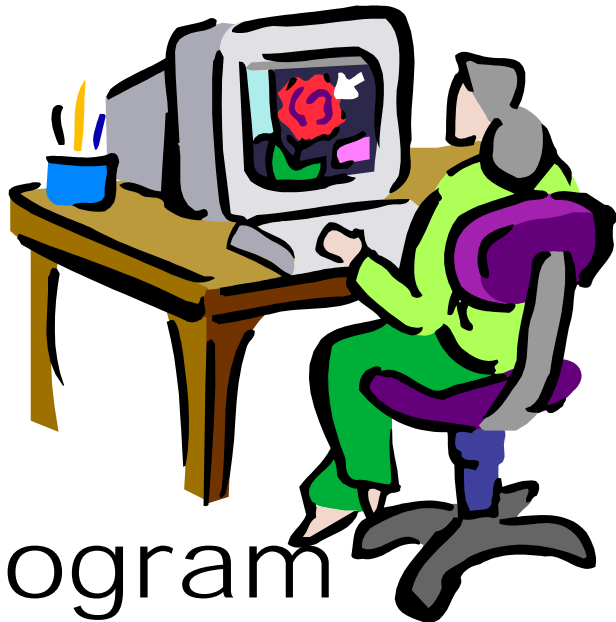


# Bits & Bytes

A Publication of the Kern PC Users Group



## April Program

Using Graphics Effectively

Meeting Time is 7:00 pm, April 12



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The following rates are for one insertion in the **KIPUG** newsletter. All copy must be received camera-ready, no later than the 15th day of any given month for publication in the following month's newsletter.

Camera-ready copy should be submitted to Bits & Bytes, c/o Dave Chalmers, P.O. Box 2780, Bakersfield, CA 93303

KIPUG members who have computer related items for sale or trade or who have information they would like to share with other members may do so **FREE** of charge as space permits. Ads larger than business card size are subject to 50% of normal advertising fees. Non-members are subject to the normal advertising fees.

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second year it was just assumed that he would be in charge since he did such a great job the year before. He and Betty spent a lot of hours out at the Fair making sure everything was going well. That's the way with Del, he was reliable. If he took a job, just forget about it. He'd get it done in admirable fashion.

But KIPUG won't miss Del as much as I do. I saw Del three times a month before he got sick. We were acquaintances purely through KIPUG, but I saw more of him than I saw most of my family members over the past few years. He was a regular at the Board meeting, general meeting, and Tech Talk, and he was also one of the regulars at the "Pig SIG" at Woodys' after the meetings. I always got a kick out of his wry sense of humor. He came across as all business, but he was a real card, and I miss that.

I remember when Del spoke with pride of celebrating 50 years of marriage. I never met any of the family except for Betty because of the nature of our friendship, but I know he must have brought that same steadfast reliability to that relationship he exhibited in the rest of his life. His was a life to be proud of and one to be appreciated.

Unfortunately, I didn't know how to say goodbye to Del. When I wondered aloud in December or so about why he was still sick from last month, he said he wouldn't be getting well. I didn't know what to say. I'm afraid I didn't let him know how much I appreciated him. I was just stunned.

But here is a chance to tell his family how much we cared for Del. I don't want to blow that one. We could count on Del, he should have been able to count on us.

The Microsoft logo, consisting of the word "Microsoft" in a bold, sans-serif font, is positioned to the left of a blue, pixelated graphic that resembles a quarter-circle or a stylized 'M' shape.

## **Windows 2000 Implementation Seminar in Anaheim.**

**By John Smith**

On Tuesday, February 27, I attended the Microsoft Windows 2000 Deployment Conference at the Anaheim Hilton. The conference began at 8 am with a nice continental breakfast and an opportunity to meet with various vendors. The day was broken into 5 segments consisting of the keynote speaker and 4 time slots for workshops.

The keynote speaker was a Microsoft bigwig, (not Bill Gates) who talked about plans for the near future. Microsoft has launched a pilot project with Starbucks. Using a handheld wireless device, similar to a Palm Pilot, you will be able to place your order and pay the bill without going to the counter. You will also be able to check your e-mail and browse the WEB. A similar project in the works will let you reserve, check-in and even open your hotel room door without any human contact.

The first workshop (Infrastructure Tracks) was about the architecture of both Windows 2000 Server and Exchange 2000. I learned about the new Active Directory, which replaces many configuration files in NT. It is called "Active" for good reason since any changes, such as user data, will automatically update throughout the system. The "Global Catalogue" is where all this data is stored. Multiple servers may contain the Global Catalogue and these catalogues link and update. User rights can be defined on one server for the entire network.

The second workshop was "Co-existing and Migrating to Exchange 2000 from Exchange 5.5". The important points were that Exchange 2000 and Exchange 5.5 can reside together on different servers on the same network. Only Exchange 5.5 can be updated to Exchange 2000. Earlier versions can't. Exchange 2000 will only run under Windows 2000 Server.

The third workshop covered the Active Directory and Web Outlook. Before migrating to Windows 2000 you must convert NT to Active Directory. This can be a tricky procedure, not for the faint at heart. There are two set-

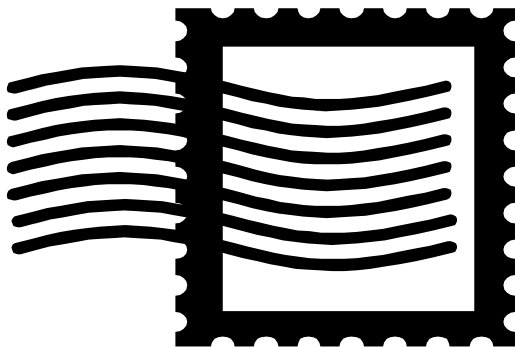
ting for the Active Directory, Safe Mode and Native Mode. Until all servers are converted to Active Directory, Safe Mode must be used. This allows a gradual update of all servers to Active Directory. Web Outlook is a fabulous product. It allows you to have a virtual Outlook interface to your office e-mail using any Web Browser. I have the Exchange 5.5 version of this product installed on my office server. I was able to log-on to my Outlook while traveling in Europe last September. I used my contact list, scheduler, inbox and wrote e-mail. The features were impressive then and I was pleased to see that the new version is even better.

The last workshop was “Coexisting and Migrating to Windows 2000 Server from Windows NT Server”. Like Exchange, these products can coexist within the network. The emphasis was on establishing a clearly defined implementation plan. The presenter performed a sample migration, which resulted in a failure. It took him quite some time to work it through. It was clear that I would have been in serious trouble had this been a real migration.

The Conference made two very clear

points. Migrating to Windows 2000 and Exchange 2000 requires more effort than typical upgrades. However, the improved features, security and stability should make it worthwhile.

As an interesting side, which has nothing to do with the conference. I just loaded a program on my home pc that allows me to have full control of that pc from any web browser, anywhere. You need only to have a full time Internet connection and load a simple to install host program. To use it you simply go to a special web page and log on using your e-mail address and an 8-digit password. The service then connects to your host pc. The host requires another 8-digit password before displaying your desktop. You have full control just like you are at your pc and you can transfer files both directions. Since the host is requesting connection the typical Firewall will be no obstacle. Performance is quite good and frankly the whole thing is amazing and simple. It is free for now but they plan to charge a fee soon. Check out [www.gotomypc.com](http://www.gotomypc.com). You'll love it.



## **How has the Internet affected your life?**

**By Sarah Perelli-Minetti**

I was in a class recently at New Horizons and we briefly discussed this topic. I thought I would answer it in the context of one of my hobbies, stamp collecting (and possibly get a response or two to help out our newsletter editor, Dave, who is always looking for articles).

Before using the Internet I was forced to buy all my supplies (albums, tongs, stock book pages and stamps at stores either locally, at Mike's Stamp and Coin, stamp shows (like computer shows except with an emphasis on stamps collecting - buy and sell stamps, albums and collecting aides from dealers at various tables, plus viewing stamp exhibitions) or through mail order from back East, which

would take sometimes weeks or even months for delivery. (We now have a second stamp shop in town that I have not visited yet.)

Since using the Internet as a resource I have spent more money, not only on stamps but also on computer hardware, such as a scanner, but on software, as well.

Shopping on the 'net has become more specialized, at least in the stamp collecting world. Where else would you find a website called Malaria on Stamps, [www.malariastamps.com](http://www.malariastamps.com) <<http://www.malariastamps.com>>? Since I collect topical stamps I have been able to find a few key websites, my favorite being Stamp Studio, [www.stampstudio.com](http://www.stampstudio.com) <<http://www.stampstudio.com>>, which has over 500 topics from which to choose. Bill Kemp, the owner, has scanned probably over 1,000 stamps onto his site. If I send my check on Monday I get my stamps in the mail the same week. Bill also e-mails me an e-mail letting me know when he received my check and when he sent out the stamps and later checking up to see if I am happy with the order. (He now uses PayPal.) It is quick and easy. This website is an extension of a store

in Southern California. The other key topical stamps websites are located in England, Quebec, Canada, and France and in China along with many smaller sites.

However, I have a different philosophy when it comes to purchasing stamp albums, yearly page supplements, tongs, etc., the hardware of stamps collecting. I prefer to physically hold the item in my hand and look at it before I buy it. Also there is the issue of personalized service. I can get my albums and page supplements faster through Mike's Stamp and Coin than through one of the main Internet websites album supply shops from back in Pennsylvania. Also Mike has agreed to give Bakersfield Stamp Club members a 10% discount on most stamp supplies, so it is beneficial to everyone involved. By the time the shipping and handling fees are added into the website price, it has been my experience a stamp album bought locally is cheaper than on the web.

Yet, there are areas of stamp collecting that only a place like the web can offer. Yahoo Clubs (<<http://clubs.yahoo.com/>>). This is a free service where members can sign up to

join clubs and post e-mails to the entire group. If there is not a club that doesn't get your interest you are encouraged to start one. It is convenient as there is an option to have the posts to the group sent out in a daily digest format instead of multiple e-mails clogging up your mailbox during the day if it is a large group.

So far I have only tried a virtual stamp club chat room once at About.com, [www.about.com](http://www.about.com) <<http://www.about.com>>. The meeting time of 5 p.m. on the West Coast sometimes conflicts with my schedule. However, it was interesting talking to other collectors who also shared my interests when I did have the time to go online and chat. It does not replace, though, the local stamp club which meets monthly here in town where I can look at different collections, hear guest speakers once in awhile and increase my collection through buying, selling and trading.

In summation, the Internet has helped me in my hobby as far as obtaining my stamps and meeting collectors online, but does not replace the local service of the stamp shop.



## Rumblings from the editor

When Sam announced during the March meeting the sad news that Del Jones had passed away, I felt the same loss that others had. Del and I have worked on some projects together for the newsletter, we started calling ourselves Scanner and Bugger. I will leave it to your imagination as to who was called what. We also exchanged jokes at our various meetings together, some of which I wouldn't dare publish. As Sam has already said, Del always got things done in an efficient manner.

During board meetings and Nerd Nite, I always enjoyed his gruff humor and his straight to the point way of saying things. Goodbye Del, I will miss you.

I want to thank the contributors for the April newsletter. This is one of the first time in a long while the member articles took up the bulk of the space. Thanks Sam, Sarah and John Smith.

Recently I replaced my graphics tablet with a new one. Many years ago I used a graphics tablet (Digitizer tablet then) when I was selling Autocad. In those days a tablet was very expensive piece of equipment and didn't have much support for any other programs except Computer Aided Design programs. The newer tablets now have support for all mouseable needs. Wacom makes the one I got. They have been in the tablet business for years.

Its active area is about 4 by 5 inches and comes with a pen like stylus and a wheel mouse. Tablets have two modes that are used to indicate position. One of the modes is relative mode. This works just like a mouse works. The cursor will follow along with the mouse until you pick up the mouse, at this point the cursor will stop moving until you put the mouse back down. Then the cursor will continue to follow the mouse movement from where it left off. We all have experienced this when we have taken our mouse to the edge of the pad and still needed to move a little bit farther.

We just pick it up and move it back onto the mouse pad and continue on. The mouse supplied with the tablet works like this. You treat the tablet part like a mouse pad.

Absolute mode is a little different. You usually use the stylus for this. In this mode, think of the active area of the tablet as corresponding to your screen. If you pick up your stylus and move it somewhere else and put it down, the cursor will move immediately to that point. If you tape a cartoon or picture down onto the tablet, you can easily trace it into a graphics-editing program (i.e. Photoshop, Paint Shop Pro etc.). Try doing that with a mouse. The stylus has buttons like a mouse and can be used like a mouse. In some the graphics programs the tip of the stylus will detect hand pressure and the graphics program will treat the pressure like you would see using a real paintbrush.

My tablet is an USB unit; it is also available in a serial version. The tablet will work along with an existing mouse, although if you try to use both at once, the cursor will be all over the place. The retail price is \$100 and is available locally. You can probably find it for less if you shop. It also comes in different colors.



## Membership Application

Annual Dues \$30.00 Mail to:  
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Please Print Clearly — This application is  New  Renewal  Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip + 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
(     )

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(     )

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
  @

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I'm a:

Beginner                     Serve on a committee

Intermediate                 Assist the Editor

Advanced                     Help at Meetings

Hobbyist                      Join a SIG

Professional                 Do Whatever..

The Software I use is

WIN 95                         WIN 2000 ME

WIN 98                         WIN NT

WIN 98 SE                     Other

The Kern Independent PC Users Group — KIPUG is a nonprofit organization of computer users — novices, experts, professionals and hobbyists. KIPUG welcomes all new members interested in computers. A General Meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Building, City Center, at 17th and L streets in Bakersfield. Meetings run from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM and include a business meeting along with product demonstrations, door prizes and a drawing.

### Membership Information and Benefits:

General Meetings are open to the public, free of charge. The public and guests are welcome but certain benefits apply to members only.

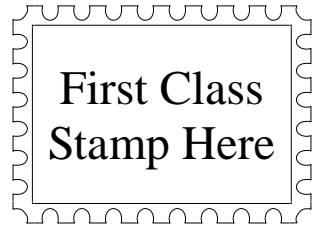
To become a member, complete the form above and mail your check to KIPUG.

#### Member Benefits Include:

- A monthly newsletter — *Bits & Bytes* — a place to publish your articles!
- Free ads to buy or sell computer items.
- One free month's business card ad for corporate members.
- Web Site with free Listserv and access to the newsletter on-line.
- User group product discounts and special offers.
- Networking with computer enthusiasts who share common interests.
- Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to help you solve problems.
- All general memberships are family memberships, bring the family.
- Eligibility for door prizes and vendor giveaways.
- Product evaluation/review program — write an evaluation — keep the product.

Visit KIPUG's Web Site: <http://www.kipug.org/>





P.O. Box 2780  
Bakersfield, CA 93303

*We are on the web at  
**WWW.KIPUG.ORG***

**Tom Rabe Webmaster**

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at the Kern Superintendents of Schools Building.

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