

# DiLorenzo on Computer Crime

**D**ue to the storm on January 6, Investigator **Michael DiLorenzo** had to cancel as he is now stationed at the Albany office of the State Troopers. He will once again fascinate us with his true-life tales about Internet crime. He'll show us how to protect ourselves against criminals who take advantage of computer technology to fleece or injure us. He also promises a new twist in his presentation.

This will also mark the third appearance of Michael DiLorenzo before our group and each of his previous presentations has been both entertaining and fascinating in terms of the rich details that he discloses about his important work.


With his vast knowledge of Internet criminal practices, Michael will grab and hold our attention just as though we were home watching an episode of *Law and Order!*

Michael studied Computer Science at Moravian College and after serving in the US Air Force for six years he attended the NY State Police Academy. He served as a road trooper in Middletown NY and in 1994 he transferred to Utica.

While in Utica he taught other troopers and investigators how to use software that was being developed for police use. Michael then became involved with the computer crime unit which opened in the Utica office. In 2001 Michael became an Investigator and transferred to the Division Headquarters in Albany.

## Meeting Agenda

- 5:30 . . . . . Meet and Greet
- 6:00 . . . . . Business Meeting
- 6:30 . . . . . Program, Part 1
- 7:00 . . . . . Break
- 7:15 . . . . . Program, Part 2
- 8:15 . . . . . Drawing for Prizes
- 8:30 . . . . . Adjournment



As winter is upon us, we run the risk of cancellation of our monthly meeting if the Whitesboro High School closes. School closings are usually listed on the radio in the morning and a notice will also be placed on our web home page ([www.mvpcug.com](http://www.mvpcug.com)). Note that whether our SIG meetings are held is at the discretion of each SIG leader. Please phone or email your SIG leader regarding closings.

**Our Meetings  
are open to  
the public.**



**No admission  
charge!**



The MVPCUG EXPLORER is published monthly by the Mohawk Valley Personal Computer User Group, Inc., PO Box 586, Marcy NY 1403-0586.

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The Mohawk Valley PC User Group, Inc. (MVPCUG) was founded in 1981 by individuals interested in IBM compatible computers. This non-profit organization consists of volunteers whose expertise range from novice to professional.

Regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm, usually at the Whitesboro High School, Route 291, Marcy NY. A typical agenda consists of discussion of business affairs and a demonstration of computer related products. Meetings are open to the public.

Initial membership fee for an individual is \$25. Annual renewal dues are \$20.

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4 page — \$25 ♦ 1/2 page — \$45

NEWSLETTER STAFF Editor

- Bob Schaffer
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Our INTERNET presence is at
http://www.mvpcug.com

The Web Team

- Dan Evans
Lisa Britt

HELP HOTLINES

Help is limited to times indicated below. Day calls: 9am to 4pm. Evening calls: 6 to 9pm. If your problem isn't urgent, please try e-mail.

Disclaimer: The individuals listed here provide voluntary services and information. Please be considerate when you call. Help hotline members reserve the right to limit the amount of advice and number of calls they will accept. Use these services and information at your own discretion and risk as they and the MVPCUG do not assume responsibility for any software or hardware failures that may occur. The club does not assume responsibility for any agreements made by participating parties.

- AOL ..... Dave Askew
Basic ..... Mike Smith
Batch Files ..... Mike Smith
Tim Clinehens
dBBase ..... Mike Smith
Excel ..... Bob May
Money ..... Bob Schaffer
Troubleshooting ..... Tim Clinehens
Bill Gorrell
WordPerfect ..... Bob Schaffer

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- President ..... Jerry Finkelstein
Vice President ..... Bill Gorrell
Treasurer ..... Donna Gorrell
Secretary ..... Marsha Thayer
Directors-at-Large ..... Tim Clinehens ['04]
Dave Askew ['05]
George Bracken ['06]

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Our Special Interest Groups usually meet each month. Each SIG is independent and has its own leader.

Internet SIG — 3rd Mon at St. John's Episcopal Church, 135 Main St., Whitesboro, at 6:30pm. Learn about web pages and how to navigate the Internet. Tim Clinehens

Q&A SIG — Last Mon at St. John's Episcopal Church, 135 Main St., Whitesboro, at 6:30pm. Questions, whether simple or complex. Tim Clinehens.

WordProcessing SIG — doesn't meet monthly, but you can request weekly emails with tips for both WordPerfect and Word from Bob Schaffer

Genealogy Club —3rd Tuesday at Calvary United Methodist Church, 706 North Madison Street in Rome.

GET A FREE MVPCUG MEMBERSHIP
♦ It's easy to do and you'll save \$20.00!
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Stay connected . . . to the MVPCUG Mohawk Valley PC User Group, Inc. \$25 for initial sign-up - \$20 for renewal
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Marcy NY 13403-0586

## Minutes of January 6, 2004

— Marsha Thayer, Secretary

The MVPCUG general meeting was held at the Whitesboro High School. President Jerry Finkelstein called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

### Business Meeting

Jerry announced that Mike DiLorenzo, the scheduled speaker for the evening, would be unable to make it due to bad weather. Tonight's program will be "Ask the Gurus". Mike will present the February program.

In March we will have an auction. Contact Tim or Dave if you have anything you are interested in auctioning.

We need to do an audit of the club's books for 2003. Jerry asked for volunteers.

Election of officers will take place at the March meeting. Jerry has agreed to be president again if no one else is interested. Bill is willing to be the treasurer if no one else is interested. There are three positions that need to be filled: vice president, secretary and one director position.

John Hunter provided information on web sites that contain pictures of the Mars explorations. They are: [www.space.com](http://www.space.com), [www.jpl.nasa.gov](http://www.jpl.nasa.gov), and [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov). Additionally he mentioned that you can look up "hubble telescope" on Google for other interesting pictures.

A committee headed by Dave Askew is updating the MVPCUG By-laws. Anyone wishing to suggest changes to the By-laws can contact Dave at [bubbalight@aol.com](mailto:bubbalight@aol.com). The club members present voted two changes to the By-laws as follows:

There was a unanimous vote that general club meetings be held monthly from September through June instead of monthly as it now states in the By-laws.

There is currently nothing in the By-laws regarding the approval process for minutes. Four methods listed below for approving minutes were proposed. Method A got 20 votes, Method B got 0 votes, Method C got 2 votes and Method D got 9 votes. Therefore, the Board of Directors will approve the minutes.

Method A - the Board of Directors to approve the minutes for the whole club.

Method B - the membership read the minutes in the

Newsletter and come to the next general meeting prepared to vote.

Method C - the minutes be read aloud at the general meeting and then have a member vote.

Method D - email minutes to members (have a few hard copies available at general meetings) and have them vote at the next general meeting.

We discussed the manner in which members would get to see the minutes. We agreed to keep the minutes in the Newsletter.

The treasurer reported the following activity for December 2003. Income was \$232.81. Ex-penses were \$666.42. Expenses included the major items of newsletter printing (\$200), donation to St. John's for facility use (\$250.00) and utility CD supplies (143.26). The balance as of 12/31/2003 was \$4169.48.

Members present approved the Dec 2003 minutes.

Tim presented information on this month's CD that features Freeware. The CD includes a full game called Hidden and Dangerous. The CD contains 91 programs in 27 categories and can be purchased for \$5.00.

At 6:55 we began the "Ask the Guru" program. Tim Clinehens was the main guru.

Q: When backing up the Favorites folder to CD using ME OS, do you have to format the CD first?

A: You have to format the CD if it is a rewriteable CD. If using a CD that you can add to, be sure to name the file differently each time. Since it is a small file, it can be backed up to a floppy.

Q: When using a laptop that has a wireless connection to a computer on the 2nd floor, I get a prompt that the ink cartridge on 2nd floor needs replacing although the printer has new ink cartridges.

A: For remote printers, do not install the printer drivers on the laptop. Install a remote printer instead.

Q: I have replaced the ink cartridge on my printer and now am getting a greenish tinge.

A: Try replacing ink cartridge. Also, the HP website has troubleshooting guide. Or go to Google and search for HP Newsgroup.

Q: When downloading *Quicktime*, an icon was placed on the right and left task bars. How do I get rid of this?

A: Go to Start --> Run *msconfig*. Select the Startup tab. Uncheck those things that you do not want to start up on boot. Be careful not to turn off your anti-virus and other protection software. (Cont'd p.4)

(Continued from page 3)

Q: How do you really get rid of data on hard drives?

A: The only sure way is to format the disk, wipe it with software and then physically destroy the hard drive. A formatted disk can often be restored.

Q: Do they give out your e-mail address when you buy something?

A: No, not usually. Check the privacy statement of that particular seller. We got into a discussion of tracking software that gets planted. Be sure to run *Ad-Aware* and *Spybot* to get rid of tracking software.

Q: I get spam consisting of only random words. What's that about?

A: They're trying to bypass anti-spam software.

We took a break from 7:35 to 7:50.

Tim resumed the evening's discussions with an update on the Open Box Pilot. Open Box seeks to help members with system upgrades / conversions. Participants will be selected via a lottery. Once selected, participants are requested to do a full backup before bring their tower in for upgrade. Tim discussed what would and would not be appropriate upgrades. Basically, the 2-hour time slot will limit certain types of upgrades. The first session of Open Box will be held on Thursday, January 22nd from 6-5 at A-Z Auto on Oriskany Blvd.

At 8:00 we drew the door prizes.

### Door Prize Drawing Winners

(The following prizes provided by MVPCUG)

\* Surge protector - **Bill Wilson**

\* 15 CDRs with cases - **Don Jennings**

\* 10 CDRs with cases - **Tom Maggio**

(The following prizes provided by Que/Sam's Books)

\* Lighted key chain & pen - **Gerald Olmstead**

\* Lighted key chain, pen & cup - **George Purpura**

(The following prizes provided by Mindshare)

\* Microsoft Digital Image Suite - **Joe Madeira**

\* T-shirt - **Fred Cole**

\* T-shirt - **Jim Gemza**

(The following prize provided by Jerry Finkelstein)

\* Web Publishing with HTML - **Bo Wozniak**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Thayer, secretary

## Windows XP Tip-of-the-Month

— by Joe Madeira

Here is a shortcut to the System Properties dialog box without having to pass through the Control Panel. This is how to set System Restore memory (like Go Back), get system info, set system options, etc.

Press the Windows key and the Break key at the same time. The System Properties dialog box opens and shows system information. Use the tabs to set Restore memory, change system options, determine how automatic updates are handled, etc. ❖

## Word Processing Tips

— by Bob Schaffer

### WORD —Moving Text

As you probably know, you can select text in Word and then drag the selected text to a new location using the mouse. Here is another way to move text in Word.

- \* Select some text
- \* While holding down Shift+Alt, use the Up and Down arrows to move the text.

**Addendum:** This works beautifully for any text that concludes with an Enter (paragraph ending). It will not work if you're trying to move a word or words inside a paragraph. Only the whole paragraph moves up or down. It's a quick and easy way to shift text (a paragraph) up or down in a document.

### WORDPERFECT — Enter a dynamic date

If you often work with a boilerplate document that includes today's date, such as a letter or timesheet, it's very easy to forget to change the date before you print. And manually changing the date for every document is both tedious and unnecessary.

Fortunately, WordPerfect can insert a date code in that document that automatically updates to the current date for you.

- \* To insert this dynamic date, place the insertion point where you want the date to appear
- \* Then choose Insert | Date/Time from the menu
- \* Select a date format from the Date/Time Formats list box.
- \* To enter a date code instead of a static date, select the Keep The Inserted Date Current check box.
- \* Now click Insert.
- \* The current date is inserted into the document.
- \* Save the document.
- \* The next time you open this document the current date (as set by your computer's system clock) is entered where the date code is. ❖



## Did You Know . . .

. . . that you can resize a scrollbar? If you have a difficult time fitting your mouse into the small area of the scrollbar because of a shaky hand, make that scrollbar larger. Here's how to do it:

- Right-click the desktop, select Properties
- Select the *Appearance* tab
- In the second drop down box [labeled *Item*] select *Scrollbar* or click on the scrollbar in the upper part of the dialog box and Scrollbar will appear in the second dropdown box
- Use the box to the right of the drop down box labeled *Size* to increase the width to your liking



. . . that we will have elections in March? Marsha Thayer is retiring from the Secretary position and we need someone to come forth to fill that position. Bill Gorrell will run for Treasurer, leaving us looking for a new Vice President. Jerry has indicated that he will serve as President for the coming year. Each year a Director-at-Large position becomes vacant so here's your chance to become a Board member. If you feel you can fill any of these positions or know of someone who could do the job, please contact Jerry.



. . . that you can backup the Favorites and Address Book files? You must first find the location of these files. The Favorites folder in Windows9x/ME is located in C:\Windows\Favorites. In Windows XP/2000, the location depends upon who is logged in. Default for the logged in user is C:\Documents And Settings\*Username*\Favorites. The Address Book is a file and in Win9x/ME the default location is C:\Windows\Application Data\Microsoft\Address Book. In WinXP/2000, the file might be in C:\Documents and Settings, depending on the number of users.

If need be, make sure hidden files are exposed and then use Start|Find in Win9x or Start|Search in XP. Then search for Favorites or Address Book. There will be several Favorites folders, as other programs will have Favorites folders, but IE's folder should be

near the top of the list. The Address Book will have the extension of .WAB [Windows Address Book].

Once you have located these files, you can copy them to a floppy or CD. Then if need be, you can use them if something goes awry with your system. To restore the .WAB data, open the Address Book application [which you'll generally find under Start|Programs|Accessories], click File, then Import. Click Windows Address Book, supply a location, select the file name, and click OK.



. . . that you should be extra careful when opening email these days? Lou Barile sent us info to view at [www.techweb.com/wire/story/TWB20040109S0009](http://www.techweb.com/wire/story/TWB20040109S0009)

The last paragraph is most important, which says "Symantec's Weafer also reminded users that Microsoft never delivers security updates via e-mail, and urged people to scan suspicious messages for tell-tale signs of a scam, such as misspelled words and awkward syntax, both of which are evident in the message loaded with Trojan.Xombe." The stress should be on the fact that Microsoft NEVER delivers security updates—period.

# COMPUTER DOCTOR LLC

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Westmoreland, NY 13490

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### HOURS:

Monday .....4:30 - 7:00 pm  
 Tuesday .....On Site By Appointment  
 Wednesday .....4:30 - 7:00 pm  
 Thursday .....4:30 - 7:00 pm  
 Friday .....On Site By Appointment  
 Saturday .....9:00 - 12:00 noon

## Sites to Visit on the 'Net

— by John Hunter

It's February. The Christmas bills arrived last month and hopefully you paid all of them in full. No? Maybe you need some financial advice to avoid the problem of too much month and too little money. A financial website to look at is [www.smartmoney.com](http://www.smartmoney.com). If you lost money in the stock market debacle of 2000-2002, you may be inclined to hesitate on this one. Don't. This site was right on target in warning about that infamous bear market **before** it happened.

The site provides a list of free financial articles you may read and free worksheets to use. For example, in December the editors provided a worksheet for tracking Christmas expenses. In a worksheet titled holiday gifts, you list Christmas present purchases with a column for recipient name, budget, actual expense, and surplus/deficit, all with totals provided at the bottom of each column. Neat, although keeping track of December purchases eliminates the adrenalin rush you get in January when the bills for all those untracked purchases arrive. For those who want budgeting help, you can print a version of the spreadsheet to take shopping or you can input the data at the website to keep track after the fact.

Under a tab for holiday tips, you are reminded to plan for tips for the mailman, newspaper boy, and hair cutter. Under the incidentals tab, you are reminded to plan for Christmas cards, postage and so on. Other tabs provide worksheets for decorations, food, clothing (party outfits), travel and entertainment, all related to the holidays.

Other [smartmoney.com](http://www.smartmoney.com) helpers include 401(k) Advice, Calculators, Debt Management, Estate Planning, Financial Planning and Tax Planning. Forbes rates this site Best of the Web. Now, on to another dyspepsia producing topic.

Have you ever seen a poster with a four-color photograph of a rocky beach or an angelic child? A poster with a message? A poster designed to motivate you for higher achievement? Does such a poster rot your socks? If so, you need to click on [www.Despair.com](http://www.Despair.com). This website will cure you of all your corporate motivational ills. As the catalogue puts it, "...[we] champion the idea that within each person exists virtually unlimited potential. At Despair, Inc., we agree wholeheartedly—and helping others to unleash their hidden potentials remains our singular obsession."

That said, click on the page to view "Classic Demotivators" 2004 Calendars, Pessimist's coffee mugs, notecard packs and 5 X 7 desktoppers and posters. The posters are the most fun. The topic "Underachievers, The power of Mediocrity: Unleashed," just about says it all. For example, A poster featuring the Leaning Tower of Pisa trumpets

the following message, "Mediocrity: It takes a lot less time and most people won't notice the difference until it's too late." The web catalogue suggests the poster would be perfect for mediocre architects, mechanical/civil engineers, quality assurance personnel and disaffected college students.

A poster for Nepotism reads: "We promote family values around here—almost as often as we promote family members." A poster for Teamwork picturing a snowball rolling down hill asserts, "Teamwork: A few harmless flakes working together can unleash an avalanche of destruction."

Other posters include: GET TO WORK: You're not being paid to believe in the power of your dreams; DEMOTIVATION: Sometimes the best solution to morale problems is just to fire all the unhappy people; or my favorite, CONSULTING: If you're not a part of the solution, there's good money to be made in prolonging the problem. And some of you think the Grinch only comes around at Christmas.

The Despair.com corporate logo is the emoticon, :- ( . You can purchase coffee mugs and Despairwear featuring an **Insecuri-tee**, or an **Unleash the power of mediocrity** tee. You can order online or call 1-877-DESPAIR.

In a more positive vein, try [www.historywired.com](http://www.historywired.com). This is a site produced by the Smithsonian Institution. You will need Java to load the object map, but there is a text only alternative for those without Java. I chose the text only approach. I clicked on Clothing and up came a list of items. I clicked on "evening dress" and up came a picture of an evening dress made of rayon crepe, sequins, rhinestones and beads along with a detailed provenance. Apparently, the wife of the Coast Guard Academy superintendent purchased the dress in 1945 to wear to a Connecticut College musical event. The design original she thought she had purchased turned out to be a "knock off" when one of the entertainers showed up wearing the same dress. Other items on display include sailor suits, flour sack dresses, a Jackie Kennedy ball gown and so on.

In a photo exhibit, one of the first pictures of a Native American, "Smutty Bear," (1858) appears with a short text explaining the significance of the ambrotype. Other photos include: "Photomicrograph" circa 1850, an early picture of an insect head. With this picture, you can register your vote for the best micrograph as well. "Groucho Marx's Home Movies 1920's and 1930's" show Groucho without his mustache and cigar tending his garden. You can learn more about Groucho when you click additional links. For example, Groucho's real name is Julius Henry Marx. History buffs can click on a Matthew Brady photograph of George Armstrong Custer taken in the 1860's. And you can find out that Matthew Brady was born near Lake George, New York about 1823 and died in 1896 in New York City. This is a very interesting site that should keep you amused for hours or even days. Until next month . . . ❖

**Byting Remarks**

— Jerry Finkelstein

This is the time of year when a lot of people are finally getting over their holidays funk. There are also a lot of people who begin to turn their down-in-the-dumps emotional agony into a state of the art mixed diagnosis of anxiety and serious depression. No wonder. Wasn't their recently purchased holiday specially priced PC just reduced another \$200? Exacerbating their anxiety-ridden state of mind is their compulsive search through ads and articles (even after the holidays) to find the best PC for their needs.

And here we go again, trying to figure out just what, exactly, are our needs. Does anyone interested in his/her first time digital camera know what even his immediate needs are? A three pixel camera is good enough, I've heard. Good enough for what? My latent talent may be bursting to realize its awesome potential that only the latest technology could reveal. Since there's the next new thing always waiting in the wings, do I wait only to lead a life that is stifled, stiffed and deprived? Or do I jump in knowing that my proud purchase is really only second rate the day after tomorrow?

A recent article in *Computer Shopper* notes that "buying a PC in 2004 requires level-headed expertise in selecting the *precise* (italics mine) balance of components that meets your needs without battering your budget." Does that sentence make sense to anyone? The words precise and balance bother me. And then there's that word again, *needs*. Is anyone buying a PC level-headed? Maybe I'm the one being compulsive in asking for a few operational definitions.

Am I being paranoid about the new must-have gadget? For \$400.00 you can buy this camera that clips on to your glasses or cap and allows you to videotape whatever you look at. Next time you're in a changing room, watch out for the guy with glasses or baseball cap. Just because you are a little paranoid doesn't mean they're not watching you. ❖



*Express* both have address books, they are completely separate from each other. You can work with both address books in *WP*, however, using two different methods. "You'll be able to open *Outlook Express* in *CorelCentral*. The entries will appear in the Contacts folder under Windows Address Book. The *Outlook* address book is opened when you activate *Outlook* integration."

It's this kind of practical detail that makes the *Absolute Beginner's Guide to WordPerfect 11* so useful. ❖

**Que/Sam's Book-of-the Month:***Absolute Beginner's Guide to WordPerfect 11*

— by Bob Schaffer

How about 350 pages replete with easy-to-follow directions on how to use the brand new *WordPerfect 11*? How about an addendum of some 40 pages to help you get started with *Quattro Pro*, WordPerfect's spreadsheet program?

Author Laura Acklen's impeccable credentials as a WP authority include writing many texts over the past ten years as well as being a regular and highly-respected presence on Internet newsgroups.

Although this is a beginner's book—starting with a lesson on how to use the mouse and the menu bar—I was surprised at the thoroughness of the content. As an experienced *WP* user, I continually found tips and tricks that I either had forgotten or never known. Acklen doesn't talk down to the reader.

The text is divided into six sections, each one emphasizing a wordprocessing theme:

- Learning the Basics — Creating, revising, formatting, and saving documents.
- Making It Look Nice — Playing with paragraphs and pages, plus using Styles for consistency.
- Organizing Information — Using tables, making lists and outlines.
- Adding Visuals — Working with graphics.
- Automating Your Work — Merging elements, working with Templates, saving time with macros.
- Appendixes — Learning *Quattro Pro* basics.




For several years Corel loused up its users with its really bad address book, *CorelCENTRAL*. Corel now takes a giant leap forward and integrates Microsoft's *Outlook* address book with *WP11*. *CorelCENTRAL* is still included in most *WP11* packages, but if—like me—you gave up on it a long time ago, you can employ your *Outlook* data within *WP11*.

Although you can use *Outlook*, you have to make a choice. Acklen explains: "You can either work with the entries in the *CorelCENTRAL* address books, or the *Outlook* address book, not both at the same time."

She then cautions that while *Outlook* and *Outlook*

# explorer

**Michael DiLorenzo on Computer Crime**  
**Tuesday \* February 3, 2004 \* 6:00 PM \* Whitesboro High School**

what's.com/ing			February 2004			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Monthly General Meeting 6:00 PM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Board of Director's Mtg St. John's 6:30 PM	11	12 	13	14 
15	16 Internet SIG St. John's 6:30 PM	17	18	19	20	21
22 	23 Q & A SIG St. John's 6:30 PM	24	25	26	27	28
29						