

Abort,  
Retry,  
Ignore...



Computers Are Easy User Group

July 2002

Suggested Retail Price \$1.95

Volume XVII Issue 7



Calendar  
of  
Events

!!! IMPORTANT !!!  
Meeting dates for  
2002

See page 10  
for all confirmed  
dates. Time and  
Place remain the  
same.

Upcoming  
CAEUG meeting  
Saturday, July 27,  
2002  
9:45-12:00

Our next meeting  
will be a  
presentation by  
John Spizzirri  
on Lindows

COMING IN OCTOBER  
Scott Mueller Author  
of 'Upgrading &  
Repairing PC's'

SEE YOU  
THERE!!

COD Dates  
2002 dates  
July 28  
August 25

## Inexpensive PC Game Demos on CD

by Art Biladeau

Ziff-Davis Media writes magazines for game players, magazines like "Computer Gaming World," and "Official U.S. PlayStation Magazine," and other titles aimed at Nintendo and Xbox and hand-held gamers. I'm a U.S. Mail Carrier. A while back, I was assigned to deliver some Express Mail to Ziff-Davis Media at 800 Jorie Boulevard in Oakbrook, IL. The employees of Ziff-Davis Media play games all day, and then write thumbs up/thumbs down game reviews. After I finished with my delivery, I told them what a cool job they had. They sent me away with some free magazine samples for our kids. As a result, our family subscribed to "Computer Gaming World" monthly magazine ( [computergamingworld.com](http://computergamingworld.com) , 1-800-827-4450). The subscription cost is about \$30 per year with the CD. Why get the subscription without the CD just to save \$5? We consider it an excellent bargain. Each CD contains 6 to 12 game demos and/or shareware games. Out of the introductory demos, which full games have we purchased? Three, so far. Our son likes "Red Faction" by THQ ([www.redfaction.com](http://www.redfaction.com)) and "Aliens versus Predator 2" by Sierra ( [avp2.sierra.com](http://avp2.sierra.com) ).

He received both as gifts. I personally like "Diamond Mine" (a.k.a. "Bedazzled") by Pop Cap Games. You can play Diamond Mine online for free at <http://www.real.com/games/webgames/> . Or it's for sale as a download for \$20. I thought this was a little high for a free game, so I took a pass. But when the price decreased from \$20 to \$10 for a brief period, I typed in my credit card number and bought it.

Months later, during spring break, the kids and I took a chance and dropped in at Ziff-Davis Media at 800 Jorie Boulevard. Our kids are at the age where it makes sense to talk with them about careers and weddings and mortgage payments. We were hoping to take the tour and maybe learn a little bit about Ziff-Davis jobs. We got lucky, and the ZD employees let us in and showed us around for about 30 minutes. There were

(con't on page 9)

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

INEXPENSIVE PC GAME DEMOS ON CD BY ART BILADEAU.....	1
HELPLINE.....	3
CAEUG PICNIC DIRECTIONS AND MAPS.....	5
THE LAMP POST - NUMBER 31 BY JOHN SPIZZIRRI.....	6
MINUTES OF CAEUG MEETING JUNE22, 2002.....	8



**Great Midwest  
Computer Show ©**

Next show date  
**SUNDAY, July 28**  
College of Dupage  
9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

The Midwest's oldest and largest  
Multi Vendor PC show and sale for  
Home & Business

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE  
Main Arena of Physical Education Building  
Corner of Park Blvd & College Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL  
**FREE PARKING**  
Admission - \$7.00  
(With this coupon admission \$6.00)  
[www.CODSHOW.COM](http://www.CODSHOW.COM)  
E-mail address:  
[info@codshow.com](mailto:info@codshow.com)

**Great Midwest Computer Show ©**

2002 dates

July 28  
August 25  
September 29  
October 27  
November 24

**PICTURE YOUR AD HERE!  
FREE !!**

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF CAEUG THIS SPACE  
COULD SELL ANY COMPUTER RELATED ITEM FREE OF  
CHARGE.

JUST CONTACT ANY CLUB OFFICERS OR THE NEWS-  
LETTER EDITOR TO PLACE YOUR AD IN THE NEWSLET-  
TER.

In order to have your article or item for sale  
appear in ARI they must be received by the  
10th of the month prior to publication.

**MEMBERS HELPLINE**

Any member with a specific expertise  
can volunteer to be on the Members  
Helpline. Contact Rick Scalzo.

Beginners Helpline.....Billy Douglas

Beginner hardware  
problems.....Dick Fergus

QuickBooks, Turbo Tax, IBM Lotus, MS  
Excel, Corel's Quattro Pro....Terry Moye

Win 9x, NT, 2K.....Rick Scalzo  
e-mail.....mitsufan@webcentrix.net

Hardware problems,  
Win 9x, NT, 2K & Linux.....John Spizzirri

**Membership Costs.....**

	First Yr.	Renewal
Individual	\$25.00	\$20.00
Family	\$30.00	\$25.00
Corporate	\$30.00	\$25.00
Associate	\$20.00	\$15.00

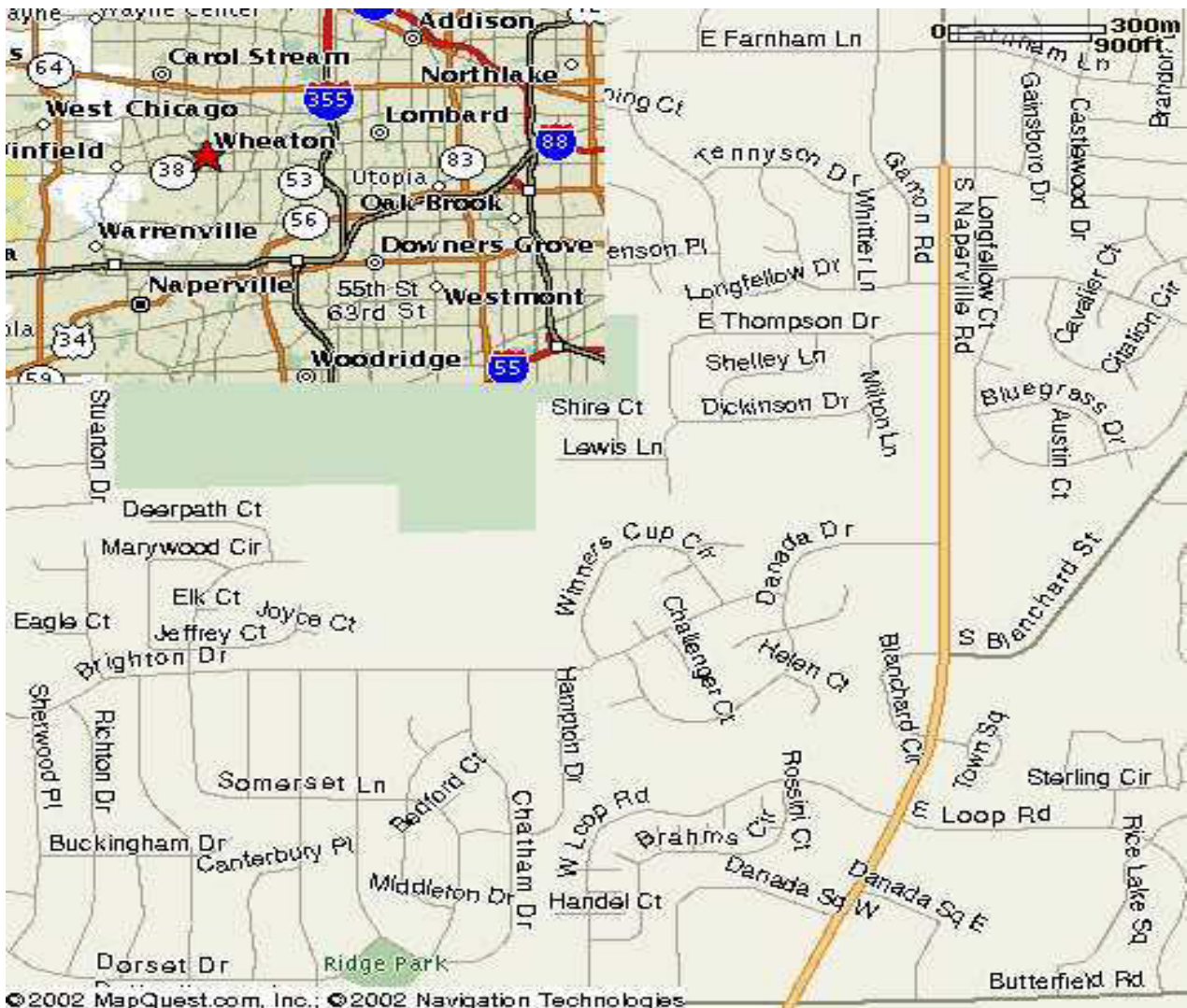
**Beginner's SIG**

Ask questions and discuss computer  
experiences with this group.  
Such as:

1. New to Computers? (basic topics)
2. How to use the Web or download  
information
3. How to install hardware/software
4. Discuss how to troubleshoot  
hardware conflicts, learn boot up  
emergency tricks
5. What do you want to know??

Meets before regular meeting from  
9:05 to 9:45





### Picnic Raffle items information

Anyone having access to any software or hardware that might be appropriate for raffle items at the picnic should bring them to the picnic and let the picnic Chairperson know.

Roger Kinzie (randnk@worldnet.att.net)

or

Michael Golberg (MikeGold60137@Yahoo.com)



The Lamp Post    Number 31    by John Spizzirri  
 July 12, 2002



Microsoft (MS <http://www.microsoft.com/>) distributed the Nimda worm ( <http://securityresponse.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w32.nimda.a@mm.html> ) in its Korean .NET developers package i.e. on its official CD. "The Nimda virus has been detected within one of the compressed help files included in the Korean language version of Application Center Test (ACT). ACT is a component of the Korean language versions of the Visual Studio .NET," a MS spokesperson said. MS Developer Network is a program that MS has for people and companies that write programs for Windows and .NET. The developers pay MS (\$500 to \$2800 per year) to receive a monthly CD or DVD with special information about Windows and .NET which aids in writing programs.

Check it at <http://msdn.microsoft.com/>.

Palladium is a statue of Pallas (Athena) whose preservation was believed to ensure the safety of Troy. Palladium is also a silver-white, ductile, malleable, metallic element of the platinum group that is used especially in electrical contacts, as a catalyst, and in alloys. Its value is just above \$300 per ounce, just a few dollars more than gold. Palladium is also the name of a MS security protocol announced in conjunction with Intel ( <http://www.intel.com> ) and AMD ( <http://www.amd.com> ). That's right, the company that everyone trusts is proposing a new method of securing data on the Internet and YOUR computer. Their plan was reported (exclusively) in Newsweek magazine ( <http://www.newsweek.com> ). The plan requires a special chip in every new PC reminiscent of the V-Chip. The chip will uniquely identify your PC. This also reminds me of the trouble that Intel got into a few years ago when they put a unique serial number encoded in each Pentium chip. With the chip, your PC will only trade information with other uniquely IDed PCs or servers. Encryption will protect your machine from crackers/hackers. Palladium will prevent unauthorized programs (viruses and worms) from running on your PC. It will prevent unsolicited email from reaching you. Using Digital Rights Management (DRM) technology Palladium will securely transfer intellectual property such as music, books, and movies. Newsweek reports, "you could create Word documents that could be read only in the next week. In all cases, it would be the user, not Microsoft, who sets these policies." Yeah right! "This isn't just about solving problems, but expanding new realms of possibilities in the way people live and work with computers," says Microsoft product manager Mario Juarez. InfoWorld Magazine ( <http://www.infoworld.com> ) reported that a week after the Newsweek article MS of the United Kingdom (UK) held an informational seminar/news event called Tech Ed in Barcelona, Spain. UK chief security officer for MS, Stuart Okin, was the primary spokesperson. His position was created just four months ago. Okin claims that the Newsweek story was "leaked or squirreled out by a journalist." I guess that would include the posed photograph that accompanied that story. I think that if Okin truly believes the story was "leaked", MS has some serious communication problems within its organization. Okin said that white papers will be published by the end of the month (July) that will fully explain what

Palladium will do. Okin said "its prime function is to ensure security and privacy." He also said that Palladium will be "an opt-in technology" because it will be switched off by default. When you pay for something you didn't ask for and then don't use it, I don't think that is opt-in technology. It is rumored that the Palladium chip will be incorporated into the processor by the end of the decade. It seems this is being forced upon us whether we want it or not. InfoWorld reported MS "would be prepared to license the intellectual property for its proposed Palladium security chip to any software manufacturer, but certification of that software would be essential if the system is to work..." MS's past dealings with hardware companies essentially made MS a partner of each of those companies. It now appears that MS wants to force a partnership with all software companies via its "certification" for Palladium. It may also deny certification to its enemy competitors such as Sun Microsystems and all the Linux companies. Some people think that MS is trying to kill Linux with it (<http://salon.com/tech/feature/2002/07/11/palladium/index.html>) or to help out the music and movie businesses keep their monopolies. Palladium protected Troy. Do you want that kind of protection? I think that MS's Palladium is an apt name for its pursuit of market share which is more valuable than gold. Did they pick the Palladium name for its double meaning?

"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" It was a great movie and has become an idiom for an extremely unusual circumstance. I think it applies to the LinuxWorld Expo this August 13-15, at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco. You can check the list of exhibitors at <http://www.linuxworldexpo.com/linuxworldexpo/v31/index.cvn>. The unusual exhibitor is Microsoft at booth R10. MS will enter the lion's den to show off their Windows XP embedded technology. Linux Today (<http://linuxtoday.com/>) reported that Peter Houston, senior director of the Windows Server Product Management Group, said the audience is important to Microsoft, and showing up is a first step "towards forming an ongoing dialog with members of the Linux and Open Source community." Are we supposed to believe that?

Correction - In last month's Lamp Post I incorrectly reported that Lindows was not Linux based. I have since read the Lindows (<http://www.lindows.com/>) documentation (RTFM - Read The Fine Manual) and found that it is based on the Debian distribution of Linux (<http://www.debian.org/>).

If you have read this far, I suspect you have a keen interest in the newsletter and the club. Jeanne Hoesley can no longer act as our Membership Chair and Circulation Manager. We need someone to assume those rolls. The roll of Membership Chair also carries with it a full voting membership on the board of directors. If you wish to guide the direction of the club, this is your opportunity. What do these jobs entail? The Membership Chair keeps the database of club members. It is currently kept in Alpha Four but can be kept in any database you are comfortable with. The Membership Chair notifies members when their dues are due. Circulation Manager gets the newsletter in electronic form or in hard copy, reproduces it, folds it, affixes member address labels, and mails them to members. The club covers the Circulation Manager's expenses. One other benefit is your membership dues are free. The Circulation Manager's job, if done by a commercial printing operation would cost the club \$254.15 per month.

Want to know how to get blood out of a garment or know the various uses of vinegar? Try the Tip King at <http://www.tipking.com>. The site has a myriad of handy household information.

Have you ever had trouble filling out an online or offline form? You are, generally, given a blank box to enter data. If you incorrectly enter data in that box, the program rejects it as invalid. You backspace or delete the data and re-enter and the program rejects your entry again. If the programmer correctly programs the form, any box should be easily cleared or blanked once data has been entered. Due to time constraints or just bad programming, these boxes can appear blank yet still have remnant data in them. The way to clear a box of data is to use the backspace or delete key until the box appears blank then press the delete key at least six additional times. This should clear the box of data enabling you to re-enter the correct data.

Last May, Stephen Wolfram (<http://www.stephenwolfram.com>) released his new book called "A New Kind of Science". Wolfram is a genius that was awarded his Ph.D. in physics from Caltech at age 20. He also went to Eton and Oxford and worked at Argonne National Lab before he got his Ph.D. He did not like the computer languages available to physicists, so he wrote his own when he was 22 while working as a faculty member at Caltech. By age 29 he released a \$1000 computer program for scientists called Mathematica. It sold 100,000 copies in its first two years. He has also written books about his program. His most recent book details his belief that all science can be replicated on a computer. Based on his studies, he believes that all complex systems are based on simple rules that can be duplicated on a computer. Check out his Web site for details about his book and other work.

Our past president, Carl Schow, found the PC Flank site at <http://www.pcflank.com> that is for anyone that suspects their system is vulnerable to attack from the Internet. It has tests that let you see what anyone who may be probing your machine can see. PC Flank has tests for Trojans and information on viruses. Steve Gibson of Gibson Research has a similar site at <http://grc.com>. Steve is selling his products on the site as well as giving his opinion about exploits on the Internet. Some people think he is crazy while others see him as a genius. The thing to do is have your system probed by both sites and compare the results. If you think you need a firewall, get the free one that Kim Komando (<http://www.komando.com/>) recommends; Zone Alarm [www.zonealarm.com](http://www.zonealarm.com).

Have you ever wondered what the parts of a URL (Universal Resource Locator) were for? For example <http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/U/URL.html> is the URL for the Webopedia definition of URL. Let's start at the beginning. http means hyper text transfer protocol and refers to the method that data will be transferred to your computer. www means World Wide Web (or jokingly World Wide Wait) and refers to the type of server the data is on. Webopedia is the registered domain name of the company or entity that owns the data (they may also own the server). .com is the top level domain suffix that refers to a country or type of entity. .com means commercial business, .edu means educational institution, .gov means a governmental agency, .mil means the military, .org is a non-profit organization, .net is miscellaneous but tends to refer to service providing companies, and .ca refers to Canada as an example of a

country suffix. /TERM and /U are directory names on the Web server. URL.html is the name of the file that contains the data that will be displayed. The .html means hyper text markup language and is the code or programming used to display the data.

Between you, me, and the LampPost - that's all this month.

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Minutes of CAEUG Meeting  
June 22, 2002  
By John Spizzirri

Rick Scalzo called the meeting to order at 9:45 am.

There were 29 in attendance.  
There was 1 visitor.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2002. Billy Douglas will moderate the Beginner Forum next month.

The minutes were approved as published in the Newsletter.

The Financial Report was unavailable because Lynn Johnson was ill.

Old Business

The picnic sign up sheet circulated. The date of this year's picnic is, Saturday, August 24, 2002, at Seven Gables Park starting at 11 am with lunch at Noon. All members and their families are welcome to attend the picnic.

Anyone having access to any software or hardware that might be appropriate for raffle items at the picnic should bring them to the picnic and let Roger Kinzie (randnk@worldnet.att.net) or Michael Golberg (MikeGold60137@Yahoo.com) know.

College of DuPage Computer Show needs volunteers that should contact Terry Moye (terrmoey@aol.com).

New Business

Jeanne Hoesley reported that she could no

longer fulfill the responsibilities of Membership Chair and Circulation Manager. A request for a volunteer was announced.

The Board announced that the club would participate in the Market Trends market survey. If the club qualifies for the free software, it was decided that only club members that participated in the survey would be eligible for the raffle of that software.

The business meeting was followed by our traditional coffee and pastry break.

The presentation was made by Rick Scalzo on bus powered devices.

The CD of the Month was compilation of the best of previous CDs of the month.

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con't from page 1

lots of cubicles, a PC at every desk, and tons of self-expressive toys and knick-knacks pasted and hanging everywhere. The employees appeared to all be in their 20's and 30's, with great verbal skills, and I'm assuming great writing skills as well. All I can say is — what a terrific job! — get paid to play!

(Arthur Biladeau is a married homeowner with two children, ages 12 and 14. He is an employee of the U.S. Postal Service since 1977.)

Editor's note: Thank you for the ARI article.

CAEUG  
P. O. Box 2727  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60138

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

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### Meeting place and date information:

The next REGULAR meeting will be held at the Glen Ellyn Library in Glen Ellyn at 9:45 am on  
Saturday meeting July 27, 2002

The library is located 1 block west of Citibank at the corner of Prospect & Duane FREE PARKING  
Directions: Park to Duane; go west on Duane to Prospect Street. Please park at the West end of the  
lot, away from the building. Thank you.

The meeting(s) are not library sponsored and all inquiries should be directed to Rick Scalzo at .  
Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this program and who require certain accommodations  
in order to observe and/or participate in the program are requested to contact CAEUG president, Rick  
Scalzo at , at least five (5) days prior to the program, so that reasonable accommodation can be made  
for them.

Confirmed Meeting dates for 2002:

July 27, August 24 CAEUG Picnic, (maps & directions in this issue page 4 & 5)

Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov/Dec meeting December 7

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CD OF THE MONTH: Available at the meeting or by ordering previous CD's via the CAEUG website.

Our next meeting on Saturday, July 22 will be a presentation by John Spizzirri.  
He will be presenting Lindows. A non-Windows operating system. Our meetings are held at  
the Glen Ellyn Public Library at the corner of Duane and Prospect in downtown Glen Ellyn.

Hope to see you there.

COMING ~ OCTOBER 26 ~ CAEUG ~ meeting presenter will be  
Scott Mueller, Renowned Author of 'Upgrading & Repairing PC's'