MEETING AGENDA

The September Annual Picnic meeting of the Eugene PCjr Club will take place at Emerald Park, 1400 Lake Avenue in Eugene on the 10th. Members, newsletter subscribers and friends are invited to attend this event that starts at 6pm.

OFFICERS

President . . . .
Frank Ratti
Vice President. . . . .
Christine Brown
Treasurer . . . .
Phil Janz
Disk Librarian. . . . .
Paul Bonney
Ass't Disk Librarians .
Lindsey Hoffman
Cindy Page
Simon Ratti
Documents Librarian . .
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Modem Captain . . . . .
Gordon LeManquais
Commercial Contacts . .
Warren Hampton
Juanita Hampton
Social Director . . . .
Rosemary Janz
Newsletter Editor . . .
Louie Levy
Newsletter Coeditor . .
Barbara Caselton
Contributing Editor . .
Dick Page

FROM THE OVAL OFFICE
Frank Ratti

As I'm writing this I am still in denial that summer is almost over. Our family is about to take one more fling at camping before Labor Day. There are undeniable signs in the air, however, that indicate a new school year is just over the horizon: the sudden appearance of "Back to School Sales," the transition of sports stories from baseball to football, and the occurrence of the first hurricane over Florida and Louisiana. In Oregon, they say the change of seasons is not as pronounced as in other parts of the country, but this is not true regarding the Eugene PCjr Club. September 10th at 6 p.m. is the moment when the PCJr year begins and it keeps rolling until school lets out in June.

Your Club board met last May and committed itself to another year of dedication to the education and service of PCjr owners within our reach. We set up a program for the year of 1992-1993 that includes the best of the past along with some new ideas to try. We are going to meet at a new location that will provide us access to use modems. Of course we will keep the annual picnic in September, and our Christmas party in December. There will be opportunities for beginners and semi-pros to demystify DOS, to work-out Writing Assistant and to sort through spreadsheets. We are going to offer workshops on these topics with a new focus on young persons to learn some of the basics such as typing skills and word processing for schoolwork. We invite all veteran Junior owners, new Junior owners, and any prospective computer owners to check out our program. We believe our's is a computer club which doesn't leave the beginner behind.

So, at least come to our picnic to say hello, and find out about what an IBM PCjr is and what it can do for you personally, not to mention what our club can do for new computer owners. These days you can acquire a PCjr for very little money, which is a great way to become introduced to computing skills that you can apply at home, school, or at work. See you there!

Frank D. Ratti, Pres.

8th YEAR TO KICK OFF WITH CLUB PICNIC
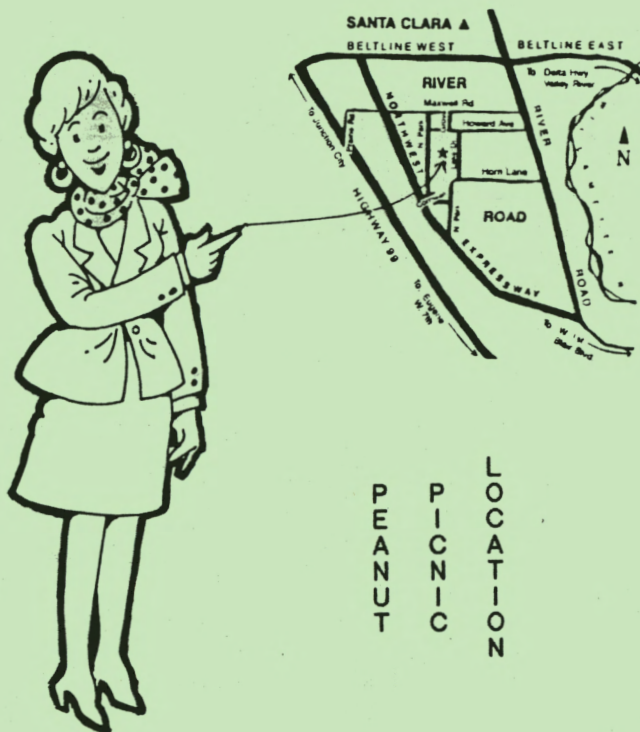by Rosie Janz, Social Director

The hot, dry summer is coming to an end, and once again our Club will be celebrating the beginning of another successful and exciting year with our annual September picnic at Emerald Park.

Members have always enjoyed this fun and social family gathering. The Park's shelter has protected us from all kinds of weather at past gatherings. So, no matter what the weather is like, plan to bring your family and enjoy an evening of munching, fellowship and information gathering.

This year the Club will furnish fried chicken, pork and beans, french bread and coffee, tea and lemonade. Please bring either a hot dish, salad or a dessert. Everyone also needs to bring his or her own table service. Hopefully, we will have a wide variety of good things to eat!

Phil will be talking with us about workshops that are planned as well as discussing other possible workshops for this year. So come prepared to express an opinion or suggest an idea.

We will be gathering at the park pavilion (1400 Lake Drive) on Thursday, September 10th, around 6 pm. See the map below for directions to the Park. Remember to bring a sweater! The fall "nip in the air" can make the early evening a bit chilly. Also, bring your good appetites and a lot of enthusiasm. . .What better way to begin our eighth year!!!

PEANUT PICNIC LOCATION

EVERYONE is talking about it! Did you receive your copy of the new PC Enterprises catalog? While some folks carried a novel with them on vacation over the summer, most folks I know took the PC Enterprises catalog with them! Whatever reasons that may have made you think about moving away from your beloved Junior will be off-set when you look over the new offerings from PC Enterprises!

The first thing most of us think we need is more memory. If you only have a 128K Junior, PC Enterprises can provide you with more memory in sidecars with 128K up to and including their Megaboard with 736K. If you already have more than 128K, you can move up to 1024K. . .a full megabyte! If you

already have 640K, for less than a hundred dollars, PC Enterprises can have you up to 736K.

Need to add another disk drive? You can add another 5¼-inch, 360K drive, or a 5¼ high density 1.2MB floppy. You could add the little 3½-inch 720K drive or the high density 1.44MB drive. Would you believe they have a 3½-inch 2.88MB drive? You could install all of Word-Perfect or Lotus 123 on one little micro disk!

There's more. PC Enterprises has always offered hard drives. Now, they have removable hard drive systems, CD-ROM drives, a 21MB Floptical drive, tape back-ups and a Turbo-drive that has a data transfer rate of 793 KB/sec!

PC Enterprises has all the old favorites in the software department, especially educational programs for the kids. From the Reader Rabbit series and Mixed-Up Mother Goose to the new Carmen Sandiego versions. They have Game-Master and Game-Master Plus that is especially designed by PC Enterprises for PCjr users who use entertainment software. Their new compatibility cartridge eliminates nearly all problems of software compatibility; even those inherent with DOS 5.

One of the breakthrough products PC Enterprises has come up with is the SCSI Host Adapter. This SCSI ("Scuz-zi") host adapter allows you to upgrade your Junior with many industry standard expansion options. So, you need not stop at just another disk drive; an illustration in the catalog shows a Junior with a 1.2MB floppy, a 21MB floppy, a 377MB hard drive, a CD-ROM drive, a removable 88MB hard drive and a tape backup--all neatly stacked!

VGA up-grade kits, all the RACORE parts, optical scanners, component re-pairs; all in this new PC Enterprises catalog. "Catalog" may be a misnomer for this valuable 110 page manual as it is interspersed throughout with valuable information, helpful hints and indispensable trouble shooting advice.

If you haven't received your copy, call PC Enterprises at 1-800-922-PCJR. Or better yet, come to the picnic as we'll have some available for you there. No home should be without one!

Why buy a clone when you already own a "real" IBM computer! In the new PC Enterprises catalog, P. J. Calabria makes the following argument for upgrading your Junior:

The PCjr is a genuine IBM brand computer and is therefore extremely well made and reliable. It's not as fast as the latest 386 or 486 computer, but most people don't need more speed. Dependability and expandability are much more important. A faster computer will not make you type any faster, and it can't make your floppy, hard disk drive, or CD-ROM drive spin any faster either.

Each year thousands of PCjr users call us and ask us the same questions. Should I upgrade my PCjr or should I buy another computer? If I upgrade my PCjr will I be able to run important software packages? Will it run Lotus? Will it run dBase? And, will it run Word-Perfect? The answer of course is yes!

The PCjr uses the very same microprocessor and Disk Operating System (DOS) as the IBM PC and XT. As a result, the PCjr runs virtually all PC compatible programs--as long as the PCjr is expanded to include any hardware that the program requires. Most programs require at least 512K of memory. Consequently, additional memory is the first thing, and often the only thing, PCjr users need to add in order to run PC programs.

The second most important product you could add is a second drive. While a second drive is not often required, it offers a great convenience. Select a

second floppy drive or a hard drive. Hard drives are preferred because they allow you to copy many diskettes into the computer's permanent memory, and are much faster than floppy drive.

Unfortunately, some PCjr owners never call PC Enterprises. Instead they go to a local computer store and ask what they need to upgrade a PCjr. The computer retailer tells them that they need a new computer. Is this true? Of course not! But, you can't blame your hometown computer retailer. After all, they probably know very little about the PCjr and don't sell PCjr add-on products, but often they do sell other computers!

Originally, the PCjr was sold with 128K of memory, a single diskette drive, a chicklet keyboard, and could not be expanded. As a result, the unexpanded PCjr could not run most PC programs.

Today things have changed. The PCjr can be expanded to include just about any product available for other computers. Unfortunately, most PCjr critics simply haven't kept up with the PCjr. In fact, most are surprised to hear an expanded PCjr actually runs more software than other IBM computers, but it's true! The PCjr is the only IBM computer that runs programs which require the Tandy Graphics Adapter (TGA).

Seven years ago PC Enterprises pledged we would continue developing new PCjr products and would continue supporting the IBM PCjr for as long as the need existed. Today, as in the beginning, PC Enterprises continues to develop products that permit PCjr users to keep pace with IBM's newest computers. As long as the PCjr can run the latest software, PCjr owners have very little reason to buy another computer. When you expand your PCjr you can add what you want, when you want, without paying for features you really don't need. Each year thousands of PCjr users take their PCjr out of their closet and upgrade their PCjr for the very first time. Once upgraded, PCjr owners are very happy with their PCjr, and almost always continue to expand.

I wouldn't trade my Ford Bronco for an import from Yugoslavia even if the cost to buy a new car might appear inviting. Likewise, I wouldn't trade my PCjr for a faster computer which is designed to be the least expensive computer that could be made. I know the difference and so do you! Browse through our catalog and see all the products available for the PCjr. I think you'll agree. Upgrading the PCjr is the right choice!

(The above is reprinted from the PC Enterprise Catalog.)

It is with deep regret that we report that Sarah Eoyang died on August 17th. Sara was a founding member of the Eugene PCjr Club and was our first treasurer. Our thoughts go out to Sarah's husband, Peter. Sarah will be missed.

Expansion Made Easy

Hank Kennedy of Round Rock, Texas, has developed a printed circuit board adaptor which is mounted on the side (or back) of the PCjr. This adapter makes the Junior function more like the PC with its multiple slots which accept daughter cards.

The original PCjr bus accepted only a sidecar port with a 60-pin slot. Kennedy's device adapts the 60-pin Junior bus into a 62-pin bus, the standard PC size, thus allowing the use of cheaper, more standard add-in components.

The adaptor is an extended unit designed to plug into the side port and sit outside the PCjr, at about the same height as the Junior. It will accept the standard XT hard disk controller card and the AD Lib Music card in its two standard PC slots.

The concept of adapting the PCjr to accept standard 62-pin cards has been utilized by several PCjr second party manufacturers for some time. Ed Strauss

(the inventor of the Jr Hotshot) sold a 2-slot adapter, and Oowl Software marketed it for awhile.

Direct Memory Access (DMA) was not incorporated into the PCjr. Because it has no DMA, when Junior writes to a disk the operation is under the control of the CPU and the rest of the system stops during the write. Standard hard drive controller cards typically use DMA to allow the CPU to operate during read write operations. The PCjr's lack of DMA was the major stumbling block to adding hard disks to Junior.

Kennedy's solution for this lack of DMA is to burn a new EPROM chip for a standard XT controller card. The new chip allows string commands which can make a self-booting C: drive.

Kennedy's strategy of adding a chip to the standard controller cards can be used with the original IBM hard-file controller cards which were made by XEBEC. The EPROM in those was a Motorola Chip, which is an obsolete part, plugs directly into the controller card. Alternately, a standard 28 prong chip; however, the pins must be rearranged before it is mounted onto the card.

Kennedy's adapter allows users to have both a hard disk controller and an Ad Lib music card on the PCjr. The Ad Lib music card requires a 14MHz oscillator. The 14MHz is available within the Junior but not available in the bus. While it is possible to hardwire the 14MHz signal from another area of the PCjr to the bus adaptor, Kennedy's unit is supplied with an additional component to generate the 14MHz signal.

Although standard PC's operate their daughter boards on the main power supply, a PCjr normally uses a power sidecar to provide power for the expansion slots and isolate that power drain from the CPU. Power sidecars are now available for about $20. Kennedy's unit will also allow a 175 watt external power supply as an alternative to the PCjr power sidecar, as a power source.

Kennedy's unit sits behind Junior, and is slightly taller, and will retail for about $30 for the circuit board, or $45 for the complete kit. He has distributed several units in his local area already. Most owners have covered their

units with some sort of case. Kennedy has assembled a number of units and some of the units will be marketed by Oowl Software.

Thanks to David Wilson of the Atlanta Orphan Peanut for providing this article. You can begin getting your own personal copy of The Atlanta Orphan Peanut by contacting the Atlanta PCjr User's Group, 12450 Charlotte Drive, Crabapple, GA, 30201-1408. You may contact Oowl Software at 1435 Burnley Square North, Columbus, OH, 43229. Be sure to mention how you heard about them!

We Found A New Home!!

by Christine Brown

Those of you who were not at the last few meetings in the spring may not know that we have found another place to meet.

Our longtime meeting place in the school library has been the "home" to the Jr. club for many years and holds a certain sentimental appeal to many long-time members. However, we realize that there were some drawbacks - like all the little chairs and little tables, and worry about food and beverages being served in a library, and putting everything back just the way it was. So....

We have found a new place to meet. It is a large room with large tables and large chairs and kitchen facilities. It is easy to find and has an ample parking lot. This room is located in the Northwest Natural Gas building at 790 Goodpasture Island Road (Next to K-Mart). We will first meet there for our October meeting. More news on this next month.

Let me tell you how I got DOS 5 to run on my Junior! I had tried all the ways outlined in many newsletters trying to get it up and running on Junior, but I had failed each time. I have access to a Junior Clone which is using DOS 5.0, so here's what I did.

In the clone, using the command
         FORMAT A: /F:360 /S
I created a DOS 5 "system" disk that would boot. Next, I copied my normal PCjr CONFIG.SYS file to it. Mine reads:
         device=jrconfig.nrd
         device=zansi.sys
         break=on
         files=20
         buffers=20
Next, I copied my PCjr autoexec.bat file to this disk. My autoexec.bat reads:
         pow2clk
         thinfont /t
I copied JRCONFIG.NRD, ZANSI.SYS, POW2CLK.COM and THINFONT.COM to this disk. When I booted Junior with this

DOS 5.0 (vertical, left margin)

new disk, the keyboard locked up and would only beep. I remembered that the Club has a program called NOBEEP on a disk called BOOKBASE, so I copied the file NOBEEP.COM to the disk and added the command nobeep to the AUTOEXEC.BAT and now DOS 5 works like a charm in my PCjr.

I guess I'm from the old school. I know that you can teach old dogs new tricks as I'm really into "playing" with the computer, but I just can't see using DOS 5 on Junior. When I boot with it, Junior ends up using 153K of memory. When I boot with 2.1, Junior only uses 145K. While these numbers may look small, what they mean is when Junior boots with 2.1 DOS, he will have 8K more memory available for programs. . .and you will have $50 or more saved by not "upgrading" to a newer version of DOS. It is interesting to note, however, that the clone I used with DOS 5 can't use 2.1 DOS as its hard drive is too large, but Junior can use all the DOS versions from 2.1 on up to 5.

New challenge: anyone out there have a Junior running on OS2?

"HANDS ON" CLASSES FOR CLUB MEMBERS

BY PHIL JANZ

Club meetings will provide software overviews as part of the regular program, and then there will be additional evening or weekend work-shop opportunities, using a specific program to provide a "hands on" experience for those Club members who want to add to their skill level by registering and participating in workshops of their interest. The Club meeting demonstration will make it very clear as to what the focus of the workshop class will be. Members may sign up ahead of time by completing the included registration form and mailing it in, or waiting until the next Club meeting and sign up at that time. The exception to this demonstration approach is the workshop on WRITING ASSISTANT FOR STUDENTS. Last spring Club members responded to a workshop survey and results showed that there was considerable interest in offering a work-shop to help students make better use of a word processing program in completing school assignments. To be effective this needs to happen early on, before our regular Club meetings start.

There will be a $6 Club non-refundable registration fee per one-session workshop or an $8 fee for a two session workshop for each registered individual. The fee will reserve a working place in the workshop and also provide the participant with any available shareware program disk.

The workshop host will receive the workshop free. . .anyone interested in "hosting" and "learning" at the same time? Hosting does not imply responsibility for teaching the workshop — just a place where the work-shop can take place. Part of the registration fee will also provide refreshments for each workshop.

The thrust of these workshops is to provide opportunities for interested Club members to receive help in actually learning how to make better use of their computer. Club Membership is only $20 and includes all family members.

COMING WORKSHOPS

Sept. & Oct.........Dates/times from response letter.
Workshop on **WRITING ASSISTANT FOR STUDENT CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS**
Instructors: Phil Janz, Louie Levy
Description: **Two workshop sessions** covering how to create and edit documents/school assignments, spell checking, saving and retrieving documents, how to print documents, moving text within a document, custom formatting and combining files, and adding words to the personal dictionary. **One follow up session** for sharing assignments, review and meeting any individual or special needs.
Let your computer help you improve the quality of the work you turn in to your teacher!

January...........Dates/time to be determined by participants.
Workshop on **DOS** (Two Sessions on the Disk Operating System)
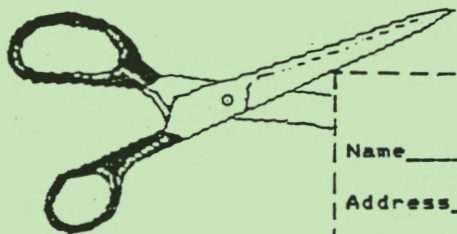Instructor: Louie Levy
Description: What makes Junior go? The POST test; what happens when we "boot" our machines. How do we "read" DOS? Tell Junior what YOU want it to do; format disks, copy programs and find out how to make those Club Library disks work.

February......Dates/time to be determined by participants.
Workshop on **Spreadsheets**
Instructors: Mike Ruiz and Frank Ratti
Description: Entry level use of spreadsheets focusing on meeting your needs at home or in your business.

FILL OUT THIS FORM

PCjr CLUB WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

Name_____

Address_____

City/Zip_____ Phone_____

WORKSHOP NAME	FEE
	Total #_____

ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS?

Discussion of Workshop programs will be held at the October meeting. If there is membership interest in additional workshops, we will talk about how they can be added. If you will be unable to attend this meeting to voice your suggestions on this endeavor, PLEASE give Phil Janz a call (343-1059) - we need your input!!

* Workshop participants must be Club members in good standing. Club membership are "family" memberships, and anyone in the family is eligible to participate.
* Early registration is encouraged to ensure that the workshp will be able to take place.
* Registration slips may be given to Phil Janz or Louie Levy or mailed to Phil Janz, 155 34th Place East, Eugene 97405.
* Make checks payable to EUGENE PCjr CLUB.

PCjr Vender on the move!

Paul Rau Consulting has moved to Dyersburg, TN, just north of Friendship. His new number is (901) 287-9147 and his address is 537 Sugg Place, Dyersburg, TN 38024.

Other PCjr vendors you may want to take note of and write for their most recent offerings are:
* Elmer Hungate, R.R. #1 Box 324, Dodge Center, MN 55927 (507) 374-2795 PRODIGY ID WFFT94A
* Computer Reset, P.O.Box 461782, Garland, TX 75046-1782 (214) 276-8072
* Legacy Technologies, 4804 Superior St., Lincoln, NE 68504 (800) 228-7257
* Oowl Software 1435 Burnley Square North, Columbus, OH, 43229 (800) 322-0219
* PC Enterprises, P.O.Box 292, Belmar, NJ 07719 (800) 922-PCjr

Be SURE to mention the Eugene PCjr Club Newsletter when calling or writing vendors!

"Not long ago almost every major city had it's own PCjr user's group; now that number has dwindled to only two pure (PCjr only) groups. They are The Eugene PCjr Club of Eugene OR, and the Atlanta PCjr Users Group of Atlanta GA."

Bob Gauthier in Newsletter of the Central CT PC (PCjr) Group.

Classified

FOR SALE: 640K PCjr, color monitor, jrWordPerfect, Lotus, Writing Assistant and more. Asking $300. (503) 397-6472.

EUGENE PCjr CLUB

1011 Valley River Way, Suite 220
Eugene, OR 97401

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