo Blue*. Note that there's no separate notification for the New Users' SIG since it's held on the same night as the monthly meeting.

Send me Email notification of each monthly DVPC meeting:

Name _____

Email Address _____

Also send me Email notification of each of the SIG meetings I've checked below:

Access/VB SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Linux SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced Developers SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Microsoft Project SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced Users SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photo SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education and Entertainment SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Real Estate SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Genealogy eSIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Windows SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internet SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Attn: DVPC Members!
Value Net is your best value for
ADSL (for home or office)!

Value Net
doesn't charge
extra for ADSL!

Value Net

ADSL is a remarkable new technology that allows fulltime high speed connection to the Internet, and Value Net isn't even charging you for it! For home (single station) ADSL, you only pay our regular low monthly rate (see below), and Pacbell charges only \$39/month for the DSL line. For this low flat rate, you are always on, at speeds that put dial-up to shame!

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Available Services include:

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- ISDN Lan-to-Internet
- Web Hosting
- Centrex ISDN
- Custom Business Solutions

Get a Friend to Join DVPC!

DVPC Board Meeting Minutes...

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features possible. The price is around \$4500. This is one technology that is extremely predictable. In early 1996 (I looked this up) when we first began talking about this, new projectors cost around \$4500. This is the only computer related technology where the price has not changed significantly in nearly five years. It is also the only one that Steve and Alan do not com back from Comdex raving about.

Maintenance Tip: Have you ever had trouble removing unwanted software from your computer? Then you'll want to hear this tip from Charlie. He told us his sad adventure trying to load Panda, then trying to remove it. He was unsuccessful with both actions. So after hours of frustration, how did Charlie finally resolve his problem with the Software that Wouldn't Die? He destroyed his hard drive.

If you try Charlie's tip but are unsuccessful, Charlie would be more than happy to drop by your house and destroy your hard drive for you. As a bonus, he may bring some video projector catalogues with him...

Ken's Korner...

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You will also be able to do your own instant replays; just rewind, then replay segments you want to view again. You can also preprogram a PVR to record favorite program automatically, just as with a VCR.

(Note: If you currently use a PVR and service like TiVo, Ken Fermoye would love to hear about your experiences with these technologies for possible use in a future article. E-mail him at kfermoyle@earthlink.net.)

Wireless Headset Is First To Meet Bluetooth Standard

You may or may not have heard the name "Bluetooth" in the past, but you are sure to hear it a lot in the future. Reason? Bluetooth is expected to be the jumping-off point for a giant leap forward in wireless communications.

To understand why, you need only recall the story of the Tower of Babel. Inability to communicate stymied its builders. That's been true of wireless communication devices. Until now. An industry-wide Special Interest Group developed the Bluetooth standard to ensure interoperability between wireless devices such as cellular phones, computers, and PDAs (personal digital assistants).

Nokia, Ericsson, 3Com, IBM, and Lucent Technologies are among the more than 100 companies that make up the Bluetooth Special Interest Group.

Interestingly, a small New Hampshire company beat mobile phone biggies Nokia and L.M. Ericsson out of the Bluetooth starting gate. GN Netcom has announced one of the first officially qualified Bluetooth devices, its GN 9000 Bluetooth wireless headset.

Now a new headset might not seem like a big deal, but releasing one of the first Bluetooth devices is a "milestone" both for GN Netcom and for Bluetooth technology, according to Michelle Boockoff-Bajdek, the director of marketing communications at GN Netcom.

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Bring a friend! Get them to join DVPC!

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Ken's Korner...

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The product underwent the extensive testing required by the Bluetooth Qualification Body to ensure interoperability with the standard, Boockoff-Bajdek said. This is a crucial step, because "the success of Bluetooth as a standard hinges on interoperability," she said.

The headset will require a Bluetooth host device -- either the base station, which GN Netcom sells, or a Bluetooth card for a PC or PDA -- to operate. When such a device is present, the GN 9000 Bluetooth headset will offer users a mobile range of up to 30 feet (900 centimeters). The device will retail for \$299, and a package including the base station and headset will cost \$499.

Though this price level puts it out of the reach of small office/home office (SOHO) users, which includes most Ken's Korner readers, I agree with GN Netcom's Boockoff-Bajdek that the headset is a significant milestone. It is the harbinger of things to come, the "first robin" of a wireless communications spring, as it were.

We must put the cost into context, notes Paul Mahoney, the director of product marketing at GN Netcom. The idea of Bluetooth "is to allow [the consumer] to use a single device instead of six or seven," he said, adding that \$299 for a single product is not expensive compared to buying multiple items for multiple devices.

Flash Memory Gaining Ground As Portable Devices Increase

Perhaps "flash memory" is not part of our daily vocabularies, but the technology is rapidly becoming part of our lives, even if many of us don't realize it. Flash memory, you see, is used in cell phones, digital cameras, MP3 music players and other portable devices we all use more and more these days. It also plays a big role in unseen areas, such as networking networking devices from companies like Cisco.

Perhaps the most visible use of flash memory to consumers currently is in the little memory cards or sticks that slip in and out of digital cameras. Familiar brand names include SmartMedia and CompactFlash. Many other devices have built-in flash memory, so we aren't even aware that it's there.

But it is, and in growing numbers. Sales for 2000 are expected to hit \$10 billion or more, more than double the total for 1999. Manufacturers such as Intel, AMD, Atmel and Fujitsu will reap substantial profits as a result. And companies continue to announce new products or developments almost weekly.

For example, Intel Corporation in October 2000 introduced a new flash memory chip designed to enhance the performance of next-generation Internet phones and wireless devices. Intel claims that the new 1.8 Volt Wireless Flash Memory is the "highest performance flash chip available, carrying out key functions up to four times faster than existing flash solutions."

The increased performance will result in higher data throughput rates to speed up data-intensive Internet phone applications such as browsing, data streaming and text messaging, the company reports. Energy savings of up to 60 percent are also claimed for the new low-voltage memory.

In another indication of flash memory growth, AMD earlier announced that it has entered into an agreement with Hewlett-Packard Company (HP) to supply flash memory products over the next three years. Under the contract, AMD will provide HP with flash memory products designed to support a broad range of products including its inkjet printers and various print servers.

"Our high density and Page Mode flash memory devices offer an ideal complement to HP's innovative products," said Walid Maghribi, group vice president of AMD's Memory Group. [AMD](#)

Get Involved! Learn!
Join a SIG today!

Ken's Korner...

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produces a broad spectrum of flash memory products, including the award winning Simultaneous Read Write (SRW) product family, Super Low Voltage 1.8V flash memory devices, and Burst and Page mode devices. Significantly, all of AMD's flash memory products are guaranteed for a minimum of one million write cycles per sector and 20 years data retention, "making them the most reliable non-volatile memory devices offered in the industry," according to AMD claims.

Copyright 2000 by Ken Fermoye, Fermoye Publications. Ken Fermoye has written some 2,500 articles for publications ranging from Playboy and Popular Science to MacWeek, Microtimes & PC Laptop. Ken's Korner, a syndicated monthly column, is available free to User Groups. For information or permission to reprint this article, contact kfermoyle@earthlink.net.

Corel eNewsletter by Corel Marketing

The Goods on Graphics:

Out Now! CorelDRAW® 10 Graphics Suite – True Creative Power™

The biggest CorelDRAW upgrade ever is here! CorelDRAW 10 Graphics Suite gives graphics professionals and enthusiasts a comprehensive solution that truly simplifies the design process. Backed by a decade of creative power, this suite offers vector illustration, page layout, image-editing, painting and animation software all in one package.

The suite includes many new and enhanced features, including:

- a. Interactive tools that are more powerful and easy to use. New presets let you apply predefined settings to your work.
- b. A new color management system that saves you time by providing all of the essential color management options from one revolutionary interface. Remove the guesswork with three predefined color management styles or create your own color management profiles.
- c. Corel R.A.V.E™ (Real Animated Vector Effects™) a new application for creating dynamic vector animations and exporting them as Macromedia Flash™ files for the Web.

Order CorelDRAW 10 Graphics Suite from the Corel® Store!

For more information on CorelDRAW 10 Graphics Suite, visit www.corel.com/draw10.

Free Downloads, New Tips & Tricks and Much More at OfficeCommunity.com

This month, look for a fresh batch of Tips & Tricks to be posted to OfficeCommunity.com. We'll have tips for WordPerfect, Quattro Pro, Corel® Presentations™ and others. If you haven't been keeping up with past updates to the section, they're still available in the archive. And for those who may have missed it, we updated the Smart Tools section in late October. Drop by to download free clipart, photos, animations and borders.

For all of this and more, visit OfficeCommunity.com.

Quick Tip: Printing selected cells in Quattro Pro 9:

In Quattro Pro 9, you can print selected cells. This feature lets you print only the information you want from a spreadsheet.

To print selected cells:

1. Select the cells to print.
2. Click File, Print.
3. In the Print section, enable the Selection button.

The Latest On Linux®

Free Downloads, New Articles, Tips & Tricks, and More at Linux.Corel.com!

Ever thought about how to transfer all of the Windows® settings you've gathered through the years over to the Linux platform? Visit Linux.Corel.com today to find out how to do just that with a handy utility called Corel® SmartMove, included in Corel® LINUX® OS Second Edition.

(Continued on page 12)

Corel eNewsletter...

(Continued from page 11)

Plus, you can find a follow-up to our first article on Publishing Images to the Web in Corel PHOTO-PAINT® 9 for Linux. In Part II, you'll learn how to create image maps for use as a Web navigation tool. And don't forget that Linux.Corel.com is your one-stop source for product support, free downloads, Tips & Tricks and much more. Visit us today at Linux.Corel.com.

If you'd like to receive more detailed information on Corel and Linux, sign up to receive "The Cube", Corel's quarterly Linux eNewsletter. To read the most recent issue of "The Cube", visit linux.corel.com/cube.

Quick Tip: Choosing languages for the Corel LINUX OS desktop:

You can choose languages for the Corel LINUX OS desktop. This feature allows you to change the language in which the window, menus, and icons display on the Corel LINUX OS desktop.

To choose languages:

1. Click Application Starter, Control Center.
2. Double-click Desktop, and click Language.
3. Choose a language from all of the following list boxes:
 - a. First – sets the language for the first Corel LINUX OS desktop
 - b. Second – sets the language for the second Corel LINUX OS desktop
 - c. Third – sets the language for the third Corel LINUX OS desktop

Note: To apply changes you make to the language settings, you must log out of Corel LINUX OS and restart the Corel LINUX OS desktop.

For more useful tips to help you work smarter and more efficiently with Corel's Linux products, visit linux.corel.com/support/tips.htm.

At Corel, we respect your privacy. For information on our privacy policies, please visit www.corel.com/legal/privacy.htm or contact us at: Customer Service, Corel Corporation, 1600 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1Z 8R7, Attention: Privacy. Tel.: 1-613-728-8200 Fax: 1-613-761-9176. For Corel international sites, please visit www.corel.com/international/country.htm. For international phone numbers, visit www.corel.com/support/reach/index.htm.

Windows Tip by [Ron Ogg](#), DVPC

The CD for upgrading Windows 98 to Windows 98 SE was available only by ordering it from the Microsoft web site. The cost was about \$20 plus shipping. Now that Windows ME is shipping, Microsoft is no longer selling any version of Windows 98, including this Windows 98 Second Edition upgrade. However, all is not lost. Here is information about how you can get the Windows 98 SE upgrade:

To purchase the CD-ROM, call the Microsoft Supplemental Parts Department at 800-360-7561 and ask for the "Microsoft Windows SE Update CD" which costs only a \$5.00 shipping charge.

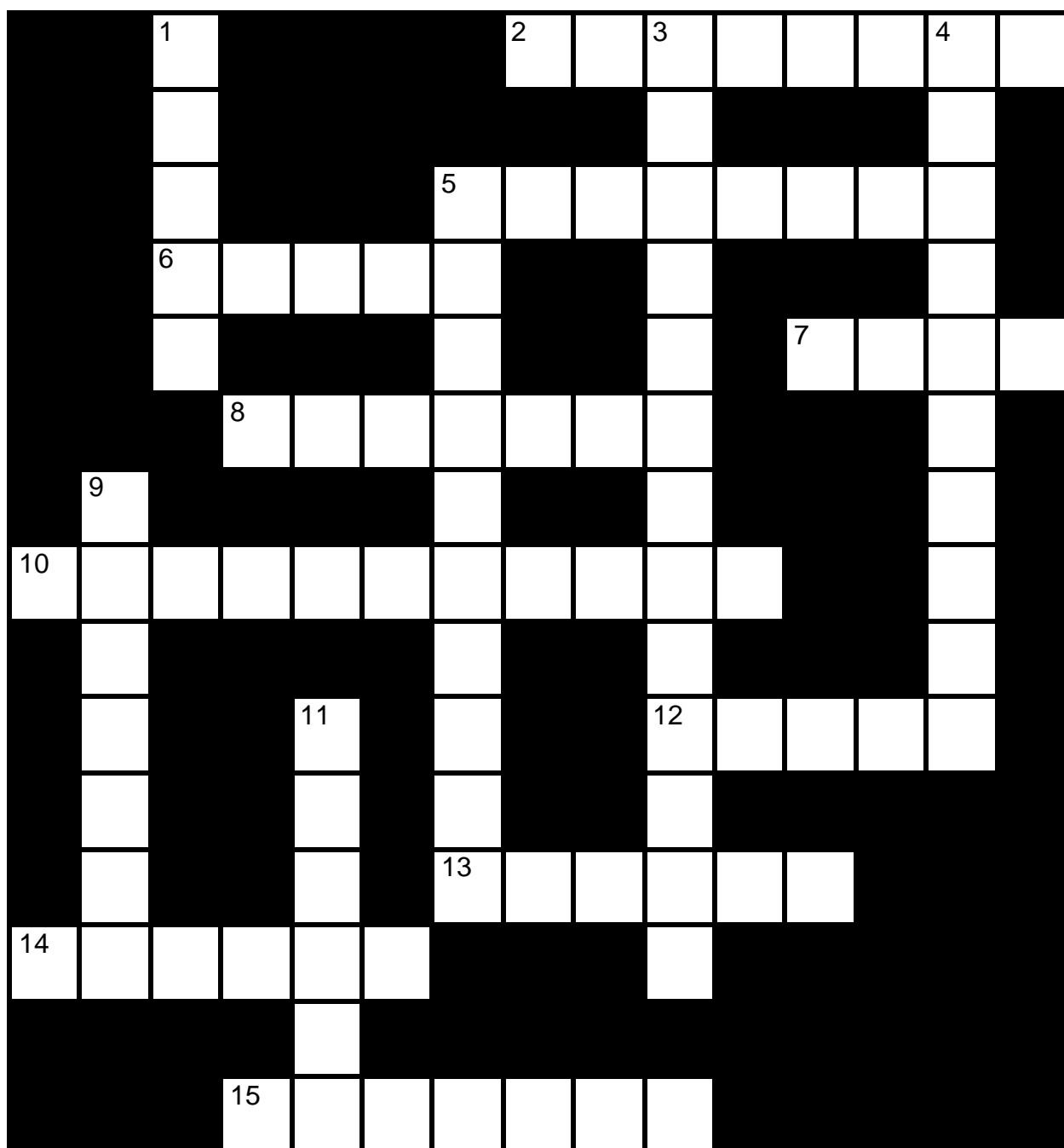
You can download the update or order the CD-ROM on line. The download is only practical if you have a DSL or cable modem Internet connection, because the file is huge. To download, go to www.microsoft.com/windows98/downloads/default.asp and click on the little "Download" folder in the top center of the screen. In the paragraph titled "Get the latest updates to Windows 98" you can click on two links: "Download the Service Pack from Windows Update" (then click on "PRODUCT UPDATES" and select the Windows Update – which won't be displayed if you have previously downloaded it or if you are already running Windows 98 SE) or "order the Service Pack on CD-ROM" (which costs only a \$5.00 shipping charge).

Because of the size of the download file, and the reliability of the upgrade when it is on a CD-ROM, I strongly recommend that you order the CD-ROM either by calling the phone number listed above, or from the Microsoft web site.

By the way, on the "PRODUCT UPDATES" page you can download and install the DirectX 8.0 Upgrade. If you don't have it yet, you should also download and install Microsoft Media Player 7.0. This is a major improvement over the prior versions.

Computer Crossword
"Happy NEW Year"

by *Craig Peterson*, DVPC



Across

- 2 New, as in the first (8)
- 5 New, as in not yet examined (8)
- 6 New, as in plant life (5)
- 7 New, as in program (4)
- 8 New, as in not yet known (7)
- 10 New, as in style (11)
- 12 New, as in unusual (5)
- 13 New, an in not old (6)
- 14 New, as in not yet used (6)
- 15 New, as in not yet tried (7)

Down

- 1 New, as in system (5)
- 3 New, as in just starting out (13)
- 4 New, as in just added (10)
- 5 New, as in strange (10)
- 9 New, as in not native (7)
- 11 New, as in current (6)

About the January Crossword Puzzle by *Craig Peterson*, DVPC Librarian

Now that we have come to the beginning to the new year (and "officially" to the 21st century), we have a brand new puzzle to solve.

Have fun!

Diablo Blue Article and Ad Information

Diablo Blue needs articles from the members of DVPC. See your name in print! Achieve fame and fortune! (Well, maybe just some limited fame in Contra Costa County...) We are particularly interested in product and book reviews and articles about your PC experiences.

Commercial advertising is available in Diablo Blue. Prices are \$75 for a full page, \$40 for a half page, and \$25 for a quarter page for one insertion — or get three consecutive insertions for the price of two. For more information, call editor Ronald Ogg, at 283-7900, Ext. 201 (days). Members of DVPC can submit personal classified ads that will be printed in Diablo Blue for three insertions at no charge. The rules are simple: up to 9 lines (as we typeset it), material must be suitable for publication (the editor is the sole judge of suitability), the member must be in good standing (current dues paid), and ad space is available on a first-come first-served space available basis only. If you want fewer than three insertions note that on your ad copy. If members want their business card reproduced, the rate is \$10 for one insertion, or \$25 for three insertions. The card must be horizontal and must be scannable.

Send your articles or member ad copy as email attachments to the [Newsletter Editor](#). See the deadline information in the Calendar on page 15 of each issue of Diablo Blue.

DVPC on the Internet

DVPC has a web site on the Internet - thanks to our Web Team: Ron Ogg and Stan Umlauf. You can surf your way to our own domain and home page by starting your favorite Web browser and typing the following URL; be sure to save it in your browser's hotlist so you don't have to type it each time: <http://www.dvpc.org>

DVPC Officers and Directors

Alan Mildwurm, President/Programs 510-770-5770 (work)

Mark Allen, Publicity 680-7746 (home)

Nicholas Chase, SIG Coordinator 680-4211 (home)

Charlie Crothers, At Large 829-2237 (home)

Peggy Johnson, Membership Secretary 676-7522 (home)

Tom Krauss, Secretary 689-9960 (home)

Jessica Mildwurm, Treasurer 829-5858 (home)

Ron Ogg, Newsletter Editor 415-281-0431 (work)

Craig Peterson, Librarian 671-7025 (home)

Stan Umlauf, Web Site 458-5560 (home)

The Board of Directors usually meets on the Wednesday evening following the general meeting each month. Check the DVPC Calendar on page 16 of each issue of *Diablo Blue*, or the DVPC home page on the Internet (www.dvpc.org) for the meeting date, time, and location. You can reach any of the officers and directors by talking to them at the DVPC monthly meeting, or leaving a message on the DVPC voicemail System.

DVPC Voice Mail System

DVPC has a computer-based voice mail system. The phone number for the DVPC VMS is 925-556-1449. This communication vehicle provides members with up-to-date information about monthly and SIG meetings, potential new members with information about DVPC, and a message center for Board of Directors members and SIG Leaders.

Diablo Blue is the monthly newsletter of the Diablo Valley PC Users' Group. Editor: Ronald Ogg,
Mailing: Peggy Johnson

Please submit articles and columns to the Newsletter editor by email at rogg@value.net
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The Diablo Valley PC Users' Group is a non profit corporation
DVPC is a member of [APCUG](#), the Association of PC Users Groups

DVPC is a certified member of [UGN](#), the User Group Network



Support **DVPC** — Get a friend to join!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Enclose a check for \$30.00 for one year's dues with printed edition of *Diablo Blue*, or \$25.00 for one year's dues with access to the Internet edition of *Diablo Blue* (\$20.00 for students who must enclose a copy of current Student ID), made payable to **DVPC** and mail to:
DVPC User's Group, PO Box 3244, San Ramon, CA 94583

Renewal _____ New Member _____ Referred by current member? Name _____

Name: _____

Company/School: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

On occasion DVPC publishes a list of members **for distribution to DVPC members only**. Please check how you would like to be listed: **No listing** _____ **List Name and Home** _____ **Work** _____ **phone number(s)** _____

I'm also interested in these SIGs: _____

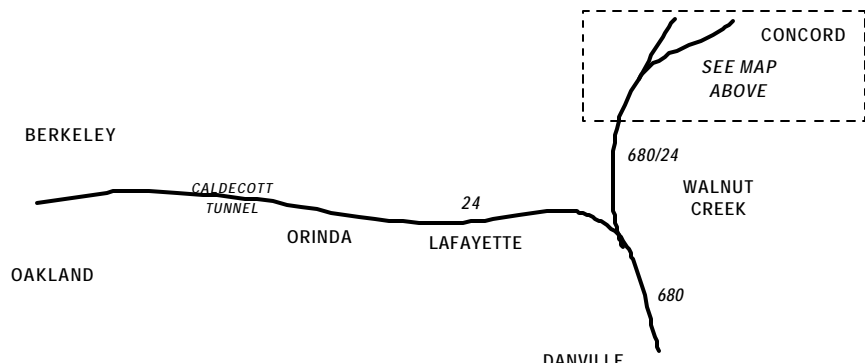
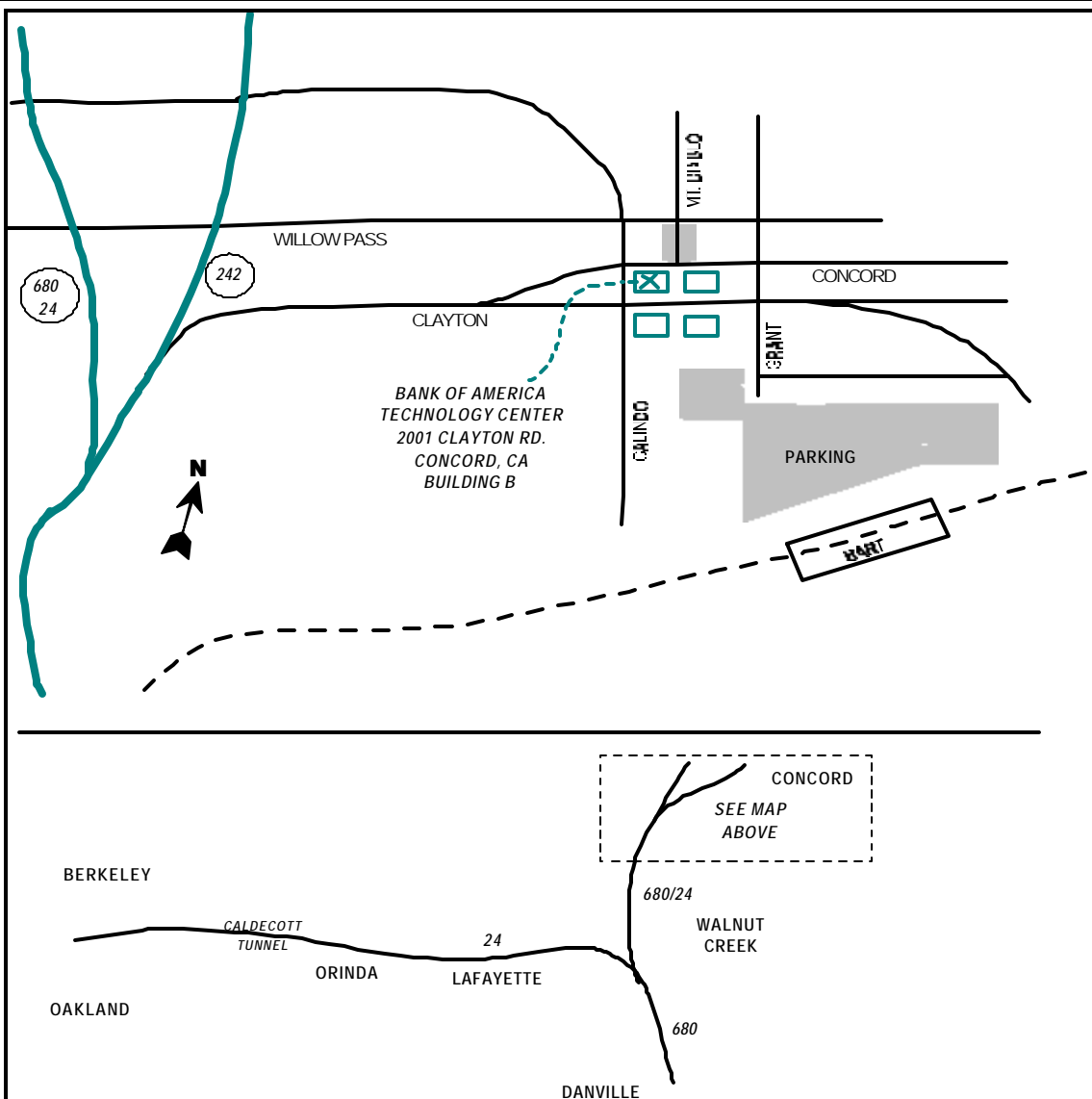
Directions to Bank of America Building B in Concord

Take the Clayton Road exit off of the 242 Freeway, and go east on Clayton Road. After about 1½ miles you'll come to Galindo, and you'll see the Bank of America complex of four high-rise office buildings.

Building B is the first building on your left, at the northeast corner of Clayton and Galindo.

Parking: Turn right on Grant Street (the first block past Galindo), then right into the BART parking lot at the back of the BofA complex. Or turn left on Galindo then right onto Concord Avenue to find street parking.

Be sure to observe parking regulations! Concord parking officers are very efficient!



DVPC January 2001 Calendar

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1 <i>New Year's Day</i> Windows SIG <i>No meeting in January – see you in February</i>	2	3	4 DVPC Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. PC 101 Class and New Users SIG 6:15 p.m.	5
8	9	10	11 Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Alan Mildwurm's house	12 Real Estate SIG <i>No meeting this month – see the DVPC web site</i>
15 Microsoft Project SIG 7:30 p.m. Genealogy eSIG See SIG News on page 4	16 Photo SIG 7:00 p.m.	17 Internet SIG 7:00 p.m.	18 Advanced Users SIG 7:30 p.m. Advanced Developers SIG 7:00 p.m.	19 <i>Diablo Blue deadline: Email articles and ads to the Newsletter Editor: rogg@value.net</i>
22	23 Access/Visual Basic SIG 7:30 p.m.	24 Education & Entertainment SIG 7:30 p.m.	25 Linux SIG 7:00 p.m.	26
29	30	31	<i>See SIG News starting on page 4 for more information about SIG meeting dates, times, topics, and locations</i>	

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:

Diablo Valley PC User's Group
PO Box 3244
San Ramon, CA 94583