



EUGENE NEWSLETTER

PCjr CLUB

VOLUME X
NUMBERS 6 - 9
JUNE - SEPT 1994

1011 Valley River Way, Suite 220, Eugene, OR 97401

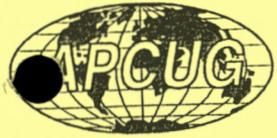
MEETING AGENDA

The September Annual Picnic meeting of the Eugene PCjr Club will take place at Emerald Park, 1400 Lake Avenue in Eugene on the 8th. Members, newsletter subscribers and friends are invited to attend this event that starts at 6pm.

OFFICERS

- President Rosie Janz
- Vice President. Patti Tanner
- Treasurer Phil Janz
- Modem Captain Gordon LeManquais
- Commercial Contact. Dick Page
- Social Director Lynn Miles Delker
- Newsletter Editor Louie Levy

Association
of
Personal
Computer
User
Groups



PRESIDENTIAL PONTIFICATING

by Rosie Janz

Welcome to another season of the club that just keeps on going! Not only does our club keep on going. . .but our trusty computer helps its members with their businesses, their school work, their correspondence, their budgets, to ward off boredom with the games that we find to play on it, and to communicate by modem!!!

We need to be aware of a few of the unsung heros that are among us. While many of us were going about our usual daily schedules the morning of June 10th, Warren Hampton, Dick Page, Mike Ruiz, Cindy Hoffman, Louie Levy, and Phil Janz were busily working at the tedious task of making some of the shareware that Gordon LeManquais, Louie and Dick have gathered, "user friendly." Their purpose was to add programs to the club library that would offer us greater variety and challenge than is currently available to our members.

Because new software that is being produced is seldom useable on our PCJrs, and because there is some very good shareware out there that is. . .we really need to maximize the quality and variety of what is available to us in our library. The chore they were doing requires lots of time, skill and patience. Several of our "unsung heros" left with disks to work on during the summer. The group agreed to get together for another work party in the fall. Our thanks to each and every one of them!!!! Anyone who is interested is encouraged to call me at 343-1059, to "get on board" for the next work party when it gets scheduled this Fall.

POTPOURRI OF OUR MAY MEETING:

Louie and Phil set up the meeting room for our May meeting so that we could get lots done in a hurry. It worked!!! By the end of our meeting, many of us had squeaky clean CPU's, and others learned a whole lot more about what was under "their hoods."

During our meeting Gordon LeManquais admonished us about the need to monitor our children's modem use as there are some "kinky things out there." Read Louie's article on the next page.

In order to assist the Board in planning programs for the coming season, members briefly shared their thoughts and ideas about what sorts of presentations and programs would be most helpful and appropriate to their needs and interests. That information was recorded and will be helpful to the board when they meet in September.

continued on next page

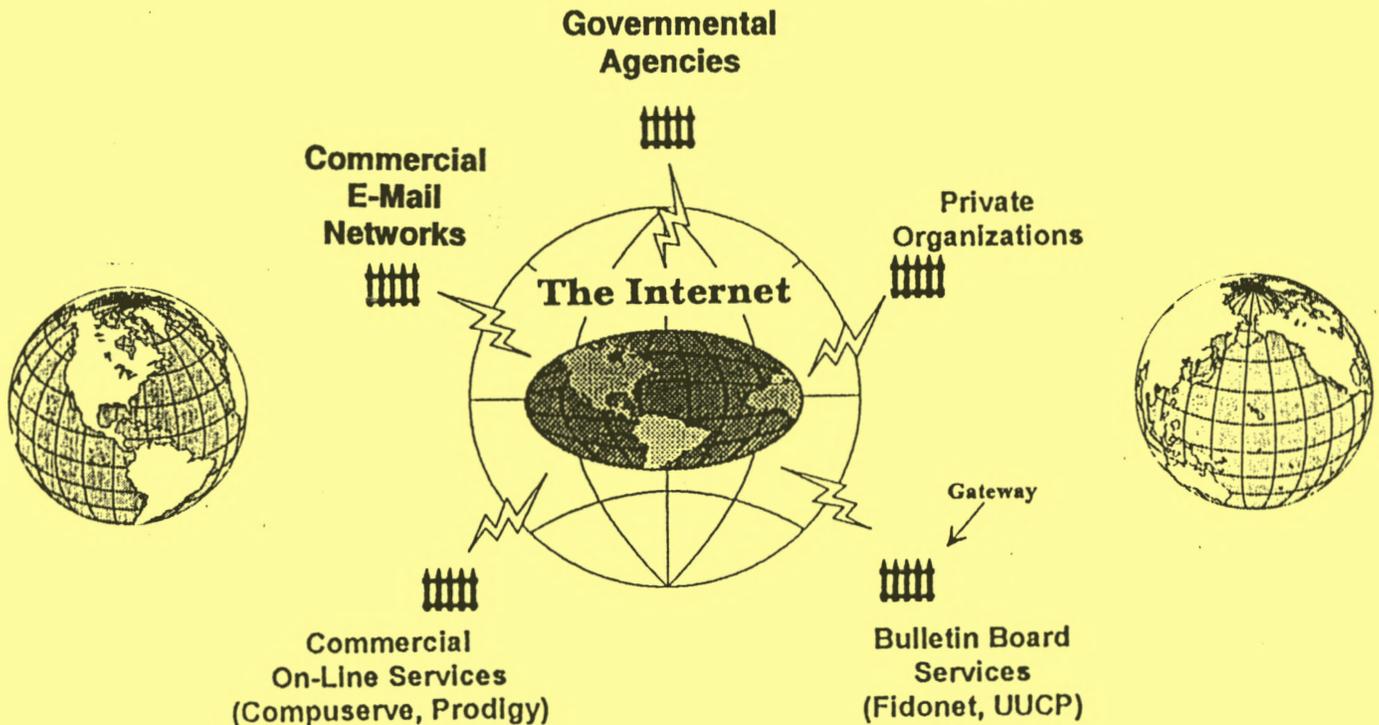
. . .OUR PRESIDENT'S PONTIFICATINGS CONTINUE:

MARK YOUR CALENDAR SO YOU WON'T MISS OUR 10TH ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

Look for the article written by Lynn Miles, our Social Director, on page 5 to find out the "who, when, where and what to bring" of what has become a very special fun get-together for club members and their families.

Let's make this the biggest and most well attended PCjr club picnic ever!!! I am looking forward to seeing each and every member family!!!!

World-Wide File Server — The Internet



Most of us have heard of the Internet but few of us can readily say just what it is. It is difficult to explain to someone because it encompasses so many different services and areas of interest. Perhaps the simplest way to describe the Internet is to say that it is a global resource of people and information.

A recent article by LTJG Scott Larson and Thomas Dunkerley in Compass Point Northwest said that the Internet "is an interlinked collection of separate computer networks which use a standard communication protocol. . . that allows people from all over the world to share information. To some people, it's just a way to send

electronic mail to other people — a pipeline from here to there. To others, the Internet is where they conduct research, search databases, get the latest news, transfer files, and travel the world."

The article compared the Internet to the high seas in that it physically covers the globe. It called different networks available the "oceans," the connections between the networks the "channels." The continents were equated to the large supercomputers of different governments and the large islands to the mainframe computers of private organizations, corporations, commercial on-line service companies

continued on next page...

and the like. And navigating around all these landfalls are people, like you and me, whose personal computers take them virtually thousands of miles from one destination to another in search of information.

No one "owns" the internet. There is no central authority that governs its operation. Each organization has power only over itself and pays for its own computer network. The Internet is comprised of all of these separately owned computer networks.

There is a volunteer society that tries to standardize and guide the operation of the Internet. This group is the Internet Society, or the ISOC.

Internet began in 1969 as the Advanced Research Projects Agency Network, ARPANET. The Department of Defense got involved and ARPANET soon became DARPA, the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency.

In 1972, ARPANET had its first public demonstration when 50 university and research facilities (all involved in military research) were connected together. By the end of the 70's, many other networks had come into being and these publicly and privately funded networks joined the regional National Science Foundation network, the NSFNET. In 1990, the NSFNET took over the operation and functions of the ARPANET. When this happened and the various networks were added, the Internet grew almost at exponential speed.

It is now estimated that the Internet connects over 10,000 networks in 53 countries around the world. Each month, 150,000 new users are added. The amount of data crossing the Internet is growing at a rate of 10% per month, and each day between 15 and 20 million people use the Internet.

Just what are these people doing? Using their home computers and a modem, they are sending electronic mail (E-Mail) between businesses and colleagues. They are using the Internet resource to subscribe to electronic magazines and have both national and international news delivered into their homes. They are logging onto other computers as users and running software their own machines can't run (due to processor

type, memory limitations, etc.).

Many are doing research for term papers, business strategies or just because they want to learn. Some browse DOD files while others are looking into the National Archives or the Library of Congress. And, there are discussion groups. Actually, the User's Network consists of over 5,000 different groups discussing everything you can possibly think of. . .and some you don't want to hear about.

Weather info from the National Weather Service, oceanographic information from Wood's Hole or satellite information from NASA are all as close as your computer. There is an unlimited supply of files to download for that game wizard in your home or for the recipe collector.

All is not perfect with the Internet. With nearly 20 million people having the ability to upload files, there are problems you should be aware of. Walter Hamilton's computer column in our local Sunday newspaper reminds us that there are prices to pay if we subscribe to commercial on-line services like Compuserve, On-Line America, Prodigy and the like. Normal fees run in the \$10 to \$20 per month range plus any per minute charges you may have for logging onto premium offerings.

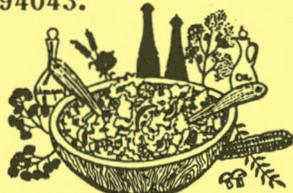
Many commercial services offer incentives for their services such as free time and free software. As soon as you call their local number, or their toll free number, the first thing they want is your credit card number. Be aware that the "free" time offered is only for their basic services and may not include services such as E-Mail, data search or file service.

Also, as our Modem Captain, Gordon LeManquais pointed out at our last meeting, be sure to supervise your children whenever they are "on-line." This is especially true with the Internet. With no rules and guidelines to follow, you may be shocked by some of the chat or graphics that can show up on your computer. Still, when used with common sense, the Internet can provide you with numerous services and resources and be a wonderful tool that can be used by every member of your family.

Louie Levy

never able to reach the point of being able to say, "Oops, the author should have done this before he did that!"

The program for CHAIN REACTION is 143 lines long. It would take up two pages of this newsletter, which is, of course, devoting too much space to one subject. However, if anyone would like to have a copy to play with, send me a self-addressed stamped envelope and I will be happy to send it to you. If you would rather not key in all of the BASIC code, I will be happy to supply you with a copy on disk. If you would rather have the disk, send \$2 to cover the cost of a disk mailer and the disk and I'll get one to you by return mail. Send your request to: Clyde Dodge, 1075-285 Space Park Way, Mountain View, CA 94043.



**TIME FOR OUR
10th
ANNUAL FALL PICNIC!**

By Lynn Miles

Summer is speeding to an end, and although we are sorry to see it go, there is still Indian Summer and our beautiful fall days yet to enjoy --- and summer's end heralds the start of another year of PCjr Club meetings.

We start our year with a great social gathering and picnic at Emerald Park pavilion, 1400 Lake Drive, on September 8th at 6:00 P.M.

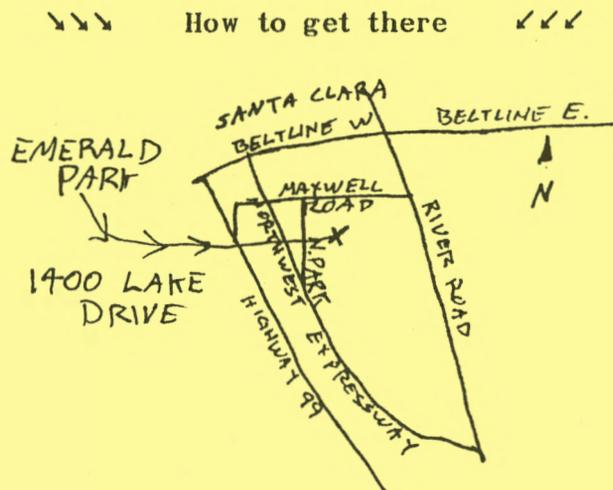
Our picnic will be held as usual under a shelter, so no matter what the weather, "the show will go on."

The club will furnish chicken, beans, bread, and beverages. You should bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert, and your own service, your appetite and friendly smiles, too!

Phil will give us an overview of proposed workshops for the year so

bring any ideas for new workshops or activities with you and share.

This is always a special meeting and a wonderful way to begin our next year. SO BE THERE!



**What's It Worth To Be A
PCjr Club Member?**

Louie Levy

Your Club became a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups a couple of months ago. There are quite a few benefits afforded us as members of APCUG, but sometimes we need to stop and think about just what personal value we get by belonging to a computer club, especially the Eugene PCjr Club. Just what do we get for our \$20?



Let me say right off that each of us get a different value from our memberships. There is an old adage

that one gets from an organization in direct proportion to what one puts into an organization. (Sometimes I feel that I must be getting an awful lot from our group if we use this analogy!) At any rate, let's turn the page and take a look at what many of us get from the Eugene PCjr Club.

Turn to page 6

✦ The Newsletter - each month you get a newsletter full of information about the meetings, club activities and helpful information. As the APCUG says, this alone should be worth at least \$12 a year!

✦ Members helping members - This is one of our most valuable services. Just look at the "Need Help?" list! Have you ever called one of the members who are volunteering their time on this list for help? If you consider a 5-minute call to a computer manufacturer's tech line or a software publisher's hot line at \$2 a minute, you know you can add another couple of bucks to the value of your membership! Think about the amount of time you spent just this past month seeking information and add it up.

✦ Workshops - Sure, some of our workshops cost. But have you ever priced a similar seminar from one of the local colleges or commercial presenters locally? The Club's workshops have to be one of the best values in Lane County—even though there is a token charge!

✦ Monthly meetings - From September to May we gather together to have fun and learn. We have programs about new...well, new to us, stuff. We hear what others are doing with their Juniors and share goodies. There is a door prize or two at each meeting and a lot of discussion on "things." The annual picnic and Christmas potluck alone are worth a lot of money! The annual spring cleaning must be worth a couple of bucks by itself!

✦ Documents Library - a little used part of our Club that can be worth its weight in gold. If you have ever tried to research anything written about our old Juniors from way back when, you know the value of the library. As an archive of past Junior Clubs' newsletters, it is actually invaluable!

✦ The Disk Library - Not enough can be said about how nice it is to have a collection of programs that work, and work well, on the PCjr all in one place. Not only are they economically priced, but the library is the only place that we know of that offers a complete satisfaction guarantee on software! Each month, new software that has been thoroughly tested, is added to the library to whet your appetite. This

must be worth something in relieved frustrations!

✦ Group Purchases - The value this amounts to depends on how often and how much you participate. If you use a lot of disks or printer ribbons in a year's time, this asset can add up to quite a savings. To the best of our knowledge, no one in Lane County sells preformatted disks for less!

✦ The Club Store - No matter what you need for your Junior, if you price it at the Club Store, you will save more than what you pay in dues! All you need do is price the catalogs first to find what you need, and then price the same item in the Club Store. And, the folks in the catalogs won't come out to your house and install the parts! Phil delivers!!

✦ Door Prizes - There are two door prizes given away at each meeting—all you have to do is show up! Not only do you get to take part in everything above, but you get a chance at winning a prize!

There isn't any way that we can put a value on the fellowship derived at the meetings, or the good feeling you get when you help someone with a computer problem. There must be some significance in being a member of the ONLY PCjr club in the nation...surely. But probably the biggest advantage I can think of that comes with membership in the Eugene PCjr Club is the goodies! You just can't beat the delectable munchies that Club members provide at each meeting!

So add it up. I hope you find that the Club has as much value to you as it has to me!

Louie

Another Notable Quotable:

"The PCjr will set a standard for home and school computers the same way the IBM PC set the standard for business microcomputers...its a machine people know will be around for a good long while, built by a company that is in the market to stay.

John Lent, in the May/June 1984 issue of Peanut Magazine.

Where Did The U of O Go???

If you have been dialing into the University of Oregon via your modem you should be aware that Dial-In Authentication is now in place. This means that unless you are a student, member of the faculty or staff, you will no longer be welcome. Most of us are aware that access to the University facilities are limited, and only legitimate users should have been using them. Measure 5. . .remember?

The University had to curtail public access to the Knight Library via modem some time back due to limited funds and incoming lines. Now, due to the UO's membership in NorthWestNet, the door they use into Internet, access must be limited to students, faculty and staff. This is the reason for the Dial-in Authentication. Access via computers shouldn't be affected by the new system.

One problem with dial-ins from the community was noted on the front page of a recent copy of *Computing News*. "If you get a busy signal when dialing the Computing Center's modem pool, you are not alone. Despite doubling the number of modems in the last year, we find that our resources are fully utilized once again. To increase the efficiency of campus modem use, Network Services has implemented a time-out for idle jobs. Modem users who are logged in. . .will be automatically disconnected if their connection is idle for more than one hour." An HOUR???

Maybe the University should start billing for time!

A tip from the University's *Computing News* says that if you have access to Internet, you can now get copies of White House documents. Send an e-mail request to:

publications@whitehouse.gov

The text of your message should be:

Send info

and instructions will be sent to you automatically. You'll then be able to search for and receive a list of documents via e-mail, as outlined in the instructions. You will only be able to get one automated response per day, but, hey, you'll be on the "Information Highway!"

We appreciate receiving the University's *UO Computing News*. You should take a look at it from time to time; it's in our Documents Library!

INCOMING:

"I called Panasonic on their technical support line and he (the rep) informed me that my PCjr was too old to work with the printer I had purchased."

Whoa! Time for a tech-rep check! The gentleman with the new printer got in touch with the folks at Legacy Technology in Lincoln, Nebraska and his printer was up and running in a flash!

All of us have problems doing what we need to do with our Juniors from time to time. Those of us who live in the local area just call the member listed on our *NEED HELP?* list. Many times, those who live out of our area will try to resolve their problem at their local computer store. All too often, the sales person who listens to them is more apt to try to sell them a new computer rather than try to solve the problem.

If you need help, drop the Eugene PCjr Club a line. If you are looking for a computer store that won't try to sell you a new computer when all you need is a printer port, give Legacy Technologies a call. Legacy isn't just a Junior Store—they also have what you need for your "other" computer. If you aren't on their mailing list, you should be. See their advertisement on the last page!

You Need to Join the Eugene PCjr Club!

Membership in the Eugene PCjr Club has never been cheaper than it is right now. For only \$20, you and your whole family can become full-fledged members of the nation's only PCjr Club! All memberships include everyone in the family. If you are unsure whether to become a member or not, go back and read the article on page five.

If you decide not to become a member of this distinctive group, you may subscribe to the *Newsletter* for only \$12 per year.

Either way, send your check soon so you won't miss a single action-packed issue of the *Newsletter*!

PCjr



You can do it with PCjr !
Come to our monthly meetings.
We'll show you how !

**EXPANSION ADD-ONS
NEW & USED
REPLACEMENT PARTS
MICE, MODEMS
SOFTWARE
&
REPAIRS**

Tech Support 402 466-8108
CALL FOR FREE BROCHURE

&
SOFTWARE LIST
1-800-228-7257

LTL

LEGACY
TECHNOLOGIES,
LIMITED



EUGENE *PCjr* CLUB

1011 Valley River Way, Suite 220
Eugene, OR 97401

FIRST CLASS MAIL

