

# Philadelphia Bits & Bytes

Official Newsletter of the Computer Education Society of Philadelphia

March 1998

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## ***Computer Solutions***

***Saturday***

***March 21, 1998***

On Saturday, March 21, we will begin a new style workshop for our members in addition to the ones currently being conducted. These workshops will be a "hands-on" style where members can bring their computers to seek help in resolving any problems they may be having with their hardware or software. Members may also attend to render assistance to those in need. This concept has been done in other clubs with much success. We will have tables and electric available where required.

We ask that if you are interested in attending and bringing any of your equipment to please contact John Membrino, Steve Short or Tom Burke (see page 2) to reserve your space, it is limited.

**Starts at 10:00 AM**

**7<sup>th</sup> Police District Community Room**

1701 Bowler St (Bustleton & Bowler)

N.E. Philadelphia

Enter through the Bowler St door

## **Secretary's Summary**

11 February, 1998

by John Membrino

Well, this was the first meeting held under the aegis of the club's new "business meeting" policy and believe it or not, we had a higher turnout than we have had in the last several months. It looks like we really do have people interested the future of the club.

As always, there was much spirited discussion, the first of which involved the renaming the title of the club's newsletter. This resulted in a motion to henceforth call it the "Philadelphia Bits & Bytes". That should take the bite out of the original name, don't you think?

Steve Short gave us the good news that display space sales at the TCF Flea Market are running well ahead of last year. And speaking of TCF, I'll put in another plug for club members to be sure to show-up at the March meeting on the 11th to help with the stuffing of envelopes that we send to the vendors who display at the Flea Market.

Another big item for discussion involved a proposal by Bob Ross. I don't think I can do justice to the entire idea in this summary, but basically, he outlined a computer acquisition/donation program, which he would like the club to sponsor. It would involve our soliciting equipment and software from commercial businesses as they upgrade and replace their computers. Members of the club would be asked to volunteer to work with the equipment and get it in operating condition. In addition, the program envisions the targeting of schools, retirement homes, and other non-commercial organizations to which the refurbished equipment would be donated.

The idea was received quite enthusiastically, and although Bob volunteered to be responsible for coordinating the program, several members brought up the many unanswered details that have to be resolved before there could be an informed vote on it. Among the factors to be resolved are such things as to where the equipment would be stored, how will the software be received and transferred in a legal manner. As a result, he was asked to develop the details of the program and present them by the April business meeting.

So now, that wraps things up for the time being and until we can digest our participation in TCF. If you haven't been too active recently, now is the time to make up for it.

See you all in March.

## **Officers**

### **President**

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### **Vice President**

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### **Secretary**

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Lee Le'Mon  
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### **Newsletter**

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### **Donation & Equipment**

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### **Library**

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## **Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

### **C / C++**

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### **CP/M & Z-System**

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### **CAD**

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### **Educational**

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### **Games**

Michele O'Steen

### **Hardware**

George Deffendall  
610-376-5043

### **Windows 3.1**

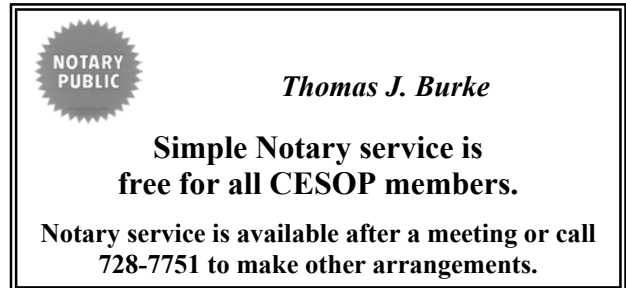
Roy Kalbs  
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### **Windows 95**

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### **Word Processing & DTP**

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The Computer Education Society of Philadelphia, Inc. holds its monthly business meetings on the second Wednesday of each month in the parish hall of St Asaph's Episcopal Church of Bala Cynwood, PA. The meeting is called to order at 7:30 p.m. The church is located one block north of City Avenue (US 1) at the corner of Conshohocken State Road (PA route 23) & St Asaph's Rd.

CESOP is formed exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), and particularly to: engage in the exchange of ideas, techniques and information for the broader and more effective use of computer hardware and software; promote the general pursuit of knowledge and education in computer hardware and software generally; sponsor meetings, seminars, lectures, and workshops to share knowledge, experiences, and discussion of computer topics of interest to members and the general public; publish and distribute a periodic newsletter containing computer information and news...

Unless specifically stated otherwise, the opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual author(s) and do not necessarily represent an official position or endorsement by the Computer Education Society of Philadelphia. The Computer Education Society of Philadelphia is independent, non-profit, educational users' group and is not affiliated in any way with any vendor, equipment manufacturer or software publisher. Unless otherwise noted, all articles are Copyright © by the Computer Education Society of Philadelphia and may be reprinted in other computer users' group's newsletter as long as credit is given to both CESOP and the original author.

## Windows 95 Tips

### Adding a Shortcut to the Send To list

*This is the one that appears when you right click with your mouse on a file or folder and select Send To*

Just add a shortcut to the *C:\Windows\SendTo* folder, or substitute the drive letter where your Windows is located if it is somewhere other than *C*, and from then on, it shows up in the *Send To* list. For example, if you had a folder named "*CESOP MESSAGES*" that you wanted in your *Send To* list, display the *CESOP MESSAGES* folder in an Explorer window (or on the desktop). Then open a second Explorer window and navigate your way to the *Windows\Send To* folder. Right click on the mouse and drag the *CESOP MESSAGES* folder directly over the *Send To* folder (it should be highlighted), let go, and select *Create Shortcut(s) Here*. Close all open windows.

To use your new *Send To* command, right click with

the mouse on a file or folder and select *Send To*.

### Changing File Associations

by E. Stanicki

You can change the association of a file type using the *Open With* dialog box. While holding down Shift, right-mouse click on a SELECTED icon of the file type you want to change and select *Open With*. (If you don't hold down Shift, this command won't appear.)

In the *Open With* dialog box, choose the application you'd like to use to open files of this type, make sure you've selected Always Use This Program to Open This Type of File, and click on OK.

### Changing the Size of your Taskbar

There is no real "setting" that sets the height of your Taskbar. Actually, you adjust its height manually, by clicking and dragging its edge with the mouse:

Assuming the Taskbar is positioned at the bottom of the screen, hold the mouse pointer over its edge until it changes to a double-pointed arrow, then click and drag up or down. It's easy to change the Taskbar's size by mistake while moving and resizing open windows.

### Delaying the Password in a Windows Screensaver

If you've set up a password for a Plus! screen saver, you probably find it annoying that every time you turn your back, you have to enter your own password to get back to work. You can avoid this annoyance without lengthening the time after which the screen saver will kick in.

Right-mouse click on the desktop, select Properties, and click on the Screen Saver tab. Select any Plus! screen saver and click on the Settings button. At the bottom of the General tab set the Wait XX (seconds or minutes) Before Requiring a Password option. Click on OK, and from now on you have a window of opportunity to get back to work without a hassle.



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**For further information call (215) 489-2850 or visit  
or web site at <http://www.pil.net>**



## Ask Ravi

by Ravi Moonsammy  
March 1998

It seems like everyone I know is on the web these days. Well this month's article is for everyone who keeps asking how to speed up their web browsing. These are just some basic tips and tricks again.

Have you ever tried to download a file and your computer just won't do it? You click and click, but your browser gives an error message similar to "UNABLE TO LAUNCH EXTERNAL VIEWER"? Well try these out for size:

### **In Netscape Communicator 4.0**

Instead of just clicking on the file to download, press and hold the SHIFT key while clicking on the file to download. This will allow communicator to bypass any plug-ins associated with the file.

### **In Internet Explorer 4.0:**

Set Explorer to save files to disk. Place your pointer over a file link on a web page and left click. When the dialog box pops up, it will ask you if you'd like to save the file to disk.

As always, my e-mail address on the WWW is  
ravim@webspan.net

See you next issue.....

**Visit CESOP on the Internet at**

**<http://www.cesop.org>**

**You can sign-up to volunteer to help us in the Flea Market at TCF '98 right online at the CESOP Web Site**

## President's Report

by Tom Burke

It's time to start thinking TCF! This year TCF will be held Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19. This is our major fundraiser for the year and it keeps our dues low, so we need your help in doing our part with the overall operation of TCF.

For the benefit of our new members, TCF, Trenton Computer Festival, is one of the oldest and largest computer shows on the East Coast. It is held on Mercer County Community College's campus, which is located near Trenton, NJ. This two-day extravaganza consists mainly of vendors from various parts of the country offering items at bargain prices. These vendors are setup in two categories, indoor vendors and outdoor vendors. There is also a full agenda for speakers on both days. These speakers cover just about any topic that a computer user would find interesting.

Our concern is with the outdoor vendors in the flea market. Our job is to manage the flea market and the outdoor vendors. This is where you come in. We need help with setting up, traffic control (easy), crowd control (giving directions), and vendor control.

Volunteers give us four (4) hours of their time. This can be split if needed. We really try to accommodate our volunteers as best we can. (If you need a specific time slot, volunteer early). We allow our volunteers to park in the flea market area, we provide lunch, admission to the show and an official TCF hat. Also, this year, we are beginning a policy to reimburse volunteers, for their traveling expenses to TCF, a sum of \$12.00. You can pocket this money or apply it towards your dues to CESOP.

If you would like to volunteer, contact Steve Short, (see page 2 on how to contact) You can also sign-up to volunteer online at **<http://www.cesop.org>**

We also need your help at the March 11 business meeting. This is when we prepare the packets that are sent to the vendors. It's a big job and we need your help.

For more information about what's going on this year at TCF, contact TCF's Web Site at **<http://www.dorsai.org/fair/>**

## Welcome New Members

We have the following new members as a result of advertising the workshops:

John Campellone - 2/14/98  
Edward Davis - 2/14/98  
Alan Gioia - 2/14/98  
Pat Kelly - 2/14/98  
Eugene Micklin - 1-10-98  
June O'Connor - 2/14/98  
John Pohorily - 2/14/98  
Joe Timcho - 2/14/98  
Richard R Williams - 2/14/98

On behalf of the entire CESOP membership I want to welcome our new members.

## Tips for Netscape Users

### Using Bookmarks for your Addresses

If you use Netscape to send and receive mail, going to the Message Center Address Book every time you want to send a message can get to be a bit annoying. An easier way to handle your address list is to create a bookmark list for your address book.

Here's how to do it:

Press Ctrl-B to open the bookmark file

Select the *Personal Toolbar Folder* from the bookmarks list.

Choose *File, New Folder* to open the Bookmark Properties box, then enter a name for the folder, such as "Address Book."

Click *OK*, and you now have your new Address Book folder added to the Personal Toolbar.

Now you need to add the e-mail addresses that want to include in your new bookmark list.

Right-click your new Address Book folder and select *New Bookmark* from the context menu.

In the Bookmark Properties box, enter a name for the recipient, then enter the e-mail address preceded by "**mailto:**" in the URL field (for example, <mailto:tjburke@voicenet.com>).

Click *OK* to close the box, then close the bookmark file.

**The next CESOP Workshop  
will be held**

**Saturday  
March 14, 1998  
11:00 AM**

**7<sup>th</sup> Police District  
Bustleton & Bowler  
(Entrance on Bowler Street)  
the topic will be...**

**Starting with the Internet**

**Part 2**

By Tom Burke

Now when you want to send an e-mail message, just click the Address Book button you added to the Personal Toolbar and select the appropriate entry!

### Newsgroup Shortcut

If you have a special newsgroup that you access a lot, you can create a shortcut for it on the Windows 95 desktop.

Open the Communicator Message Center

Select the newsgroup you want to access

Drag the small icon to the left of the newsgroup name to the desktop.

Now just click the shortcut whenever you want to join the discussion.

### Filing a Newsgroup Message

Once you get your new discussion group messages, you might want to file some right away (whether you actually read them or not). Just click *File* from the Discussion Groups window menu and then select a file from the menu list. The message is filed immediately.

## Investing On Line

by Robert Eddinger

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Lehigh Valley Computer Club  
Allentown, PA

Of all the ways to profit from the Internet investing is probably the best way. All you need to make money from investing is money, about the amount you needed to buy your computer. If you have ever played cards for money or made a bet the stock market is basically the same thing. But the stock market isn't really gambling; the object is to avoid risk. The way to avoid risk in the stock market is to do research on the companies you invest in. There is a serious side though, you will have to retire someday. The earlier you start building your nest egg the better. Or on the other hand put your money in a mutual fund and let someone else gamble with your money.

Currently I am dealing with a broker. I feel better dealing with a human being than going over the Internet. Buying stocks by computer isn't necessarily better or faster. If you want to buy and sell quickly you may be what they call a "day-trader" and trading on-line isn't necessarily any better than a broker. If you are like most you shouldn't have a problem, just buy and hold. Since I get most of my ideas at night of what companies I want to buy or don't have time to make a trip to the broker's office, TRADING on-line is a convenient alternative.

Most of the time the problems that people have is in getting the price that you want for the stock. If you are buying or selling less than ten thousand dollars worth of stock expect delays and not always getting the price that you want. This will be true whether you use a broker or a computer. In the end it all comes down to the guy on the floor of the exchange making the deal.

Your computer can help you investigate. I do research using CompuServe I also go to the public library and check out Valueline Investment Survey and do a search on magazines articles for news on the company.

The Internet is full of sites with company histories. You can also often go the COMPANIES' web site as well for info. Often they will let you leave your name and address and will send you their investors information saving you on postage or long-distance phone calls.

Other sites have information on many COMPANIES and have suggestions of stocks to buy, some sites will even e-mail you when your stock reaches a certain strike price. If you cruise over to the UseNet you can talk to others about certain COMPANIES or about methods of investing.

Here are some web-sites that will help:

**Investor's Edge**  
*www.irnet.com*

**Quote.com**  
*www.quote.com*

**Stock Center**  
*www.stockcenter.com*

**The Motley Fool**  
*www.fool.com*

**Max's Investment World**  
*www.maxinvest.com*

**The Street**  
*www.thestreet.com*

**American Association of Individual Investors**

*www.aaii.org*

**Morningstar**  
*www.morningstar.net*

**Hoover's**  
*www.hoovers.com*

**The Red Chip Review**  
*www.redchip.com*

**Financenter**  
*www.financenter.com*

So if you are interested in investing the Internet can be very useful. You can invest directly online or just track stocks. If you are still a

little scared of losing your money on the Internet research on an interesting company is still just mouse clicks away.

**Trenton Computer Festival 1998**  
**Mercer County Community College**  
**West Windsor, New Jersey 08690**  
**Saturday: Show Hours; 10 AM - 6 PM**  
**Sunday: Show Hours; 10 AM - 4 PM.**  
**<http://www.dorsai.org/fair/>**

## Submitting Articles to Philadelphia Bits & Bytes

Articles may be submitted in any of the following ways:

1. internet e-mail sent to [tjburke@voicenet.com](mailto:tjburke@voicenet.com)
2. on 3.5" diskette mailed to Philadelphia Bits & Bytes Editor 1312 Brighton Street Philadelphia, PA 19111

The required format is electronic, IBM compatible in either plain ASCII text or MS Word 6.0 or better. Do not use any justification or margins. Single space between lines and double space between paragraphs. Paragraphs should not be indented. Lists or table entries should be separated by indenting or tabs... do not use spaces. Drawings or artwork not in digital form should be in black ink suitable for scanning.

Please include the article name, your name and phone number, (with area code).

### Deadlines

All articles submitted for publication in Philadelphia Bits & Bytes must be in our hands by the third Wednesday of the month preceding the issue month you request. Example: articles for the June issue must be submitted by the third Wednesday in May.

### Advertising in Philadelphia Bits & Bytes

Commercial Advertising is available at the following rates:

Full Page	6" x 9"	\$40.00	
Half page	3" x 9"	\$25.00	6" x 4.5"
Quarter page	3"x 2.25"	\$15.00	1.5" x 9"

Column inch 1.5: x 1" \$2.00

All ads must be camera ready and be in black in on white paper.

Payment must be received in advance for all commercial advertising. Make checks payable to the *Computer Education Society of Philadelphia*.

### Non-commercial & Personal Advertisements

CESOP members may submit a non-commercial or personal ad to be published in Philadelphia Bits & Bytes *free of charge*.

All non-commercial or personal ads must follow the same format and submitted as outlined previously for submitting articles. Feel free to contact the editor for further information.

### Deadlines

All advertisements submitted for publication in Philadelphia Bits & Bytes must be in our hands by the second Wednesday of the month preceding the issue month you request. Example: articles for the June issue must be submitted by the second Wednesday in May.

### About Philadelphia Bits & Bytes

Philadelphia Bits & Bytes is the official newsletter of the Computer Education Society of Philadelphia, users' group open to users of all types of personal computers. This current issue was prepared using Microsoft Word 7.0.

The Computer Education Society of Philadelphia is a non-profit corporation under the guidelines of 501-C-3 of the IRS code.

*The next CESOP business meeting will be  
Wednesday, March 11, 1998.*

*The meeting will start at 7:30 PM sharp!*

*Coffee is always available*



Some of the anticipated items to be discussed are:

- This meeting is dedicated to preparing for TCF. There is a lot of sorting, collating and envelope stuffing. This is a big job but with your help, it can be a snap!
- Remember that our success at TCF allows us to keep your dues at the current low rate.
- We will resume our regular business meeting agenda at the April 8 meeting.

The Computer Education Society of Philadelphia  
Members Helping Members



**Philadelphia Bits & Bytes**  
1312 Brighton Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19111

The official publication of the Computer Education Society of Philadelphia