

Diablo Blue

October, 2002



The Monthly Newsletter of the Diablo Valley PC User's Group

October 3, 2002 Meeting Announcement

Ask Dr. Tech and HP

Do you have problems with your computer? Your software? Your hardware? Don't know which? Do you wonder how you can get those problems solved? Well, *Ask Dr. Tech* may be the right choice for solving your problems. William Lam, president of Ask Dr. Tech Inc. (www.askdrtech.com), will tell us about the subscription support services his company provides for home and business users at our October meeting. Computer Help & Support for your PC or Mac. Unlimited live support all year round. Friendly help without the techno-jargon. Worldwide support access 24-hrs a day. Solve hardware & software problems. Over 40 tools & service benefits included. Join Ask Dr. Tech and get fast, friendly, expert help and technical support for your computer. Ask Dr. Tech has three home plans and a business plan. The basic Home Plan includes 24x7 phone and on-line support for PC and Mac hardware and software. And you get automated diagnostic tools, system maintenance tools, online virus scan, average response time of less than 7 minutes, and support for up to 5 computers. If you select Home Plan Plus you will also be able to use their Depot Repair Service for problems that can't be solved on line or over the phone, on-line data backup, and priority response time that averages less than 3 minutes. Home Plan Premier adds next business day on-site repair service and free failed parts replacement coverage — even including your monitor — to the Home Plan Plus benefits. The Business Plan adds the support of a dedicated account rep, business software support, support for handheld computers, and support for up to 50 computers to the features of the Home Plan Premier.

HP, the company that is the result of the merger between Hewlett-Packard and Compaq, has announced a brand new line of printers and scanners. We'll see a presentation on their new black and white and color laser printers, color inkjet printers, and multi-function printers that also act as copiers, scanners, and fax machines. HP has always been the leading printer manufacturer, and is also one of the top scanner manufacturers. Their new color scanner models range from economy scanners for home use, photo scanners for digitizing your photographs, and high-end page scanners that have high resolution, high speed, and can also scan transparencies including 35mm slides. The HP and Compaq product lines were merged, and these new scanner models are the result. This should be a very interesting presentation!

DVPC meetings are held in the lobby conference room in Building B at the Bank of America Technology Center

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President's Corner

by Alan Mildwurm, DVPC

The End of an Era

Remember when people talked about computers leading us to the paperless society? Well, you have arrived! For those of you clutching the current issue of *Diablo Blue* in your hands, this issue represents the end of an era. The October issue is the last printed and mailed issue of the DVPC newsletter.

Simple economics have led to the conclusion that printing and mailing a hardcopy newsletter every month is no longer financially feasible. Worry not; all the columns you have grown to love will still be published! Our newsletter is just morphing itself to a 100% on-line publication. Those of you who need or want a printed copy can still print out your very own hardcopy from the DVPC web site and read it in all those places where you don't have a computer! You can even choose your own shade of blue for the

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Meeting Announcement...

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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 entrance that's on the east side near the southeast corner of the building. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

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.

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 will have one of our pre-meeting games, with a great prize for the winner! Also, as usual, we'll have library disks and those great DVPC mugs (version 2) for sale, SIG news, and some of our usual great door prizes.

Diablo Blue Switching to Web-Only Version by Ron Ogg, DVPC

If you've read Alan Mildwurm's *President's Corner* column on page 1 of this issue, you learned about some of the changes to *Diablo Blue*. We were one of the first user groups to publish their newsletter on the Internet, starting with the June, 1996 issue. The first two issues were in html format, published as zip files, and didn't have the same format as the printed newsletter. The August, 1996 issue wasn't a zip file, but again had a different format than the printed version. There was no web version in September, 1996, but starting with the October, 1996 issue the on-line version looked like the printed version. We added an Adobe Acrobat pdf version of the newsletter starting with the September, 1998 issue so members could read the entire issue using Adobe Acrobat Reader. We've published the Web version more-or-less continuously, though we did have to skip a few issues here and there when we ran into problems either with Microsoft Publisher or Adobe Acrobat. We use Microsoft Publisher to layout the newsletter, and use many of its advanced features like linking frames, rotating text, inserting objects like Excel spreadsheets and our crossword puzzle, and automatic "*Continued on page x*" / "*Continued from page y*" references. These are features that are either missing or difficult to use in other reasonably priced desktop publishing packages.

One problem with the Acrobat pdf version was that the files tended to be huge, typically 600K to 750K in size. Recently a combination of improved features in both Microsoft Publisher and Adobe Acrobat 5 has resulted in pdf files that are significantly smaller. For example, the September Acrobat pdf version of *Diablo Blue* is 289K, less than half the previous typical size. And we are doing some reformatting that we hope will make the pdf files as much as half that size in the future. One of these changes takes effect with this October issue. We've eliminated the active navigation links on each page and article; you can navigate pages using Acrobat Reader's *Thumbnails* tab. We've also eliminated the active links for email addresses and URLs; you can click the T (Text) icon on the Acrobat toolbar, then copy email addresses and URLs from the issue you are viewing and paste them into your email message or browser.

Of course, you'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader to be able to view and/or print the Web edition of *Diablo Blue*. If you don't have version 5, download it by going to: www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html. Choose your operating system version, check the box that reads "*Include option for searching Adobe PDF files and accessibility support*", and click the Download button. Note that if you already have an earlier version of Acrobat Reader installed, you need to uninstall it using *Add/Remove Software* in Control Panel before installing version 5.

The current month's issue of *Diablo Blue* will be password protected; you will receive an email message with the password each month if your membership is current. Make sure that we have your current email address! You can use the form on page 7 of this issue, or send your name and email address to nopaper@dvpc.org.

Proud Dad Here! by Alan Mildwurm, DVPC

Remember a few months ago Chris Pirillo, host of TechTV's CALL FOR HELP show presented to our group? What you may not know is that after the meeting my daughter, Jessica, was speaking to Chris about on-line genealogy. She must have convinced Chris she knew what she was talking about because he invited her to be a guest on his show. She appeared last Friday and was terrific. (That's the proud dad part). The link to watch her segment is: www.techtv.com/callforhelp/features/story/0,24330,3399232,00.html.

Or go to www.techtv.com, select the show, CALL FOR HELP and then click on SHOWNOTES. Jess was on the Sept. 13th show. Click on that and then on the video icon and enjoy.

It was really great to go with Jess to TechTV San Francisco studios and see the show and watch it being produced. It is shot *live!* I enjoyed meeting all the TV personalities from both Chris' show and the Screen Savers. (I didn't ask for autographs — Jess wouldn't let me. Even though everyone was busy, they all went out of their way to make us feel relaxed and welcome.) It is amazing to see how hard everyone works on these shows. In the days prior to the show, Jess had been in contact with the producers and they had roughed out a sequence for her segment based on info which Jess provided. All her sites were preloaded on their computers and they had prepared slides and graphics. In between segments (during the commercials) they all scramble to change the sets for the next sequence. This may include moving furniture, setting up computers, etc. The end result is a very smooth and professional show — and it looks like they are all having fun at the same time!

For Inveterate XP Tweakers by Carl Siechert, Co-Author Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out

One of the fun things about Windows XP and Windows 2000 is that there is so much tweaking you can do if you want to. You don't need to do any of the things that I described at a recent Pasadena IBM User Group presentation, but if you like peeking under the hood and making a few adjustments so things run just the way you like, you can. Here's a little more information about some of the topics I discussed:

Group Policy

Group Policy lets you make all manner of settings--everything from configuring the desktop to hiding certain drives to preventing the creation of scheduled tasks. These settings (and hundreds more) are stored in the registry, which you can edit directly.

But Group Policy is much easier to use than a registry editor. A few notes before you dive in:

- To use Group Policy, you must have Windows XP Professional or Windows 2000; it's not available in Windows XP Home Edition.
- To use Group Policy, you must be logged on using an account that's a member of the Administrators group.
- If your computer is not a member of a Windows 2000 Server domain, any settings you make in Group Policy affect everyone who uses your computer. (There is a crude workaround that lets you set up two groups of users — those who are affected by Group Policy settings and those who are not. For details, check out pp. 1074-5 in "Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out." [Caution: this is the first of several plugs for my books.]

Ready, Set Go...

Start Group Policy by choosing Start, Run and typing "gpedit.msc". (If you end up using Group Policy very much, you'll want to make a shortcut to gpedit.msc.) The next two folders and their subfolders house the

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Get Involved! Learn! Join a SIG today!

SIG News Compiled by Nick Chase, SIG Coordinator, DVPC, 680-4211

Advanced Developers SIG Ron Ogg, SIG Co-Leader – 415-281-0431

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. 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. See the ADSIG page on the DVPC web site at www.dvpc.org/clarion.html for meeting location, dates, and time.

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, servers, 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 usually 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, from browsing and e-mail to creating your own web site and the tools for doing so. Halloween is observed this time of year. Next to April 15th, it can be the scariest time of the year. Join us as we look at sites to help find the history and observations of the "Night before All Hallow's Day". For more information, please call Craig Peterson at (925) 671-7025 or e-mail him at compmail@pacbell.net.

.NET SIG Ted Armstrong, SIG Leader – 939-5874

The .NET SIG has its meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room at Concord Police Department building (see directions in the Windows SIG announcement below). The .NET SIG is dedicated to the new Microsoft .NET development tools, the newest Microsoft standard for developing cross-platform stand-alone and web-site applications. .NET tools include Microsoft Visual Basic .NET, Microsoft Visual C++ .NET, and Microsoft Visual C#. .NET developers can take advantage of a common toolbox, debugger,

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SIG News...

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and task window, greatly reducing the developer learning curve and ensuring that developers can always choose the language most appropriate for their task and expertise. .NET gives developers the tools for integrating solutions across operating systems and languages.

The .NET SIG will provide an opportunity for .NET developers at all levels who live or work in the East Bay to network with fellow developers. The SIG will provide speakers on different .NET topics. If you or anyone you know could benefit from this SIG, please come to our meetings. Contact Ted Armstrong at ted1003@yahoo.com for more information.

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.

PC 101 SIG *Craig Peterson, SIG Leader – 671-7025*

PC 101 (a class on how to use the computer) is on vacation until the *fall*. When we resume, we'll again have classes on the Saturday following the general meeting at 1:00 p. m. at the Community Room of the Concord Police Station, 1350 Galindo Street, in Concord (see directions in the Windows SIG announcement below). The classes will start at 1:00 pm and end at 3:00. Join us in the fall for some hands on, one-on-one help with the nuts and bolts of using computers. Those in the class enjoy the extra time we can devote to each problem and the time to answer questions.

Windows SIG *Ron Ogg (415-281-0431) 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. We discuss the latest version of Windows, demonstrate interesting shareware and freeware, and have random access sessions where we all try to answer SIG members' questions. Everyone who uses, is interested in, or is curious about Windows on their PC is invited to attend.

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.

The DVPC Web Site is Moving *by Ron Ogg, DVPC*

The DVPC Web site, www.dvpc.org, has been hosted at Value Net and its successors, most recently Amerion, since its inception in 1996. We have benefited from a complementary account, a huge cost saving over the years. However, Amerion has decided that complementary accounts cannot have over 10 MB of disk file space. Our site is currently 63.6 MB, slightly over Amerion's limit. We had three choices, either reduce our site to under 10 MB (impossible), pay Amerion \$227 per year (too expensive), or find another hosting service. So, as you heard at the September meeting, we are moving our site to a new hosting service, Infosaic. It won't be free, but it's affordable at \$120 per year. And it has a major advantage: Infosaic's servers run on Microsoft Windows 2000 Server with IIS (instead of Unix, which Amerion's servers run on). This means that we can use Active Server Pages and our Microsoft Access membership database for things like our *Member's Not Afraid to Be Found* list, the long-discussed but unimplemented *Mentor's List*, and interactive forms. We've uploaded the site to Infosaic, and we're in the process of having the domain listing switched to Infosaic's name server. It will still be www.dvpc.org, but you can expect new features coming soon!

DVPC Board Meeting Minutes by Tom Krauss, DVPC

Before commencing with the minutes I would like to recognize Charlie Crothers' most excellent presentation on home automation at the September meeting. Not only did he orate, but he also brought samples of the devices he was discussing and prepared a video tape so even those in the back could clearly see them. All this plus useful tips on home wiring! Thank you, Charlie, for a very informative and entertaining evening!

This month's Board Meeting was held early due to multiple schedule conflicts. Many Board members had schedule conflicts this week anyway, and despite Alan's pleading with Ohlone College, this semester they once again scheduled the class he teaches there for Wednesday nights. Having put three sons through the California public school system, including DVC and three separate universities, I believe I can speak with authority and say that this was not malicious or premeditated on the College's part. No, it was simple incompetence.

Speaking of character flaws, as I write this, the September Board Meeting is two days in the future. I am one of those with a schedule conflict and will be out of town for the actual meeting Monday the 9th. So I am writing this before the actual meeting. As most of you know from past experience, I am comfortable writing minutes of meetings I don't attend, and you probably won't be able to tell the difference. Besides, I am enlisting the assistance of our esteemed Editor to fill in some of the gaps in my imagination.

I know the main topic of this month's Board meeting will be how to bolster our membership. Many good ideas will be discussed and actions planned. But let's face it. It will take more than the efforts of the Board of Directors to bring in new members. We are just a small proportion of the overall membership. And I suspect we are among the most active when it comes to recruiting new members.

If the Diablo Valley PC Users' Group is going to live on and prosper it will require commitment and effort on the part of every member to bring your friends to meetings and get them to sign up. I hope you will all do your part.

Editor's comments: The Board of Directors has initiated a publicity campaign to let potential new members in the Contra Costa County area find out about DVPC and encourage them to join. The first step will be to design a new flyer, using color, that describes DVPC and the benefits of joining. Contacts will be made with the Contra Costa Times and local community newspapers to have information about DVPC meetings published on a regular basis.

Because Alan has to teach classes on Wednesdays, the Board of Directors will meet on the Tuesday evening following the monthly DVPC meeting starting in October.

It was decided that, due in part to increasing printing and mailing costs and in part to the declining number of members who receive the printed version of the Diablo Blue newsletter, that DVPC will switch to the web-based Adobe Acrobat version of the newsletter. Using the Adobe Acrobat pdf format for the newsletter will allow members to print their own copies if they wish. The October issue of Diablo Blue will be the last issue to be printed and mailed. It will also allow us to use color (not affordable with the printed version) and even expand the number of pages if we have more articles (of course, that depends on members submitting articles to your Editor [hint, hint!]).

It was also decided that dues will increase to \$30.00 effective October 1. There hasn't been a dues increase for a number of years, and this increase will allow the club to provide better service to all members.

See Alan Mildwurm's President's Corner column on page 1 for more information about the change to Diablo Blue and the membership dues increase.

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For Inveterate XP Tweakers...

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most interesting policies, although you might want to check out the others as well.

Then, in the left pane, select a subfolder of Computer Configuration\Administrative Templates or User Configuration\Administrative Templates. Select a useful sounding policy in the right pane, and an explanation of the policy appears. Keep poking around until you find something that interests you. To make a setting, double-click the policy name and then choose an option in the dialog box that appears.

Pretty easy stuff, but you're exploring where few Windows users dare to tread. Unless you work hard to enable policies that, for example, prevent you from logging on, the settings under Administrative Templates are pretty safe. Nonetheless, you should read the explanation carefully before you make a policy setting.

Want more information? For a complete reference to Group Policy in Windows 2000, visit:

www.microsoft.com/windows2000/techinfo/reskit/en-us/default.asp

Look for Windows 2000 Group Policy Reference in the contents pane. Nearly all the information in this reference applies to Windows XP Professional as well, although it doesn't include the policies that are available only in Windows XP. Another good resource is the Group Policy Object Settings spreadsheet, which you can download from:

www.microsoft.com/WindowsXP/pro/techinfo/productdoc/gpss.asp

Although the spreadsheet doesn't explain the settings, it lists all Administrative Templates policies and shows which ones apply to each operating system; it also provides a convenient way to record your own settings. You'll also find more information in *Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out* (Chapter 34) and in our new book, *Micro-*

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Email Notification

We're providing an Email Notification service for the current month's *Diablo Blue* password, the DVPC monthly meeting, and information about SIG meetings as well. You have to be a current, paid-up member to receive this service. If you're interested in receiving these monthly email messages, print this page, fill out the form, and mail it to the address on page 16 of this copy of *Diablo Blue* or bring it to the monthly meeting. Or, if you prefer, you can send an email message to nopaper@dvpc.org with your name and email address and your favorite SIGs.

Send me Email notification of each monthly *Diablo Blue* password, the DVPC meeting, and the following SIGs:

Name _____

Email Address: _____

Advanced Users SIG		.NET SIG	
Advanced Developers SIG		New Users SIG	
Education and Entertainment SIG		PC 101 SIG	
Genealogy eSIG		Windows SIG	
Internet SIG			

For Inveterate XP Tweakers...

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soft *Windows Security Inside Out for Windows XP and Windows 2000* (Chapter 19). The latter book, which should be in stores now, includes a number of specific recommendations about policies you can set to better secure your system.

It's At Your Service

I also mentioned the Services snap-in, which is included in the Computer Management console. To open Computer Management, right-click My Computer (on the Start menu or in an Explorer window) and choose Manage. In the left pane of Computer Management, select Computer Management (Local)\Services and Applications\Services. (Tip of the day: You can open the Services snap-in within its own console. You can find a shortcut to Services in the Administrative Tools folder, or you can simply choose Start, Run and type "services.msc".)

So which services should you turn off by changing their startup type to Manual or Disable? This Web site offers some good advice: www.blkviper.com/WinXP/servicecfg.htm.

And (time for another plug) "Microsoft Windows Security Inside Out for Windows XP and Windows 2000" provides a brief description of every service included with Windows XP and Windows 2000 and offers recommended settings.

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Where to Go to Find Something on the Web by Malcolm D. Mailey, DVPC

As a member of the Internet SIG, I have found the following sites to be useful.

GOOD SEARCH ENGINES

www.lukol.com/	Parallel search engine
www.ceoexpress.com	Small business searches
www.journalistexpress.com	News searches
www.lawyerexpress.com	Legal searches
www.mdexpress.com	Medical searches
www.dogpile.com	Meta-search engine
www.metacrawler.com	Meta-search engine
www.webcrawler.com	Meta-search engine

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Bring a Friend to a *DVPC* Meeting
Help Them Grow their PC Knowledge
Help Grow *DVPC* Membership

Where to Go to Find Something on the Web...

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OTHER USEFUL SITES

www.webshots.com/homepage.html	Desktop wallpaper
www.zdnet.com	Free Fire wall (for home use)
www.novaspace.com/	Some more neat stuff CD's
www.secondnaturecd.com/	This site sells CD's Some of them are free.
www.mapquest.com/	Good map & directions
www.cyberparent.com/nutrition/hydrogenated.htm	Hydrogenated fat and trans-fatty acids
www.bushbeans.com/	Recipes
www.allrecipes.com	Recipes
www.youcansave.com/	"As Seen on TV" products at discounted prices
www.globexplorer.com/	This is for maps & satellite view (Very Cool Site)
www.cyberdiver.net	Good Diving News Site
www.diverlink.com/	Good Dive Stuff
www.wunderground.com/	Good Weather site
www.coralreefalliance.org	The Coral Reef Alliance

Using Google to Search Microsoft by Dan Meckfessel, DVPC

As you know, it's often (usually?) very difficult to search for an article on Microsoft's web site that will answer a specific question that you have about one of Microsoft's products. Either you will receive a message that says "Sorry, no results were found for this search" or you will receive a long list of articles, none of which pertain to your question. For example, I entered the search string "save excel worksheet as an image" on search.microsoft.com and received no results. I entered the same search on Google and received one search result, but one that gave me a solution that, while not perfect, solved my problem.

Google also has a special Microsoft search area, and it provided many more results to my question. To use it, go to www.google.com/microsoft.html.

Special Raffle Promotion

Bring a guest to a *DVPC* meeting, you get 10 Raffle tickets!
If your guest joins at the meeting, you get 10 Raffle tickets –
and your new member guest *also* gets 10 Raffle tickets!!

Windows XP Tips by Ron Ogg, DVPC

Making the Start - All Programs Menu Cascade

If you don't like the single, vertical scrolling program list in Windows XP, here's how to change it to a series of cascading menus that are all displayed together. Right-click the Start button, choose Properties, and make sure the Start Menu tab is selected. Choose the Classic Start Menu choice, and click the Customize button. In the Advanced Start Menu options, scroll down the list to Scroll Programs and uncheck it. Click OK and you'll be returned to the Taskbar and Start Menu dialog box. Click the Start Menu choice, and click OK. Now your Start - All Programs menu will be displayed as cascading lists if there's not enough room to display all of the programs in a single vertical list.

Migrating Your Applications to a new PC

You just purchased a new PC that has Windows XP installed. You would like to migrate all of your programs from your old PC to the new one without having to reinstall each of them. Well, you're in luck. There are several programs that will let you migrate your applications from one PC to a Windows XP PC — one of which is limited and free, the other of which is more capable and reasonably priced.

Microsoft Files and Settings Transfer Wizard

Windows XP includes the Files and Settings Transfer Wizard. The Files and Settings Transfer Wizard helps you move your data files and personal settings from your old computer to your new one, without having to go through much of the same configuration you did with your old computer. For example, you can take your personal display properties, folder and taskbar options, and Internet browser and mail settings from your old computer and place them on the new one. The wizard will also move specific files or entire folders, such as My Documents, My Pictures, and Favorites.

You can run the Wizard from Windows XP by going to Start - All Programs - Accessories - System Tools - File and Settings Transfer Wizard. You can also run the Wizard from the Windows XP CD on a PC running any of the operating systems listed below.

The wizard supports the migration of files and settings from the following operating systems:

Microsoft Windows 95	Microsoft Windows Millennium Edition (Me)
Microsoft Windows 98	Microsoft Windows NT 4.0
Microsoft Windows 98 Second Edition	Microsoft Windows 2000

The Wizard supports migration of file settings from the following applications:

Adobe Acrobat Reader 4	Money 2001
Adobe Acrobat Reader 5	MSN Explorer 1
AOL Instant Messenger (AIM) 4.3.2	MSN Messenger 3.5
Command Prompt 5.1	MusicMatch Jukebox 6.00.0270
CuteFTP 4.2.2	NetMeeting 3.01 SP2
Eudora Pro 5.1	Odigo 3
FrontPage 4.02	Photoshop 6.01
GetRight 4.3	Prodigy Internet 5
GoZilla 3.92	Publisher 2000
ICQ 2000b 4.60 b #3278	Quicken 2001 Suite
Lotus Smart Suite 9.6	Quicken Home and Business 2001
Microsoft Zone	QuickTime 4.1.2
Real Jukebox 2 Basic 1.0.2.340	Windows Media Player 8

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Windows XP Tips...

(Continued from page 10)

Real Player 8 Basic 6.0.9.450	Windows Movie Maker 1.1
Roger Wilco Mk1c Mod1	Winzip 8
Sidewinder Game Voice 1.1	Word Perfect Office 2002
Sonique 1.9	Works 2001
Winamp v2.73	WS_FTP LE 6.6
Yahoo! Messenger 3.5	

The Files and Settings Transfer Wizard can also transfer settings for third-party programs. Note that the wizard does *not* transfer or install the actual programs, it only transfers the *settings* for the programs. In order for these settings to take effect on the Windows XP-based computer, the programs must be installed on the target computer before you migrate the settings.

Eisenworld Alohabob PC Relocator 4.0

Once you get past the cutesy name, this is a very powerful program. Using Alohabob PC Relocator 4.0 you can selectively transfer and automatically reinstall all of your applications and games, and transfer all of your data files and preferences, from your old PC to your new PC. Alohabob PC Relocator 4.0 is simple to use. Install the application on both computers, connect the two computers, select which items to transfer, and Alohabob takes care of the transfer and installations. The program's wizard interface walks you through the entire process, one step at a time, and requires no expert knowledge to perform a successful migration. Alohabob PC Relocator 4.0 offers the ability to select which items you want to transfer. The Alohabob wizard interface includes a rating, which warns against the migration of any application that could cause potential conflicts with the newer operating system. Alohabob allows you to select any one of these three connection methods: a TCP/IP network connection, a USB bridge cable, or a PC-to-PC parallel transfer cable. You can optionally perform the migration in two stages with the use of removable storage, such as CD-R/RW or Zip drives. Note that you are limited to using Alohabob on a single Target PC. An Enterprise version is available for corporate use for \$249.99 that allows migrations from multiple Source PCs to multiple Target PCs, but requires a Windows 2000 server to store the migration files and a Windows 2000 Pro workstation as the migration console, not a typical configuration that home users would have available. If a home user needs to make multiple migrations, you would need to purchase a separate copy for each Target PC.

The operating system on each PC must be a version of Windows 95, 98, Me, NT 4 Workstation, 2000 Professional, or XP Home or Professional. For relocation of applications, the following restrictions apply (these restrictions do not apply if no programs are being relocated):

1. The version and release of Windows on the Target PC must be the same or higher as the version and release on the Source PC.
2. Windows NT4/2000/XP Professional users: The "Service Pack" level on the Target PC must be the same or higher as the Service Pack level on the Source PC.
3. Windows NT 4 Workstation is not supported as a Target operating system when relocating programs.

While the Windows XP Files and Settings Transfer Wizard is included with Windows XP at no additional cost,

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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

Windows XP Tips...

(Continued from page 11)

Alohobob PC Relocator 4.0 is much more powerful and flexible. A downloadable version is available on-line for \$49.99 by going to www.alohabob.com/purchase.asp. A boxed version is available from computer retailers, including CompUSA, Best Buy, Office Depot, Staples, Sam's Club, and others.

Selectively Turn Off Windows XP's Automated Error Reporting

Windows XP has an automated error reporting feature that sends an error report to Microsoft when an application, or Windows XP itself, crashes. This feature is designed to help Microsoft identify and repair problems in Windows XP.

However, you might have an older application that crashes under certain circumstances (like when you exit from the program) but doesn't prevent you from running the program. Windows XP lets you turn off error reporting for this program without turning off the feature for all programs.

To turn error reporting off for a specific program:

1. Start Control Panel
2. Double-click the System icon
3. Click the Advanced tab
4. Click the Error Reporting button
5. Click the Choose Programs button
6. Click the Add button
7. Use the Browse button to navigate to the application's exe file or type the path to the application
8. Click OK several times to close the various dialog boxes
9. Close Control Panel
10. Restart the computer.

Any error that occurs when running this program will no longer start XP's automated error reporting feature.

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)

printout! (Try astrobright paper – it looks great!)

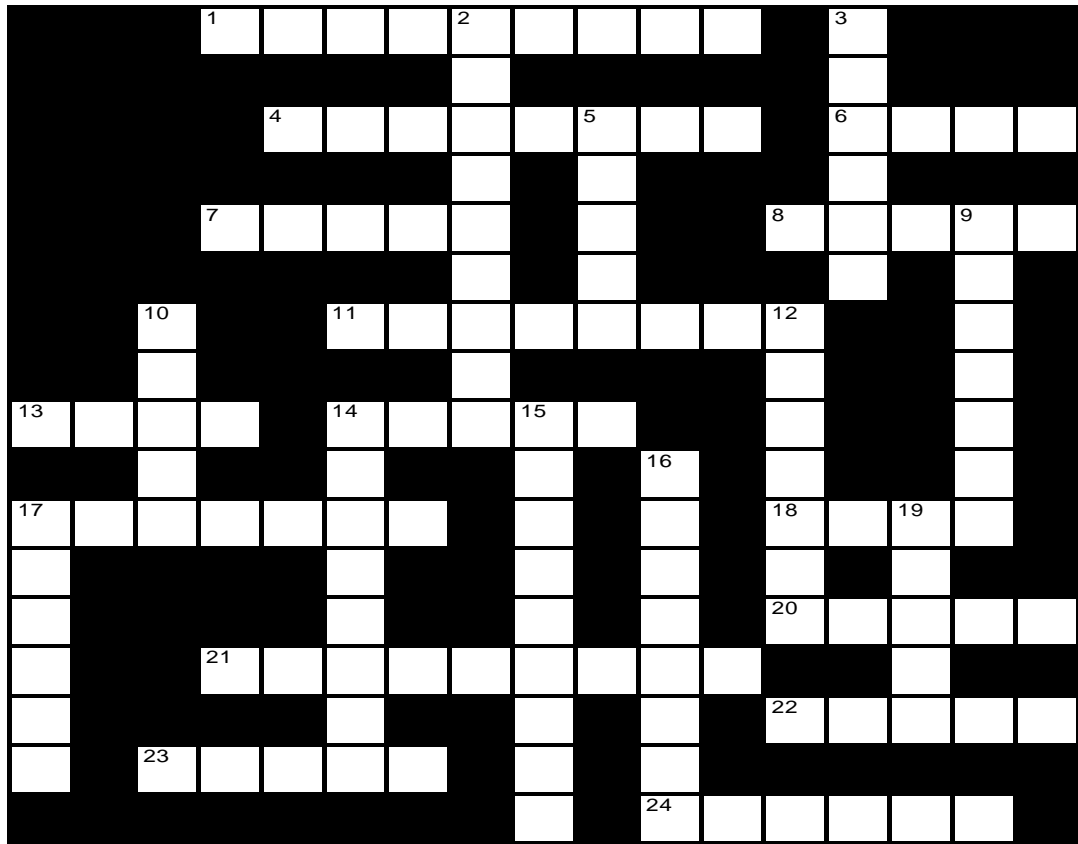
Depending on the renewal date of your membership, we will extend your membership 1 to 4 months (1 month per quarter) to offset the slightly higher dues you paid for a printed newsletter.

We will also increase dues to \$30.00 per year, effective October 1st (the student price will still be \$20.00). For what it's worth, this is the first dues increase in many, many years. (Technically dues have always been \$30.00 but we lowered dues some years back to \$25.00 to entice members to the on-line Web edition!) Our insurance costs are going up, and there is equipment we would like to acquire for the club. This change should give us the opportunity to "grow" our treasury and expand our programs.

As I write this article, we're going to have William Lam of Dr. Tech for our October meeting. HP will also make a printer and scanner presentation at the meeting. Microsoft has confirmed for our November meeting. I plan to do my Comdex special in December, assuming that my trip to Las Vegas isn't pre-empted. See you on October 3rd!

<p>Give a <i>DVPC</i> Membership Gift Certificate!</p>
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Computer Crossword
"Bye Bye Paper"
 by Craig Peterson, DVPC



This will be the last *Diablo Blue* crossword puzzle sent out on paper format. From now on if you want to solve it away from the computer, you will need to use your own printer (the advantage is that you can print it on white paper and then print the answers on the back in case you need help). Take a look at all things paper in this month's challenge. If you need some help [Editor: *And you probably will need help! This is probably Craig's toughest crossword puzzle so far!*], you can use Google, a good encyclopedia, or check out the answers at www.dvpc.org/solution.html.

Across

1. Cheap paper made from wood pulp
4. Sheet of paper measuring 28" x 23"
6. Sheet of paper measuring 22.5" x 17.5"
7. Sheet of paper measuring 25" x 20"
8. 25 sheets of paper
11. Sheet of paper measuring 17" x 13.5"
13. Wood fiber mixture
14. Crinkled tissue paper used in decorations
17. Paper used to protect while an area is being painted
18. Thin, edible paper used in baking
20. Paper screen used in Japanese households
21. Identifying mark impressed faintly onto paper
22. Paper of great value

23. Thin, tough opaque paper used in printing

24. Paper, used in labs, that is impregnated with chemicals

Down

2. Paper frill adorning the end of a drumstick
3. Sheet of paper measuring 23" x 18"
5. Sheet of paper measuring 34" x 26"
9. What should be done with all paper no longer needed
10. What paper item most people would like to use the tax forms to make
12. Early form of paper
14. Paper fragments
15. Stiff paper that resembles goat skin
16. Sheet of paper measuring 30" x 22"
17. Smooth, buff colored paper used to make files and envelopes
19. Sheet of paper measuring 20" x 15"

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 stories about your PC experiences. Send your articles or member ad copy as email attachments to the Newsletter Editor, rogg@value.net.

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 415-281-0431 (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 format 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 ad copy as email attachments to the Newsletter Editor, rogg@value.net. See the deadline information in the Calendar on page 16 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: www.dvpc.org.

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Stan Umlauf, Web Site 458-5560 (home), stanu@honeybee.com

The Board of Directors usually meets the week following the general meeting. Check the DVPC Calendar on page 16 of each issue of *Diablo Blue*, or the DVPC calendar page, 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, by email to bod@value.net, or by leaving a message on the DVPC voice mail system.

DVPC Voice Mail System

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

Diablo Blue is the monthly Web-based newsletter of the Diablo Valley PC Users' Group.

Editor: Ronald Ogg, Membership: Peggy Johnson

Please submit articles and columns to the Newsletter editor by email at rogg@value.net

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DVPC is a member of APCUG, the Association of PC Users Groups, www.apcug.org

Support DVPC – Get a friend to join!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Print this page, fill out this form, and enclose it with your check for \$30.00 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, 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: _____

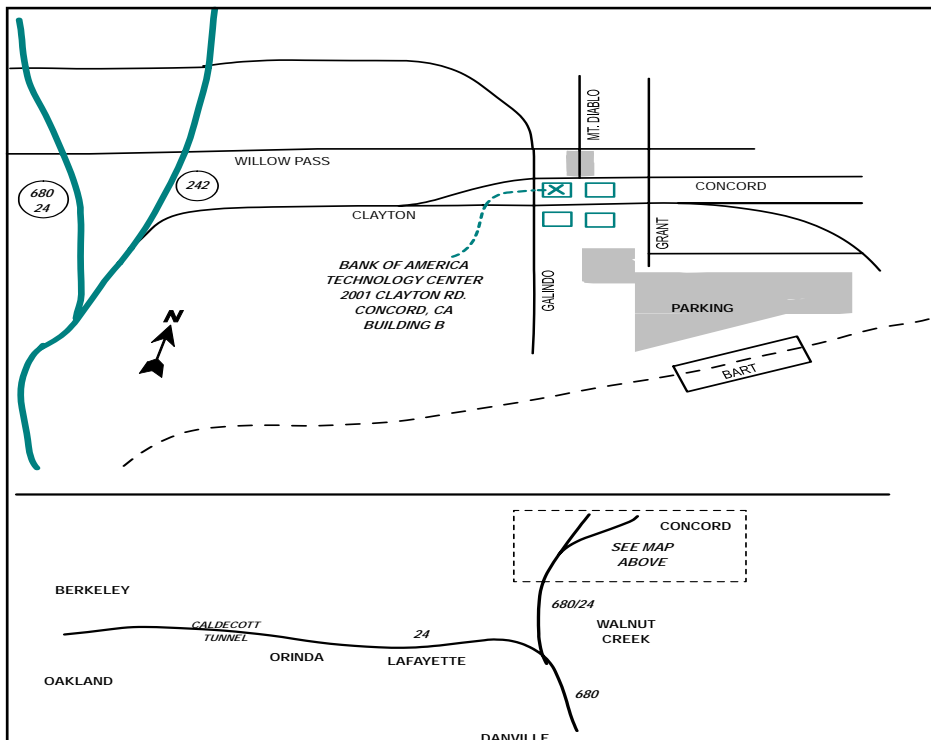
On occasion DVPC publishes a list of members for distribution to DVPC members only. Please check how you would like to be listed: No listing _____ List Name and Home _____ Work _____ phone number(s) _____

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 buildings. Enter the door on the east side near the southeast corner of the building. 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 October 2002 Calendar

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 DVPC Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. New User's SIG 6:15 p.m.	4	5 PC 101 SIG <i>On Summer Vacation</i> <i>We'll be back in November!</i>
7 Windows SIG 7:00 p.m.	8 DVPC Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Alan Mildwurm's house	9	10	11	12
14 Genealogy eSIG <i>See SIG News on page 4</i>	15	16 Internet SIG 7:00 p.m.	17 Advanced Users SIG 7:30 p.m. Advanced Developers SIG 7:00 p.m. .NET SIG 7:30 p.m.	18	19 <i>Diablo Blue deadline: Email articles and ads to the Editor: rogg@value.net</i>
21	22	23 Education & Entertainment SIG 7:30 p.m.	24	25	26
28	29	30	31	<i>See SIG News starting on page 4 for more information about SIG meeting dates, times, topics, and locations</i>	

Knoppix – A Software Review by George Griffin, DVPC

The other day I was listening to the radio (you do remember radio?). I was on CNET (AM 910) and the subject of the day was "Windows Pro or Con". Most of the callers were DWG [down with Gates], but one caller had an alternative, KNOPPIX, and described it as a form of Linux that was self-contained on one CD, and you did not need to touch the hard drive to operate. He said that and all you had to do was download the file, then burn a CD, and insert it in your computer, and if your BIOS was set to boot from CD first it would start up and run the Linux OS directly from the CD. So if all worked as promised, you were in.

This sounded like an interesting OS [operating system] to try. I went to Google, and entered "download Knoppix". A whole bunch of suggested sources popped up. Since Knoppix is a German product, you will have to sort through the entries, but Google does translate the language. I finally settled on one download, Knoppix V3.1-10-9-2002b-en.iso (en is for English). This is a 700 MB file, so you better have a high speed connection or a friend that does. With my cable connection it took the better part of two hours. After you have downloaded the file, you must burn the CD as an image burn. Then if everything went right, you just put the CD in the computer and start it. It will boot with a full-blown different operating system.

Knoppix really is a quite complete system, but there is a learning curve. If you just start punching buttons all kind of surprises pop up. The GUI (graphical user interface) is appealing in action and color. As I was floundering around I wound up on the Internet, so I put in a couple of addresses, and they popped up like I was in MS-land. I soon discovered all kinds of programs such as graphics, e-mail and news, office, lots of help files, multimedia, games – this is just a quick preview, there are lots and lots of additional programs on the CD.

You should use some caution though. Because you are operating from a CD, there is a program that will give you access to the files on your hard disk. This really is an open system, and it keeps telling you can copy, modify, etc., but that Knoppix is not responsible for any problems you may encounter or even make yourself.

After all this, it was worth the time, and confusion. If you look into this provocative OS don't say you weren't informed – or warned.