

THE GURU

TRUMCUG

Trumbull Computer User's Group

Since 1984

Supporting All Personal Computers

May 1996
Volume 3 Issue 9

Send mail to:

P.O. Box 8632
Warren, Ohio 44484



Meeting Notice: Third Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:00 PM. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday May 15, 1996 at the Warren branch of the Cortland Bank, on Elm road, North of McDonald's and across from Sims Buick.

TRUMCUG Officers 1995-1996

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Bob Boyts (330) 772-4220

Trustee two year

John Calderwood III (330) 898-4674

Trustee one year and Guru Editor

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Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays
June 19, September 18, and October 16.

Note: Meetings now are back at 7:00 PM.

May Meeting

At our April meeting Chris Shonk showed us several History of Art cd disks that she's using to do research for some classes she's taking. We saw several disks that represented different eras in art. This demo was delayed from a January demo because of problems we were having with my old computer. We also did some online research via America-Online. We visited the Lourve Art Museum in Paris, France via the World wide Webb. Thanks for an interesting demo Chris!! **Don't forget elections are scheduled at our May meeting. Please try to be there!**

Hamfest!

There's going to be a Hamfest at the Canfield Fairgrounds on Sunday, May 26th. The Youngstown Commodore Users group will have a table set up there, and have offered to sell any Commodore hardware or software for our club members at this table. A 10 % donation is suggested. If you have any Commodore items you might want to sell here, contact our club secretary Doc Sindelar and he'll help you get situated.

VisionTech Electronics has a new address and new phone numbers:

3995 Greenmont SE

Warren OH 44484

Voice: 856-6732

Fax: 856-5735

Readers should consider letting VisionTech quote on their PC computer needs.

From the Editor

Softwood Announce Final Writer release 5

As I'm sure you all know, :) Final Writer has always been used for The Guru since I took over the newsletter in ... March 1994! For over two years I have toiled on the newsletter, and even

tried a web page last summer. A full web version now seems possible, with some help from Softwood.

Softwood has announce Final Writer release 5. We are currently using release 4, and it is a good version. However, release 5 promises FULL HTML exporting. This will make the new Final-Writer a Web page creation tool. To find out more exciting info on it, go to the Softwood web page at:

<http://www.softwood.com>

BTW--Final Writer is now for Windows95 too!

CISNET

CISNET has upgraded their web page once again. Lots of Ohio web page links makes this a good sight to start surfing from. Start surfing at:

<http://www.cisnet.com>

Command and Conquer

If you like real time strategy and action, then check out this page and download a demo of Command and Conquer. This is an excellent game, and has spawned at least 50 web pages dedicated to it. Be prepared to wait, as the first demo (the game itself) is around 12 megabytes long, the second part (including music and full motion video) is 20 megs long. The itself is available on CD-ROM at your local software store (Walmart has the best price IMHO). Req: 8 megs ram, 2x cdrom, works with windows95.

<http://www.westwood.com>

Year 2000 Will Kill Computers

FROM "Ohio State Quest" Winter 1996 edition (a newsletter) no author listed

On January 1, 2000, unless corrective action has been taken, many computer systems and programs throughout the world will fail if programming that involves dates, projections, and comparisons treat the two-digit date '00' as older than '99'.

"The problem is industry-wide, and the ramifications are great," said Bob Dixon, director of the University Technology Service advanced technology group. UTS handles Ohio State's computing, from electronic mail to faculty research to payroll databases.

Dixon explained, "Expanding a 'date field' by two characters means other fields have to be shifted. Then something else that reads the new file might be thrown off."

On campus, what is called the year 2000 Problem, or Y2K, will affect computer administrators, who have to retrofit their systems; faculty who have written research programs with dating that only they and their research associates are familiar with; and everyone with desktop computers that use internal clocks.

The Office of the University Registrar already has to deal with the problem. With UTS assistance, the staff is changing the software for files about students who will graduate in 2000.

No one even knows every place that dates may be lurking in computerized materials, Dixon said. "Files and programming have to be gone over with a fine tooth comb. Any programs, records, and database formats with dates will have to be changed to accommodate the four-digit date."

At Ohio State, some 4 million lines of code must be dealt with, and the change won't come cheaply: just making adjustments to the software that handles the university's system for making purchases will take an estimated \$500,000.

To learn more about Y2K, computer users can access the IBM World wide Web page at <http://www.software.ibm.com> and read "The Year 2000" and "Two-Digit Dates: A Guide for Planning and Introduction."

3DO Licenses Dolby Surround AC-3 Digital Audio Technology

LAS VEGAS - April 15, 1996 - The 3DO Company today announced it has licensed Dolby(R) Laboratories' Surround AC-3(TM) digital audio encoding technology, known as Dolby Digital. The

company plans to develop Dolby Digital audio solutions to complement its digital video encoding/decoding product line, raising the bar for audio realism in professional and consumer applications.

Under the definitive agreement signed today, 3DO will incorporate Dolby's AC-3 digital audio encoding technology into products that will work in tandem with its recently announced MPEG-2 digital video encoding system. Specific product announcements will be made at a later date.

"Companies that are serious about MPEG-2 digital video must offer AC-3 solutions," said Toby Farrand, senior vice president, engineering, The 3DO Company. "Adding Dolby Digital encoding capability to our suite of products is critical in delivering all the tools necessary to our customers for creating DVD content and applications with the highest quality compressed digital audio available today."

"3DO is known for its expertise in graphics, video, and audio technology design, and we're thrilled to add them to our family of Dolby Digital encoding licensees," said Ed Schummer, vice president of licensing, Dolby Laboratories. "We welcome 3DO's efforts to bring AC-3 encoding technology into the mainstream of desktop multimedia."

Dolby Digital is a very selective and powerful audio signal processing technology that delivers sound quality that is extraordinarily close to the original source material. It delivers six totally separate, discrete digital channels of sound to provide more precise localization of sounds and a significantly more convincing and realistic recreation of sonic ambiance.

Dolby Digital is recognized as the premier digital audio technology with application in several areas, including DVD (Digital Versatile Disc), digital cable and HDTV broadcasts, direct broadcast satellite, professional film titles, and movie theatres.

BTW--3DO also announced the release of the MPEGXPRESS 2000, MPEG-2 realtime encoder and the Studio 3DO PC games release. These articles were too large to include in The Guru but

are available at:

<http://www.3do.com>

Release of Version DR7 of the BE OS Announced

**New version of the multiprocessor OS
provides basis for a wide range of
software development**

MENLO PARK, Calif (April 17, 1996) - Be, Inc., announced today that it will release version DR7 of the Be Operating System (Be OS (tm)) on Monday, April 22. The new version opens the multiprocessor-based system to a wider variety of software development, and provides a wealth of new features including true 32-bit color graphics support, an enhanced file system, and support for virtual workspaces.

"The new features in DR7 represent another milestone in developing the Be OS," said Jean-Louis Gasse, Be's president and chief executive officer. "We now have a significant number of third-party developers actively working with the Be OS, and this version also reflects their feedback and opinions. DR7 will act as an accelerator for software development on the Be System by all types of developers."

To underscore this point, Be's development tools partner, Metrowerks, simultaneously announced the release of the Be-native version of its award winning Integrated Development Environment (IDE). CodeWarrior(tm) for BeBox brings Metrowerks' award-winning development environment to the Be OS, and takes advantage of the multiple processors in the BeBox by enabling concurrent compilation.

The Be OS is the heart of the new BeBox(tm) computer system, introduced late last year. The BeBox integrates multiple PowerPC microprocessors into a personal computer system geared for digital design, including handling real-time media such as digital video and audio, computation-intensive graphics, and electronic publishing

capabilities for CD, DVD, and the Internet. The BeBox offers an exciting alternative to the current evolutionary approach to personal computing platforms, designed to meet the demands of sophisticated computer users and developers who are frustrated by the limitations of current PC architectures.

Be has been shipping BeBox systems to developers since December of last year, and plans to make Be systems available generally later this quarter. In addition, the company plans to license the Be OS to personal computer producers, value-added manufacturers, and other players in the consumer electronics and computing industries.

The DR7 release extends Be's operating system foundation by providing models for software driver development, which will allow any third-party to integrate different PC peripherals and cards into the Be System. In addition, developers now have support for shared library development, which aids the development of modular software.

DR7 also provides a broad range of new features and performance improvements, such as a new native file system, support for full 32-bit color graphics, and improvements to the integrated database capabilities. The new version adds the concept of "workspaces," allowing a Be OS user to create multiple virtual desktops, each with its own set of running applications and windows.

DR7 extends the Internet capabilities integrated into the Be OS. The system now has support for multiple TCP/IP connections via Ethernet or PPP (point-to-point protocol, used for connecting to the Internet via serial or telephone lines). File-serving capabilities based on the FTP protocol are built into the operating system, allowing users to access their BeBox from anywhere on the Internet. In addition, a basic Internet web server is now included with the operating system, allowing HTML documents and images to be published on the network.

"We still have a lot of functionality we want to add to the Be OS," said Erich Ringewald, Be's VP of engineering. "DR7 and the CodeWarrior release go a long way toward providing the tools developers need for serious development work on the Be-

Box."

DR7 will begin shipping next week to developers who are already working with the Be OS. There is no upgrade fee for the new version. The new software will be preloaded on all new BeBox systems that ship to developers beginning next week as well.

About Be, Inc.

Be, Inc. was founded by Jean-Louis Gasse in 1990 to overcome the limitations of existing computer architectures. With a team of industry-leading engineers and business executives in the United States and Europe, the company has positioned itself to become a key player in fast-growing application markets. Be, Inc. is headquartered in Menlo Park, California.

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TRUMCUG Web Page

<http://cc.ysu.edu/~s0176111/trumcug.html>

Newsletter

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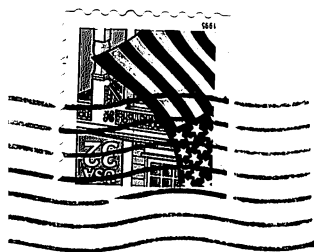
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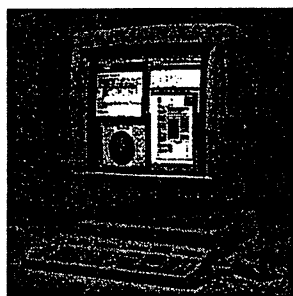
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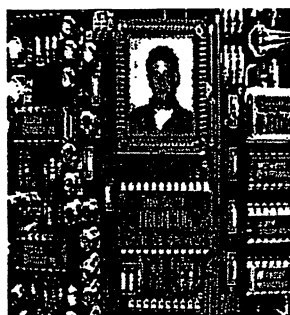
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Computer meeting on the
3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00PM
(except July and August)

Warren branch
Cortland Bank
Elm Road-Warren, Ohio



TRUMCUG Dues Notice

The 4 digit expiration number that is listed below your name on your mailing sticker is the year/month that your dues are paid through. Those receiving free trial copies will have "NM" (non member) and the date of their last free copy below their name in the expiration area. Those receiving a complimentary copy will have nothing in the expiration area.

