

Diablo Blue

August, 1999



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

August 5, 1999 Meeting Announcement Lernout and Hauspie and Syntran

Our August, 1999 DVPC meeting will feature **Lernout and Hauspie**, one of the leading publishers of voice recognition software. We'll see *Voice Xpress* which comes in versions for all levels of users. Depending on the version, *Voice Xpress* features dictation into Microsoft Word, or almost any Windows applications. And it has been updated to work with Microsoft Office 2000. The demo will show how *Voice Xpress* achieves up to 98% accuracy, L&H *XpressStart* lets you begin using the package as soon as you install it, and *Talking Tools*. Then **Syntran** (who missed the July meeting) will demonstrate *FaxPrint* and *CamPrint*. *FaxPrint* bypasses your computer, directing incoming faxes straight to your printer so they can be printed immediately. With *CamPrint* you simply connect your digital camera and your printer to the *CamPrint* unit and you can print all or individual photos, multiple photos of the same image, or select different sizes to print – all without having to turn on your PC. And we'll have a special DVPC auction, featuring two copies of **Microsoft Office 2000 Premium**. See the article on [page 10](#) for more information about the auction

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 6:30 p.m. and the main meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. From 6:30 to 7:00 we'll have the *New User's SIG* meeting; you can visit the Networking Table if you have something to sell or trade, need technical help, or just want to exchange views; and, as usual, we'll have library disks and those great DVPC mugs (version 2) for sale. The main meeting will include SIG news, random access, our presenters, and some of our usual great door prizes. See you at this month's meeting!

What's Inside

More Blasts from the Past <i>Ron Ogg</i>	Page 2
PC Desktop Publishing <i>from the DVPC Archives</i>	Page 2
A New Look for the Diablo Blue Masthead <i>Ron Ogg</i>	Page 3
Free Clipart and Web Images from Corel	Page 3
James A. Garvey	Page 3
Printing Access Relationships <i>Ron Ogg</i>	Page 3
SIG News <i>Nick Chase</i>	Page 4
Switch to the <i>Diablo Blue</i> Web Edition	Page 6
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes <i>Tom Krauss</i>	Page 7
<i>Email Meeting Notification</i>	Page 7
<i>Value Net Ad</i>	Page 8
ThumbsPlus <i>Alan Mildwurm</i>	Page 9
August Auction <i>Ron Ogg</i>	Page 10
Free Software Offer <i>Software 602</i>	Page 10
Ken's Korner <i>Ken Fermoye</i>	Page 11
Become a Mentor <i>Alan Mildwurm</i>	Page 11
Special Offer on Income Tax Software	Page 12
<i>Krishna Copy Center Ad</i>	Page 12
Computer Crossword <i>Craig Peterson</i>	Page 13
Information About DVPC	Page 14
Membership Application	Page 15
Directions and Map to DVPC Meetings	Page 15
DVPC Calendar	Page 16

President's Corner

By [Alan Mildwurm](#), DVPC

e-DVPC!

This month, in addition to two excellent presentations by **Lernout and Hauspie** (voice recognition software) and **Syntran** (*FaxPrint* and *CamPrint*, held over from the July meeting), we will have a mini-auction of several products which we have acquired. Our showcase products to auction are two copies of **Microsoft Office 2000**. We have a diverse spectrum of goodies which I think will be of interest to our members. As a DVPC first, you will be able to bid on the products prior to the meeting over our website! You **MUST** be present at the August meeting meeting to finalize your bid! Of course you will be able to pick up these terrific products at great prices, but we have established some minimums – our treasurer won't let us just give them away!!

Help us augment the treasury while you add to your software collection! See the "Rules Article" in this issue de-

[\(Continued on page 2\)](#)

President's Corner...

(Continued from page 1)

scribing the products available, the minimum bids and the procedures we have established. And be sure to bring your wallet and/or checkbook to the August DVPC meeting and be ready to bid high and bid often!

We think this will be a fun event! See you on August 5th.

More Blasts From the Past by Ron Ogg, DVPC

That stack of old issues of *Diablo Blue* that Alan Mildwurm handed me continues to provide material that reminds us that, when someone tells you about "the good old days of computers," you should remind them that today is *much* better! And, so you know exactly what I mean, a reprint of one of those old articles follows for your interest and amusement. Look for more in future issues of *Diablo Blue*.

Our Archives: PC Desktop Publishing by Doug Blackburn, DVPC

From the August, 1986 Issue of Diablo Blue

The PC does not have any really powerful full featured desktop publishing programs available yet, though fall promises to bring several contenders for top of the line. Current PC offerings all work, but none has a full complement of features. For simple newsletters, the low cost "Click Art Personal Publisher" might work just fine. Portions of "Click Art" were used in putting together the June Diablo Blue newsletter. "Click Art" can be purchased for about \$110 (discount). The full bore programs are likely to be over \$500 (even discounted). Sophisticated desktop publishing is VERY demanding of both programmer and hardware, so don't expect it to be cheap. For a business though, the full featured programs will provide the capability to do things that were not previously affordable and/or do in-house publishing for a lot lower cost than was possible with pre-desktop publishing methods.

The reality of desktop publishing is that it may turn out to be too much for present PC compatible hardware (including the AT). Present high end desktop publishing hardware is based on a high speed version of the Motorola 68000 processor installed in what is often called a 'pedestal'. These machines usually have hard drives in the 70 megabyte (single user) to 150 megabyte (multi-user) range and run the full UNIX operating system that allows multiple work stations to be on-line simultaneously. In these systems, desktop publishing is 100% high res graphics with large, full page monitors. The memory demands and microprocessor demands are so high that even with additional microprocessor support devices, the speed degradation of having three workstations on-line at one time becomes quite noticeable.

The newest development in the hardware end of these desktop publishing systems is the addition of a PC compatibility board that allows the user to run PC software in a 'window' the size of the normal PC screen. Having these systems able to run PC software opens a whole new set of possibilities. In general, because of demand and numbers, PC based software is among the most user friendly, feature oriented, and affordable. Having PC software available on these expensive machines will make them able to serve more than one purpose and will allow off line composition and work from PCs to be easily transferred to the 'big' system.

Cost of the high end hardware continues to come down, but is still in the \$20,000 to \$48,000 price range for a single station setup without a laser printer. That kind of money buys a lot of computer power, so you can imagine how difficult it will be to get acceptable performance on a PC. There is a good chance that a 'hot rod' AT running at 11 or 12 megahertz with a math co-processor would handle a single user with acceptable speed. But, if that configuration is still too slow, it will take the next generation of hardware based on the 80386 or 68020 to make truly functional full featured PC based desktop publishing possible.

And you thought you were having problems with your current Windows 98 based desktop publishing package and your poor old slow PC with its Pentium, PII, PIII, or K6 processor! No more complaining, hear? [Ron Ogg]

A New Look for the Diablo Blue Masthead by [Ron Ogg](#), DVPC

At the June Board of Directors meeting it was decided to redesign the *Diablo Blue* masthead. The prior masthead was getting a bit, well, long in the tooth. Mark Allen, DVPC Publicity Director, has come up with some great designs for our new brochures, so I “borrowed” one of the pieces of clip art that Mark had chosen and that’s what you’ll see at the right side of the new masthead design.

The font for the publication title *Diablo Blue* is new, also. The font we’ve been using is **Broadway**, cutting-edge when it was originally selected but now somewhat old fashioned. The new font is **Comic Sans**, which goes well with the style of the masthead graphic.

The shaded (colored on the web) background below the masthead that had our user group name and the month of publication has been removed so it’s easier to read.

We’ve also changed the font used for the page 1 meeting announcement from Arial, a sans serif typeface, to **Trebuchet**, which is a semi-serif face and is supposed to be easier to read in smaller point sizes like what we use in *Diablo Blue*. We can get more characters in the same space with Trebuchet than with Arial, so we can squeeze more description into the meeting announcements. Trebuchet is installed when you install Internet Explorer 5, or by installing the Additional Web Fonts from Windows 98’s *Windows Update*.

We hope you like the new look. Let us know your opinion.

Free Clipart and Web Images from Corel by Corel Software

In celebration of the grand re-opening of [ClipArtDownload.com](http://www.clipartdownload.com) (www.clipartdownload.com), Corel is offering 10,000 clipart images and 100,000 web images for free! Simply click on New User and enter your name and e-mail address. You will then be emailed a password that will give you access to 110,000 of the best looking clipart and web images around. Keyword search features lets you find your images quickly & easily.

James A. Garvey by [Peggy Johnson](#), DVPC

James A. Garvey, a member of DVPC since 1992, died in his sleep on May 17, 1999. He kept in touch with friends and family all over the world with his computer and had published 3 books of poetry, “Looking At Mars” (WWII memories), “Avid For The Sip” and “Bone Fire”.

Printing Access Relationships found on the Web by [Ron Ogg](#), DVPC

Relationships between Access tables are a bit easier to grasp if you can see a visual representation of those relationships. Fortunately, you can open the Relationships window by choosing Relationships from the Tools menu. Access displays the existing relationships between the tables you add to the window. You can also create and delete relationships here. Although this is useful, you can’t just click the Print icon so you have a hard copy for later reference. Fortunately, there are two ways to print a graphical representation of these relationships. If you’re using Access 97, you can use the Print Relationships wizard, available free from Microsoft. To download this add-in, visit <http://officeupdate.microsoft.com/downloadDetails/prels80.htm>

After installing the wizard, choose Add-Ins from the Tools menu and Print Relationships from the resulting submenu. The wizard creates a report that contains a representation of the existing relationships.

If you’re using Access 95 or version 2.0, you can’t use the wizard. Instead, open the Relationships window and press Alt-Print Screen. Then open WordPad or another text editor and press Ctrl-V to paste a copy of the Relationships window into your text editor. At that point, all you have to do is print the document.

Access 2000 now makes printing the relationships easier than ever. From the Relationships window, simply choose Print Relationships from the File menu and print the resulting report.

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

See the DVPC Calendar on [page 16](#) for the date and time of each SIG meeting.

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. at Gateway Group's offices, 3687 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 350, in Lafayette. We're continuing to enhance the DVPC membership roster program to add a feature that will let us automatically generate the monthly meeting announcement email messages. Even though this is an Access program, we'll be working in Visual Basic (VBA). If you are interested in Access or Visual Basic, be sure to join other programmers at this month's Access/VB SIG meeting.

Check out the Access/VB SIG on the web for information about each month's meeting at www.dvpc.org/sig_vbaccess – or navigate there from the DVPC home page (www.dvpc.org), select SIGs from the menu bar at the left, then click on the Access/VB SIG icon. See the web page or the Clarion SIG announcement below for directions to the meeting.

Advanced Users SIG [Jeff Noyer and Sharon Clark](#), SIG Co-Leaders – 937-5282

The Advanced Users SIG meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at 336 El Divisadero Avenue in Walnut Creek. Directions: From downtown Walnut Creek, take Ygnacio Valley Road toward John Muir Hospital. Continue past Walnut *Boulevard* and John Muir Hospital. At the intersection of Ygnacio Valley Road and Walnut *Avenue*, turn right onto Walnut *Avenue*. At the first traffic light, turn right onto Blackstone Drive, then make the first right onto El Divisadero Avenue. Follow the road as it curves to the left. 336 El Divisadero Avenue will be on your right, immediately after the curve. It is a one-story, gray/brown house with white trim. 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!

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

The Clarion SIG meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Gateway Group's offices, 3687 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 350, in Lafayette. Check out the Clarion SIG on the web for information about each month's meeting at www.dvpc.org/sig_clar. TopSpeed's Clarion 5 is a powerful object-oriented database development tool that competes with products like Visual Basic and Delphi and even products like PowerBuilder. If you are an advanced Clarion developer you are invited to join the SIG. This is a SIG for advanced users, so beginners will want to get some hands-on experience before joining. We're continuing with coverage of the Clarion 5 *Programmer's Guide*, so see the [Clarion SIG web site](#) to find out what chapter to read. Be sure to come early for a good seat; the meetings are very well-attended.

Directions: take Highway 24 west to the Central Lafayette exit, and keep to your left to the stop sign at Deer Hill Road at the end of the exit ramp. Turn left onto Deer Hill Road, and continue to where it dead ends at Happy Valley Road. Turn left onto Happy Valley Road. Turn right at the traffic signal at Mt. Diablo Blvd. Take Mt. Diablo Blvd. through the next traffic signal and turn left into the driveway at 3685/3687. Immediately turn right into the parking lot in front of 3687. Take the elevator to the third floor to the door on the right just before the end of the hallway. See the Clarion SIG's Web page for a map. If you get lost, call Ron Ogg at 283-7900 Ext. 215.

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. **However, Montevideo School and the E&E SIG are closed for summer vacation.** The E&E SIG is oriented to exploring the best in education and entertainment software for the PC. Everyone is invited to attend our meetings, and bring your kids along – they'll have a great time, too! Directions: 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.

(Continued on page 5)

SIG NEWS...

(Continued from page 4)

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

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. 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.

Photo SIG [Chuck Graham](#), SIG Leader – 680-1333

The Photo SIG meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Thanks to coordinator Jon McNally, Chief Photographer of the Contra Costa Times, the next DVPC Photo SIG meeting (Mac users also welcome) will be at the Contra Costa Times Newspapers, 2640 Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek. We will gather at the security office (in the parking lot) at 7:00 p.m. on August 10th. Then we will take a tour and see how the newspaper is produced and how they send photos to one of America's great dailies and what it takes to make it hit the street.

New people are welcome at our meetings. Please email your and full name and current email address to graham@value.net for follow-up information and to be placed on the Photo SIG notification list Please let us know what programs or speakers you can provide for our monthly meetings.

If you're interested in digital photography, scanning photographs, and more, check back for all the details about this interesting new SIG. You can also contact Chuck Graham, the Photo SIG leader, via email at graham@value.net for more information.

Real Estate SIG [Bill Thompson](#), SIG Leader – 693-0174

The Real Estate SIG meets on the third Monday of each month. Because we're still tying down the meeting location, you will have to check with Bill Thompson for the exact time, location, and directions. We have limited seating so you **must RSVP for the meetings**. Please contact SIG Leader Bill Thompson at 925-998-8530 or email him at thompson@DLSNetwork.com.

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 fourth Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. **However, the Windows SIG will closed for summer vacation in July and August. Be sure to join us in September when our meetings resume.** Everyone who uses, is interested in, or is curious about Windows on their PC, is invited to attend. See you all at the next Windows SIG meeting.

(Continued on page 6)

SIG NEWS...

(Continued from page 5)

Here are 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.

New SIG?

Are you interested in starting a new SIG? It's easier than you probably think! To get started, just see our new SIG Coordinator Nick Chase at the monthly meeting, or send him at email asking about starting your new SIG at nachase@yahoo.com.

There are lots of areas where you may find DVPC members with interests that are similar to yours. How about a database SIG? Or a genealogy SIG? You'll never know until you give it a try. Ask Chuck Graham who started the popular Photo SIG, or Bill Thompson who started what's probably the first Real Estate SIG in the country. It's up to you!

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:

Membership Drive!

Bring a Friend! Bring a Co-Worker! Bring a Neighbor! Bring Several People!

Get Them to Join DVPC!

For Each Guest You Will Receive an Extra Raffle Ticket!

DVPC Board Meeting Minutes by Tom Krauss, DVPC

Meeting Date: 7/7/99 **Time:** 7:00 p.m. **Location:** Alan Mildwurm's house

Bank Account: \$700 (Approximately)

Upcoming Speakers:

August: [Lernout and Hauspie](#) Speech Recognition Software, and [Syntran](#) Photo and Fax Printing Software, plus an auction including two copies of *Microsoft Office 2000 Premium!*

September: [Enfish](#) Personal Document Management Software

News Flash: Corel was there, *really*, at the July meeting! And an amazing demo of *Corel Draw* was presented, too!

Old Business:

Projector: Despite the presence of Charlie, we did not talk about this for the second month in a row.

New Business:

Publicity: Despite Mark's absence, we discussed some aspects of publicity, although only briefly. Still daring to be different, Peggy came up with another good idea: generic DVPC business cards that all members can hand out. These would contain information such as our web site url, meeting location and schedule, etc. They would not contain the members name, only DVPC. This was a difficult concept for some of us to grasp, and will probably have to be discussed again.

Ron has been searching for someone to print our fliers, brochures, etc. for free, but as yet has had no success. Any members with connections are encouraged to speak with Ron or another Board member.

Random Access: Why is it that the meetings at which little business gets done run longer? Other topics discussed include, but are not limited to, various models of digital cameras; Nick's misspent youth as one of those irritating phone solicitors; a brief history of computers (always a favorite with the Board); why our web page is slow to download (you get what you

(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"/>	Microsoft Project SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced Users SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photo SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clarion SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Real Estate SIG	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education and Entertainment SIG	<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!

Special plan for DVPC members:
PPP Dial-up \$15/mo (when paid quarterly)
with ADSL, only \$54/month total!

Value Net Internetwork Services
2855 Mitchell Dr., Ste 105
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Phone: (925) 943-5769

On the Web: www.value.net

E-Mail: info@value.net

Available Services include:

- ADSL
- Frame Relay
- ISDN Lan-to-Internet
- Web Hosting
- Centrex ISDN
- Custom Business Solutions

Get a Friend to Join DVPC!

DVPC Board Meeting Minutes...

(Continued from page 7)

pay for, and we get it free); landscaping; white sound; Stan's new French press coffee maker; bandwidth (guaranteed to come up in any conversation with Charlie around); and how to run a successful auction.

Video System: Charlie suggested that since our treasury is low, we need to establish a fund for a new video projector. He apparently did not hear my suggestion that we sell the current one and put that money into the fund.

Assigning Blame: Even the Board was embarrassed at the paucity of work done at the end of our two hour meeting. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to blame Mark for this, since he wasn't present to deny responsibility.

ThumbsPlus – A Software Review by Alan Mildwurm, DVPC

Lately, we have been using our CD-ROM burner to create “digital memory books” as Ruth calls them. She has been taking digital pictures of her class all year and wanted to burn a CD for each of her students. We also wanted to give a friend a CD of all the photos we had of him at different family events. In both cases, we used Kai's Power Show to create the slideshow. The ease of that product and the phenomenal transitions make that an excellent program to make a really professional looking slideshow. We keep all our digital pictures on a zip drive divided into separate subdirectories (junior prom, trip to Seattle, Thanksgiving dinner, etc). Since we create a new subdirectory for each batch of digital pictures, the names of the files in each directory as they are downloaded from the camera are the same: 1.jpg, 2.jpg, 3.jpg... Therefore, I needed a program which would let me view all the pictures in a subdirectory, select the ones I want, copy them to a working directory, and rename them so as I copy picture 6 from one subdirectory to the working subdirectory it doesn't overwrite picture 6 which I previously copied from another subdirectory into my working directory.

ThumbsPlus let me do this very easily. This program is loaded with excellent features for managing and manipulating graphics files. Installation is very simple. The program can read several dozen file types including avi, Casio camera, Flashpix, Kodak, QuickTime, Macintosh Paint, Twain, Seattle Filmworks, Corel, NASA fits, ico, uue – about 100 by my count! Naturally, it supports all the “regular” file types: gif, bmp, jpg, tif, wav (yes sound files too!), and often several variants of each: jpg, jfi, jif, jpeg.

The program is designed around thumbnails. It automatically will generate thumbnails for the recognized files in the folder you visit. You can scan entire disks for files. Thumbnails are organized in a tree format. You can set up the program to maintain and show the thumbnails even if the CD (source) is not in the drive!

In addition, you can adjust colors, use filters (sharpen, edge detection), rotate, resize, crop, apply (stamp) text or other images, cut and paste pieces and save your results in many formats. The program can also convert from metafile to raster images. You can also find images by similarity, find duplicates, print contact sheets, print catalogs, build web pages, dis-

[*\(Continued on page 10\)*](#)

Get Involved! Learn!
Join a SIG today!

Support **Diablo Blue** Advertisers!

ThumbsPlus...

(Continued from page 9)

play a slideshow, automatically make thumbnails of new files, capture screen shots, and copy, move and delete thumbnails.

I love the copy process. When I was moving files around *ThumbsPlus* immediately recognized the name conflict (both pictures having the same name), showed me a thumbnail of each with file information (file size, date created, etc.) and asked me what I wanted to do. Since all the files were taken from the same camera, often the file size and sometimes even the date would be the same. Having the thumbnails let me determine if it was a duplicate image. If I wanted both, *ThumbsPlus* **automatically** renamed the file, thus preserving both pictures. I will demonstrate this program at an upcoming meeting since this is one of my favorite utilities.

Here's what's needed to run *ThumbsPlus*:

Operating system: Win 95, 98, NT 4, 2000.

Minimum system: Pentium 90, 16 MB memory, 20 MB HDD, video with 256 colors. Recommended system: Pentium 166, 64 MB memory, 20 MB HDD, video with 32 bit true color.

By the way, I used a 133 with 32 MB of memory and *ThumbsPlus* worked fine!

If you use graphics files, get this! The download version is \$75.00 from Cerious Software Inc., Charlotte N.C. Go to their web site at www.cerious.com.

August Auction by Ron Ogg, DVPC

No, we're not auctioning off the month of August. But, at our August general meeting on the 5th, we are going to have a great auction. We have two copies of *Microsoft Office 2000 Premium* plus several other interesting packages, all brand new and in their original packages.

Office 2000 Premium includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint, FrontPage, and Publisher. The street price for a complete copy is \$699, and the upgrade street price is \$449. Here's your chance to get your own copy, and help *DVPC* by adding to our coffers.

Here's how to place your bid ahead of time: Go to the *DVPC* web site, www.dvpc.org, click on "August Auction" and fill out the form you'll find there. The web bids will be compiled and posted at the August meeting, and an advance over the high web bid will be the starting point for the bidding at the meeting.

Bring your checkbook to the August *DVPC* meeting and be prepared to bid high and bid often! You may just walk out with a copy of *Microsoft Office 2000 Premium*!

Free Software Offer by Justin Morgan, Software602

Software602 would like to give you some FREE software! We are looking to get your feedback on this product, and in return we will give members of the Diablo Valley PC User's Group a full working copy with a retail value of \$49.95.

602 Pro Personal OFFICE SERVER is your home communication center. It handles all message types including e-mail, faxes, and voice mail for you; plus have these messages forwarded to you with "Follow Me" technology. Be in complete control of your own messaging needs and do it all from one product on your home computer.

You can download your copy of *602 Pro Personal OFFICE SERVER* at www.602pro.com/downloads/pos.html.

Use Registration Code: POS-01099999-001-GST0.

Your questions or comments on *602 Pro Personal OFFICE SERVER* can be sent to support@software602.com.

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

Print Selected Material from Web Pages

First, as in making Rabbit Stew, you must catch the rabbit! In this case, before you can print sections of text from Web pages you must first select the material, then paste it into an appropriate software program (e.g. WordPad, any word processor, MS Publisher, etc.). Do that by following these steps. (Selecting and Printing graphics is covered toward the end of this article).

1. Select desired text material in the normal manner by setting your cursor at the upper left corner of the text and holding down the left mouse button. Continue holding the button down and drag the cursor to the end of the material you want to select, then release the button. Your selected text should now be highlighted.
2. Go to the Edit Menu at the top of your screen and click on Copy (or use the Control-C keyboard shortcut). If you don't already have the target software application open, open it now via the Start Menu or a shortcut icon on your Desktop. (Let's assume you will use WordPad from the Accessories Group in the Start Menu. It's quick and easy, and everyone who uses Windows 95/98 has it available.)
3. Go to the File Menu and click on New to open a new document.
4. Make sure the blinking insertion pointer (vertical bar) is positioned at the upper left of the blank page.
5. Go to the Edit Menu and click on Paste (or use the Control-V keyboard shortcut). The selected material should now appear on the blank page.
6. Now you can either save the text (using Save As from the File Menu), edit it to reformat some of the text or to remove unwanted material, or print it (by going to the File Menu and selecting Print).

I do this all the time. Frequently, when researching a subject for a future article, I first create a file by following steps 3 and 4, typing in just a title and perhaps a few notes at the top of the page, then I use File/Save As to give the file a name and save it in an appropriate folder. I visit various Websites, select helpful material and use Copy/Paste (steps 1 through 5) to insert it into the previously created file.

I often use WordPad for this, but MS Word, Word Perfect or some other word processor that offers a Find or Find/Replace function may be preferable if you assemble a large amount of text in a single file. Such software allows you to search for a word or phrase quickly and easily when necessary.

The process for selecting and Printing material from e-mail is the same. Follow the same Copy, Paste, Print sequence outlined above.

If you want to print an entire Web page, simply click on the right mouse button anywhere on the page. Select Print from the pup-up menu that appears and follow normal Printing procedure.

If you want to print a picture or other graphic from the Web, do this:

1. Place cursor on designed image.
2. Click right mouse button.

[*\(Continued on page 12\)*](#)

Become a Mentor by [Alan Mildwurm](#), DVPC

DVPC has a large number of knowledgeable members who are intermediate to expert users of various software packages. We're going to resurrect our Mentor program and take advantage of this storehouse of knowledge and let members share their knowledge with other members. If you use particular software packages, and would like to help other members when they have questions about any of those packages, you are a candidate for becoming a Mentor. Check the web site and look for a Mentor Information Form at the May meeting, and help your fellow DVPC members

Ken's Korner...

(Continued from page 11)

3. Click on Save Picture As
4. Select the drive and folder where you want to store the graphic.
5. Save it under the original name, or give it a new name.

You can then print the graphic by importing it into an appropriate image editing program (e.g. Windows Paint, Photo Deluxe, Photo Shop, Photo Impact, etc.). Reminder: Web images are normally in low-resolution GIF or JPEG formats so they will not look as good when Printed as BMP, TIFF or other higher resolution images.

A tip here: If you're only interested in printing out the text on a page, just turn off the graphics. In Internet Explorer follow these steps.

1. On the View menu in the browser, click Internet Options.
2. Click the Advanced tab.
3. Select the Multimedia tab, and remove checks in the Show pictures, Play animations, Play videos, and Play sounds check boxes.

This will make Web pages load a lot faster, too. You can always turn the pictures, animations, etc. back on by reversing the procedure.

Actually, what I do is use two browsers an older version of Netscape Navigator with graphics turn off, and a current version of Internet Explorer with all the goodies turned on. I use Navigator for research and other quick-and-dirty surfing, IE for normal Web wandering when I want to see all the graphics.

Copyright 1999 by Ken Fermoye, kfermoye@earthlink.net.

Special Offer on Income Tax Software by [Cammie Greif](#), 2nd Story Software, Inc.

Many User Group members learned about 2nd Story Software's *TaxACT '98* last year. *TaxACT* is the low cost, easy to use tax preparation software for individuals. Not only did we hear from User Group Members, we also had positive reviews from major computer magazines, including *PC Computing*, *Computer Shopper*, *Business Week*, *Home Office Computing* and *Family PC*.

TaxACT is developed by a team of tax accountants and programmers. With their experience on your side, *TaxACT* sorts through the new tax law changes! Never again worry about doing your taxes, let *TaxACT* do it for you! You can file your taxes with your computer – print your return to file or file electronically!

We understand the time and effort it takes to sift through the many software products available and we want to say "Thanks!" To express our thanks, we are offering a special price on our *TaxACT '99 Deluxe* and *TaxACT '99 State* products to all *DVPC* User Group members. Every member is entitled to receive *TaxACT '99 Deluxe* and *State* for only \$19.00 via download.

DVPC members can find the special offer at www.taxact.com/products/ebird.asp?sc=1210330.

KRISHNA COPY CENTER

State-of-the-Art Electronic Printing

DESKTOP PUBLISHING z COPYING z PRINTING

1676 No. California Blvd., Plaza #119

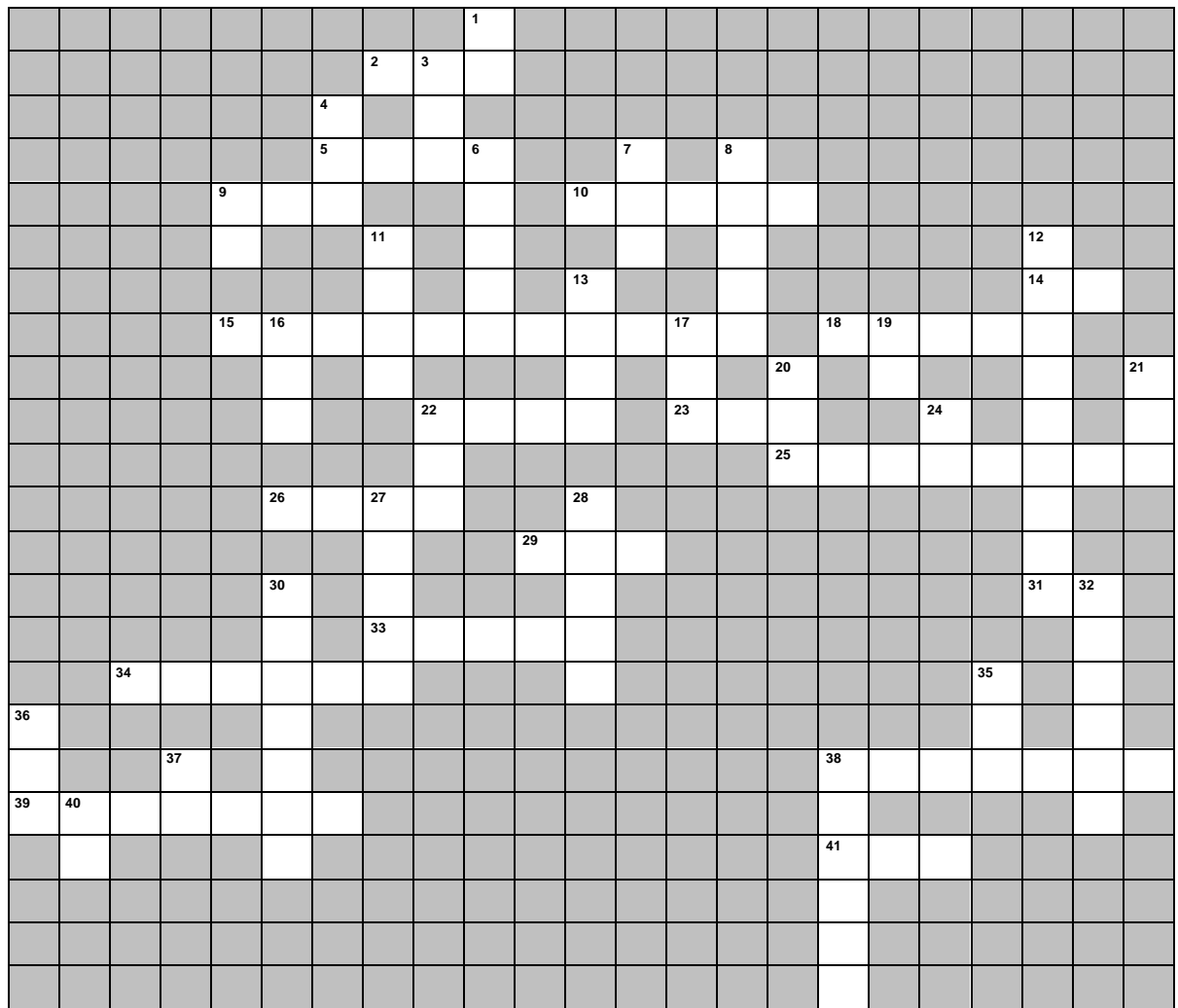
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

(925) 256-6898

10% Discount for DVPC Members with this Ad!

Computer Crossword, August 1999

by Craig Peterson, DVPC



ACROSS

- 2 Computer aided instruction
- 5 Computer aided design and drafting
- 9 Teleprinter with keyboard
- 10 Interactive programming language for time sharing on large mainframes
- 14 Office automation
- 15 Number based on 16 digits
- 18 Language used in business applications
- 22 Language developed in USSR
- 23 Computer aided design
- 25 1/250,000,000 of an inch
- 26 Transfer data into a computer device
- 29 Random access memory
- 31 Hewlett-Packard
- 33 Compiler language for solving mathematical problems
- 34 Standard typewriter keyboard for the English language
- 38 Language that includes logical gates "and", "or", and "not"
- 39 Printer that uses special paper and heat
- 41 Computer aided manufacturing

DOWN

- 1 Artificial intelligence
- 3 Command for both inputs to be present for output
- 4 Optical character recognition

- 6 Language invented by Wayne Ratcliff
- 7 Local area network
- 8 Picture element
- 9 1024 bytes of information
- 11 Central telephone switching machine
- 12 Punched card code
- 13 Garbage in garbage out
- 16 Escape key
- 17 Assembly Language Code
- 19 Operating system
- 20 Compiler language named after A. Byron, Countess of Lovelace
- 21 International Business Machines Corporation
- 22 Type of display
- 24 Nanosecond
- 27 Series of data in a row or matrix
- 28 An ordered collection of data
- 30 Language used for scientific and mathematical problems
- 32 Language named after the person who designed and built the first calculator
- 35 Boot function of a computer
- 36 Command that the output is opposite the input
- 37 Command for either input to be present for output
- 38 Extra machine readable copy of data
- 40 Hertz

See the solution at the August DVPC meeting.

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](#), or mail to: Editor, Diablo Blue, P.O. Box 2222, Orinda, CA 94563-2222. 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 770-5770 (work) Mark Allen, Publicity 680-7746 (home)
Nicholas Chase, SIG Coordinator 680-4211 (home) Charlie Crothers, At Large 829-2237 (home)
Bill Earl, Sergeant-at-Arms 939-5874 (home) Peggy Johnson, Membership Secretary 676-7522 (home)
Tom Krauss, Secretary 689-9960 (home) Jessica Mildwurm, Treasurer 829-5858 (home)
Ron Ogg, Newsletter Editor 283-7900 Ext. 201 (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 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 or mail them to:
Ronald Ogg, P.O. Box 2222, Orinda, CA 94563-2222

Entire contents © 1998-1999 by Diablo Valley PC Users' Group. All commercial rights reserved.
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 member of [UGNN](#), the User Group Network News Service



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 667, Danville, CA 94526

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

Name: _____

Company/School: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____

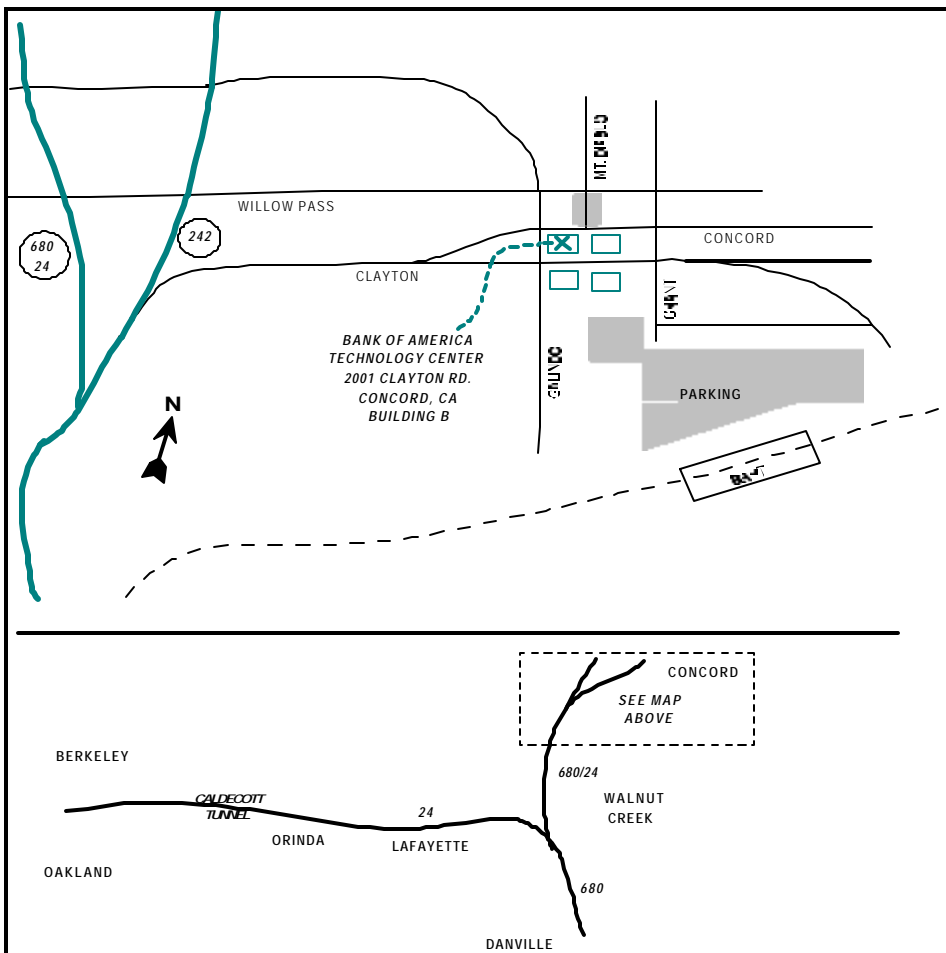
City/State/Zip: _____

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 August 1999 Calendar

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
2	3	4	5 DVPC Monthly Meeting 7:00 p.m. New User's SIG 5:30 p.m.	6
9	10 Photo SIG 7:00 p.m.	11 Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Alan Mildwurm's house	12	13 <i>Diablo Blue deadline</i> Email articles and ads to the Newsletter Editor: rogg@value.net
16 Microsoft Project SIG 7:30 p.m. Real Estate SIG 9:00 a.m.	17	18 Internet SIG 7:00 p.m.	19 Advanced Users SIG 7:30 p.m.	20
23	24 Access/Visual Basic SIG 7:30 p.m.	25 Education & Entertainment SIG: <i>On Summer Vacation</i> Clarion SIG 7:30 p.m.	26	27 Windows SIG <i>On summer vacation... see you in September</i>
30	31			<i>See SIG News starting on page 4 for more information about SIG meeting dates, times, topics, and locations</i>

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: