Fall 2003 Newsletter
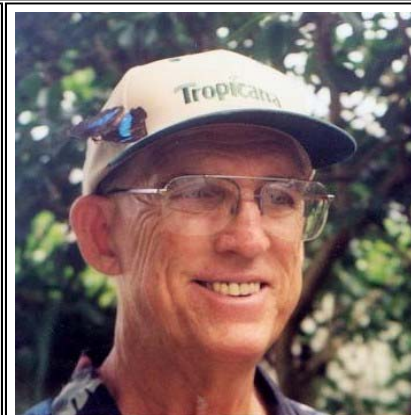
Jules Porchey - The Computer Man

Fall 2003, Volume 1

Contact Information:
E-mail: **thecomputerman8@yahoo.com**   **Web Site:**   **www.thecomputerman.biz**

I have added a page to my web site at www.thecomputerman.biz where you can find all of my past and present newsletters so you can refer to them at any time you wish, or tell your friends about them too....

* <u>Notice:</u> For my clients who still have my old e-mail address in your address book (julesp@gte.net)

Please change my address to thecomputerman8@yahoo.com . I have closed my Verizon   internet account since I have switched to Comcast cable internet and you will no longer be able to contact me at the old address. Thank you....

Welcome to another edition of my Tips Newsletter.
 I hope you find something in it that interests you. I try to provide informative, interesting, and some fun things for you to explore. I should mention that I check out all web sites I mention and believe they are functioning at the time I created this news letter. Perhaps at a later time when you try them they may be out of service or no longer available on the web. Enjoy.... Jules

   I have had some comments that some have had problems when they try to print out my newsletters from the e-mail message or the web site.

   If this is still a problem for you here is what you need to do.

   Go to my web site at www.thecomputerman.biz. Click on the link to "More Pages". Then click on the Newsletters Link. Click on the link to the newsletter you want to view and print. In the Internet Explorer menu at the top left of the page click on File. Click on Print Preview. If the page looks like it is all fitting on the page width then you can safely

print it. If it is not fitting on the width of the page in the preview window....you need to adjust the page margins.

To adjust the page margins, first Click on "Close" to exit the print preview screen. Once again click on File and then click on Page Setup. In the window that pops up, change the left and right margins each to "0" (zero) and the top and bottom margins to .25" each. Now go back and try the Print Preview and see if all the page is showing. If so, then it is safe to print.

This tip is useful to try before printing any web page that won't print properly. By the way, this setting should remain like that when you return to Internet Explorer, so you should not have to re-set it again. Hope this helps....
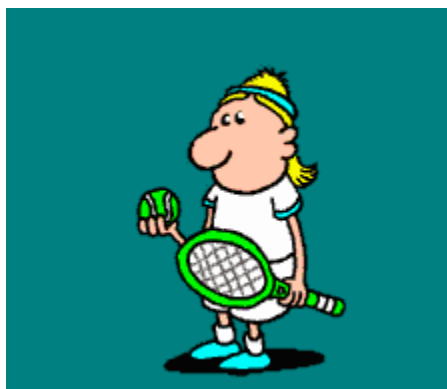
**NEW:
I have now added a "Printer Friendly" link on my Newsletter Archive page on my web site. Here you will find an Adobe Acrobat formatted copy of the newsletter that will print more easily for you. Click on the "Printer Friendly" link for the newsletter you want to print and it will open in Adobe Reader from which you can print the newsletter if you wish.

Most of you have the Adobe Acrobat program on your computer. If you need it you can get the free program from this web location. Click on the link below.

Adobe Acrobat Reader Download or (http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

Here are a some animated graphics for those who collect them:
(Naturally these will not be in motion when viewed in the PDF format for printing)

Now for some interesting Web Sites:

If you haven't seen it yet, there is a wonderful site with the Hubble telescope pictures, www.stsci.edu, click on Hubble Images

Here is a local web site that you might find interesting. It is the Sarasota Co-operative Extension web site: Lots of good information for you here....

http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu

Castles on the Web

Have you ever wanted to live in a castle? Need information on castles for a report or for your own curiosity then you need to visit Castles on the Web. They have a fabulous castle search engine if you have specific questions. There are also galleries of images, greeting cards you can send online and information.

My favorite part of this site is the Castle Tours section. Where you can take a tour of a castle across the world

from the seat of your computer chair. Enjoy!

http://www.castlesontheweb.com

The Web Museum, Paris

Welcome to the web museum in Paris, visit Paul Cezanne and the Medieval Art sections for gorgeous artwork, or take the small tour of Paris. Learn all about Cezanne while viewing over a 100 paintings that you can only find here at the web museum.

When your finished in France, visit all the web museums around the world by following the links at the bottom of the page. Enjoy!

http://www.ibiblio.org/wm

How Stuff Works

Containing sections such as Computer Stuff, Auto Stuff, Electronics Stuff, Science Stuff and much, much more. You'll find out how tons of stuff works. Today they were featuring the Nintendo Game Box.

Jump inside and figure out what's inside the box and how it compares to other gaming systems out there. You can even see the games and if you decided you want one from the review they can even help you compare prices.

Definitely a must-have for your favorites.

http://www.howstuffworks.c

Park Net—The National Parks Service

This is a really cool site, whether you want to visit a national park in the great US of A, or if you need to do a report or some research. You can even visit the national parks online and get great info on why you might want to visit one. There is even a page to check out volunteer opportunities in different parks around the country.

I highly recommend the Learn NPS section. It is chock-full of information for both teachers and students and has some very interesting ways to learn about America. Their feature this month is Thomas Edison (whose birthday was February 11th). This site is fabulous, I hope you all check it out.

http://www.nps.gov/

The CIA World Fact Book

Here you can find maps, facts, and flags. Do you want to find a flag from around the world? Well you can here just click on the Flags Around the World link and you'll be whisked away to their flag page. Here you can see full color flags from just about any country around the world. When you click on the flag itself you will be taken to an information page where you'll find lots of nifty facts on that country. Really good news if you needed it for a report, right?

You can also find a link to the CIA Homepage, and here's the CIA homepage for kids!
http://www.cia.gov/cia/ciakids/index.html

http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html

The Urban Legends Reference Page

This site has been referred to me too many times to not post it anymore, this is the place you should go to check if a chain letter e-mail is true or not, but that's just one of the many uses for this site.

Because Urban Legends cover so many different categories they have nicely divided it into sections for your easy viewing. I particularly enjoyed the Disney and Critter Country sections of this site. Hey check it out!

http://snopes2.com

Hyperhistory

A really great world history site, covering over 3,000 years of history from around the globe. They have 460 biographical timelines for you to peruse and make use of.

I suggest you click on the HyperHistory link to get to the online viewing, otherwise you'd think this was an advertisement. It's cleverly hidden—but lets make it more simple go here and view 3,000 years of history.

http://www.hyperhistory.com/

The Cyberhymnal

At Cyberhymnal you can hear Christian hymns in MIDI format while you read the words to the song. The site contains 4,000 Christian hymns and Gospel songs, with the scores, music (in midi format), pictures, lyrics, and background information about that particular song.

You can search for your hymn by name, author/composer, countries, and much, much more. So turn your speakers up and start the sing-a-long.

http://www.cyberhymnal.org

NativeWeb

NativeWeb is a site that is dedicated to bringing information from and about indigenous nations, peoples, and organizations around the world— from Abenaki to Zuni, they are all here! Their goal is not just to preserve information, but to foster communication between native and non-native people, to conduct research, and to provide resources for indigenous peoples to use technology.

Find information from all sorts of cultures, definitely a time consuming page, as there is so much to see and read. But it's worth it check it out.

http://www.nativeweb.org

Paperfolding.com

Want to learn Origami? You know, the Japanese art of paper folding. Here you can discover its history, find fun ways to use origami to teach math, and much more.

This is probably the most complete origami site on the web!

http://www.paperfolding.com

The Forgotten War

The Forgotten War is a site about the Korean War. A war that spanned three long hard years with many casualties, and is rarely talked about in depth. Here you can find information on this war as well as see pictures of Truman, the Memorial, Medals of Honor, and more.

This site divides the war into three separate phases:

"The first phase began on June 25, 1950 and ended on the day United Nations (U.N) forces thrust into North Korea's territory. The second phase of the Korean war was essentially the Southern unit's attack and retreat from North Korea. The last phase of the war consisted of the "see-saw" fighting on the thirty-eighth parallel, stalemate, and negotiation talks."

Learn more about this war, or do some research. Check it out!

http://www.koreanwar.com/

Earth Quakes

Whether you're researching earthquakes, are just fascinated by them, or live in California / Nevada, this site might catch your fancy. It's a map of the recent earthquakes in California and Nevada, and you can find Shake maps too. A shake map will tell you if you would have felt the earthquake.

For the rest of us who don't live in those states you can find information on earthquakes near you by clicking the link : Earthquakes elsewhere in the US and around the world.

All in all a fascinating map, that is updated within 1-5 minutes of an earthquake or once an hour. Take a gander at this one!

http://www.scecdc.scec.org/recenteqs/

Jack Horkheimer : Star Gazer Cartoons

I'm bringing you the cartoon section of this site in its own cool site slot because of how fabulous it is. Well drawn, funny and educational these cartoons will teach and entertain you. Better yet these cartoons are fabulous teaching tool for kids.

You can view cartoons all the way back to 1998, and on many different topics. Such as: Why is Spring called Spring, The Truth about the North Star, Some Different Birds for Thanksgiving, and the Planets Disguised as Stars. And those are only a few.

Keep looking up!

http://www.jackstargazer.com/Cartoons.html

Household Express

Household Express has thousands of links that are useful and informative. From Budgeting to Health to Shopping—you'll find it all here. The coupon section is my favorite—both online and offline, when you need to pinch pennies they are great. Just print them out and go, or click through to the site where the product you want to buy is at.

This site is another moneysaver, you can also get good advice on tons of other topics. Check this one and you won't regret it. Oh, and as an added bonus, there are tons of cleaning tips—especially for harder to clean objects and stains.

This one is a keeper.

http://www.householdexpress.com/

Volunteer Match

This site is wonderful! Do you want to volunteer for something in your area, but don't know where exactly to find the information? Well, why don't you browse through their posts of volunteer jobs. Or maybe you have an event that needs volunteers to work it? If so, you can look through the "Find" section of this site.

To find a volunteer post in your area, type in your zip code and click the "search" button. Browse through the results and find the perfect place to volunteer your time.

To post a volunteer event and find volunteers to help out, simply register your organization and post your needs. It will be sorted by your zip code so people can search it.

This is a great community tool.

http://www.volunteermatch.org/

National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

This is for all you baseball fans. What would summer be without this American tradition? With the All Star Games already being played this summer why don't you wander down the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Check out the Exhibits section, and you can take a gander at the different things to see. You'll find "Dressed to the Nines: A History of Baseball Uniforms", Museum Collections, Hall of Fame Video Library, "Baseball as America", and many more.

This site is a home run!

http://www.baseballhalloffame.org/

Russia: Land of the Tsars

This site is fascinating and exquisite. With a beautifully detailed timeline you can trace Russia back to the Grand Prince Vladimir of Kiev in 988, to the Fall of Nicholas II in 1918. There is very in-depth information and imagery to go along with the timeline.

I think you will love the multimedia section more than the timeline. With 17 images from history about the Tsars (a name derived from "Caesar"), and a movie, game and screensaver, they give you what you need from their multimedia collection. This is a great sampling of all the elements that bring this together.

This history of this is remarkable, time spanning and notable. Enjoy!

http://www.historychannel.com/russia/

Idiomsite

"Find out why you say what you say!" With a slogan like that it's easy to be lured into this site. "What's an idiom?" you ask? Well, an idiom is "a manner of speaking that is natural to native speakers of a language."

What's this site about? Well, you get a listing of commonly used idioms, click on the idiom you want to know more about and you get the history of it.

Example: Absence makes the Heart Grow fonder. Definition: The lack of something increases the desire for it. That's what the phrase means. Its origin comes from Francis Davidson's Poetical Rhapsody, 1602. Also in Thomas Haynes Bayly's (1797-1839) *Isle of Beauty*: "Absence makes the heart grow fonder, Isle of Beauty, Fare thee well!"

http://www.idiomsite.com/

FLY AWAY FOR THE WEEKEND ON A SHOESTRING
Airlines often don't publicize it, but they offer specials for
weekend trips. If you know where and when to look, you can save
some money. Typically, they post specials on their sites for the
following weekends. If you can travel on short notice, here's where
to look:

--American, special fares listed on Tuesdays for the next two weekends.
   (http://www.aa.com/apps/netSAAver/NetSAAverHome.jhtml)
--Continental, specials posted on Wednesdays for the coming weekend.

(http://www.continental.com/specials/Default.asp)
--Delta, posts fares on Wednesdays and Sundays.
  (http://delta.com/travel/sp_offers/web_fares/index.jsp)
--Northwest, fares posted Wednesdays.
  (http://cybersavers.lastminute-packages.com/)
--United, fares listed Tuesdays for the next two weekends.
  (http://www.itn.net/cgi/get?unpub_inq*itn/ord=NEWREC,itn/air/efare)
--USAirways, posts fares on Wednesdays for the coming weekend.
  (http://usairways.com/promotions/)

Insectclopedia

Summer is the time of bugs, insects and such. (Sure it's just ending up here, but for our readers south of the Equator, it's headed your way!) Now you can learn all about them. There is an alphabetical species listing, insect control, rare cuisine and much more. You can learn where pests live, what type of plants they are attracted to, and even medicinal uses for them.

There are links that take you to other sites of interest: in the "cuisine" section I chose how to use insects as food, and learned all about their nutritional value.

"For example, crickets and grasshoppers have approximately 24 percent protein. Grasshoppers have 200 calories per 100 grams (approximately 900 calories per pound—some studies show up to 1,200 calories per pound) with 7-9 percent fat comparing to steak at 250 calories per 100 grams."

So whether you want to learn about ants or wasps, or what kind of snack you can score in the backyard, the information you need is here.

Crawl, hop or fly on over.

http://www.insectclopedia.com/

Here are a couple of tips for Microsoft Word Users:

Here are some basic Word tips:
Learn to use UNDO: Make a mistake? Press CTRL-Z or choose Undo from the Edit menu right away. Keep pressing CTRL-Z to backtrack through and undo the most recent editing changes you've made.
Save Often: Who knows when disaster may strike? Save often and quickly, using CTRL-S to "save-as-you-go."
 Basic Movements: Go to the top of your document: CTRL-HOME
                Go to the end of your document: CTRL-END
                Go to top of next page: CTRL-PgDn
                Go to top of preceding page: CTRL-PgUp
(Many of these shortcuts also work in Excel and Internet Explorer!)

Even MORE Word Shortcuts:
Shift-F3 toggles through lowercase, initial capital, and uppercase for the current word or selected text.

F4 repeats your last action (formatting, typing, and so on).

Shift-F4 repeats the previous find command.

Shift-F5 jumps to the last change you made in the document.

F6 toggles between the document and the task pane or other Word panes, such as the reviewing or footnote panes.

Ctrl-F6 toggles between open documents.

F8 turns on Word's selection mode, letting you select text by using the cursor keys or by using menu options like Find, which selects the text between the insertion point and the word you've searched for. Press Esc to turn off selection mode.

Ctrl-Shift-F8 turns on Word's selection mode but lets you use the Arrow keys to select a rectangular block of text anywhere in a document. Press Esc to turn off selection mode.

Alt-F8 displays the macro dialog.

F12 opens the Save As dialog.

Turn off Spell and Grammar Checking:

Word's automatic spell- and grammar-checkers are useful—and less intrusive than they were in the past—but they can still be annoying. Fortunately, you can turn them off by going to Tools | Options and selecting the Spelling & Grammar tab! Uncheck the "Check spelling as you type" and "Check grammar as you type" options.

Here are some useful shortcuts:
Everyone should know these three:
 --(after selecting the item)--
 CTRL-X   Cut
 CTRL-C   Copy
 CTRL-V   Paste
These are quicker than a mouse — cut & paste (or copy & paste) by keyboard!
Document-related shortcuts:
CTRL-W   Close document (or CTRL-F4)
CTRL-F10   Maximize document window (a 2nd CTRL-F10 restores doc window to original size)

Here are some Internet Error Codes:

Sometimes when looking for web pages on the internet you get "error" messages. Error messages contain a code number many times. Here is a list of some of the common error codes and their meaning.

400 - Bad Request - You probably typed in a URL wrong, the server has no clue what you're looking for, or you aren't allowed to have access. Usually, it's a matter of the URL being typing in wrong. Maybe you mixed upper and lowercase letters or something.

401- Unauthorized Request - you tried to get to something on the web server you're not allowed to play with. In other words, you ain't on the party list.

403 - Forbidden - You can't access the page. You may not have access (it may require a password), or it may be blocked from your domain.

404- Not Found - The page you were trying to look at was not found on the server. This is probably the most common error you'll come across. What has probably happened is that the web page you were going to has been removed or re-named.

500 - Internal error - Usually caused by a CGI error. You fill out a form, but the script used to process it is not working properly.

503 - Service Unavailable - The server may be overloaded, down, or have other similar problems. Try later.

Here is a tip for Microsoft Excel Users:
Print worksheet column labels on every page:

Multipage printouts of large worksheets are difficult to read when their column labels appear only on the first page. For example, suppose you have a 10-column, 1000-row worksheet and the labels for each column are contained in row one.

Follow these steps to have the column labels print on every page:

1. Click anywhere in the worksheet, and select File | Page Setup.
2. Click Sheet and, under Print Titles, click the collapse dialog box at the right end of the Rows To Repeat At Top text box.
3. Select a cell in the title row. The range $1:$1 appears in the text box.
4. Click the collapse dialog box at the right end of the Page Setup--Rows To Repeat At Top text box.
5. Select Print.

When you click Print, row one will print as the horizontal title for each page.

To print row labels on the left of each page, follow the steps above, except in Steps 2 and 4, select the collapse dialog box at the right end of the Columns To Repeat At Left text box and enter the range of columns that contain the row labels.

The above items submitted for your consideration by:

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P.S. I would like to ask for your assistance in getting referrals. Perhaps you already know of someone who could benefit from my services? I would be pleased and grateful if you would give them my number.

Personal Computer Training, Beginner to Advanced, Internet and Email,
Software Programs, Finance and Stock tracking,
Digital photos and Cameras, Web Site Creation Assistance, Special Projects,
Buying Assistance, System Setup and Installation
Software Installation, Troubleshooting Assistance, Internet Connection Installation

"Senior Friendly" Services

Learn how to use your computer to do the tasks that you want to do.
Call Jules Porchey "The Computer Man" at 927-1428