

Abort, Retry, Ignore...



Computers Are Easy User Group



May 2007

Suggested Retail Price \$1.95

Volume XXIV

Issue 5

May Meeting Program

Analyzing the Electrical Activity From Weather Fronts

Dick Fergus will present a review of his steps over a number of years for analyzing the electrical activity from weather fronts with regard to severity (tornados). You can view the current status at "<http://users.theramp.net/~sferics/>".

Bio

Dick Fergus's first "electronic" experience was radio repair during high school. After receiving an Electrical Engineering degree, his first job was developing test equipment for manufactured products. His last job (40+ years at Argonne National Laboratory) was developing equipment to measure nuclear radiation as needed for personal protection and contamination detection. These experiences involved vacuum tubes thru transistor analog circuitry, integrated circuit logic, machine language microprocessor code, and finally, compiler language (Forth) in a Dos environment. This work also supported two patents, and numerous publications and presentations.

Preparing a Review Article for the Orange Bytes By Ted Littman, NOCCC Reviews Editor

The following suggestions for preparing a review article for the Orange Bytes are intended as a guide only. As a reviewer, your audience wants to know your opinion (as an end user) of the product (hardware, software, book) you are reviewing. Please fully identify the product, its vendor, and its cost (list, vendor discounts, & street) so that interested club members may be able to purchase it. Be objective, but balanced in your review in so far as plaudits and criticisms are concerned. Remember, you are reviewing for your colleagues and not for the vendor.

After you have tested the product or read the book, consider these questions:

- I. What is the product's stated purpose and does it meet it?
- II. Does it stand out compared to similar products?
- III. What are its major features?

(con't on page 2)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MAY PRESENTER IS DICK FERGUS1
PREPARING A REVIEW ARTICLE FOR ORANGE BYTES BY TED LITTMAN1
CAEUG PICNIC MAP & DIRECTIONS3
CD OF THE MONTH LIST6
LAMPPOST 84 BY JOHN SPIZZIRRI7
HELPLINE.9

Calendar
of
Events

!!!IMPORTANT!!!

**CAEUG meeting
will be the
4th Saturday
May 26
Time
09:45 - noon**

*** NOTE ***

**Confirmed
2007 meeting
dates will be the
May 26
June 23 CAEUG
PICNIC
See pages
3 & 4
for maps
and
directions

**MEETING PLACE
will be the
Glenside Public
Library

**SEE YOU
THERE!!

**COD Linuxfest
[http://
www.codlug.info/](http://www.codlug.info/)**

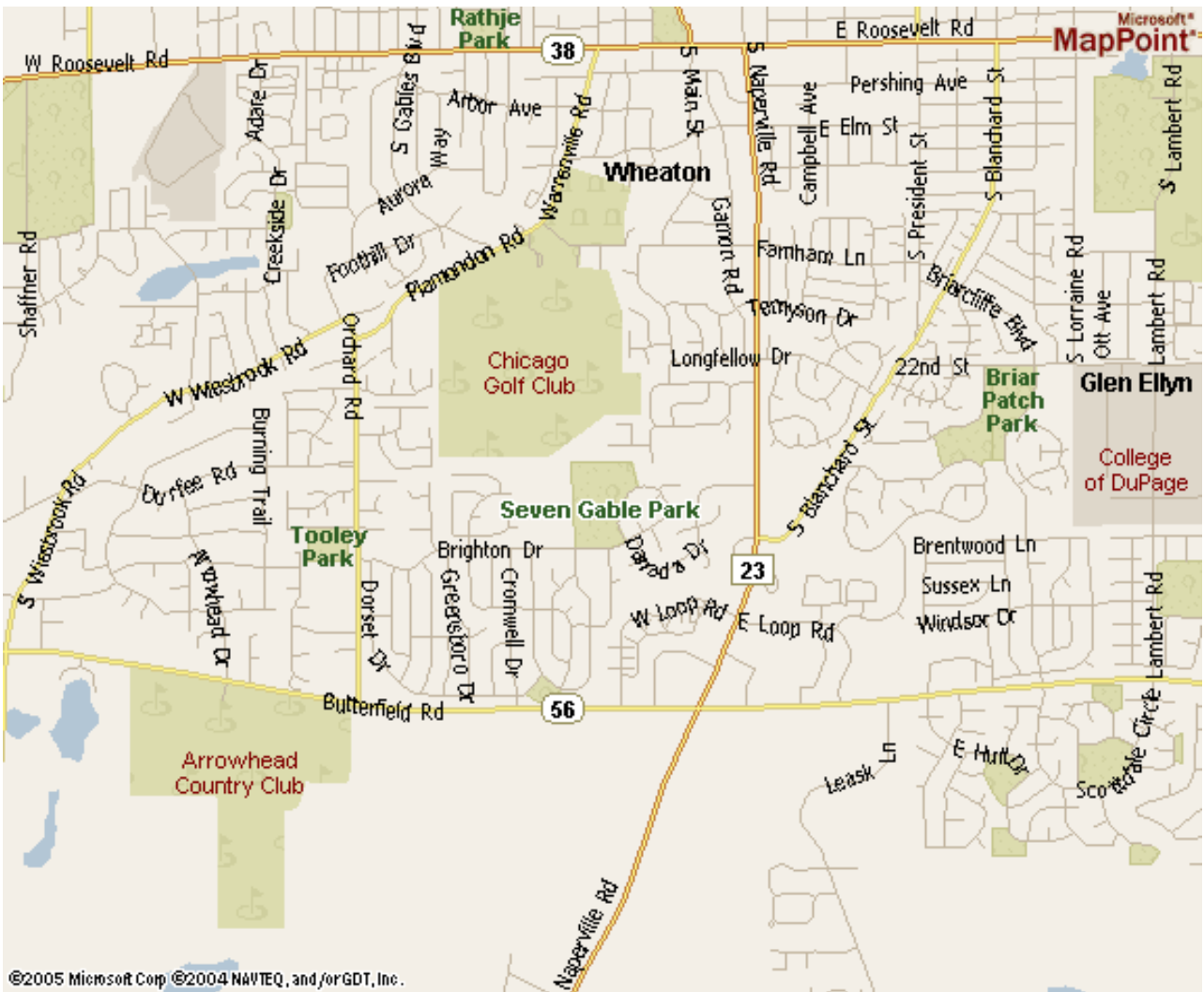
- IV. Is it easy to use? Can a novice use it?
- V. Is it worth the money? Do you recommend it?
- VI. Can you quote or reference articles/ reviews in the computer magazines?

The following list contains more specific questions that apply to either software or hardware:

- I. Requirements:
 - a. Operating systems?
 - b. Processor/speed?
 - c. Memory, Disk space, Video & Audio?
- II. Installation (do not overemphasize details):
 - a. Was it difficult?
 - b. Copy or write protected?
 - c. Does it allow drive and directory selection?
 - d. Does it automatically configure system? Can you control it?
- III. Information about your system:
 - a. Hardware?
 - b. Operating system? Version?
 - c. Memory?, Video display?
- IV. Documentation:
 - a. What is supplied? Manuals (paperback, electronic) Tutorial? Templates? Table of Contents? Index?
 - b. Is it clear, concise and helpful?
 - c. Is there a troubleshooting section?
- V. Product Support:
 - a. How is the vendor's tech support?
 - b. Does it cost anything?
 - c. Is it a toll call?
 - d. Does the vendor provide free Internet support?
- VI. About the product:
 - a. What comes with the product?
 - b. What is the cost (list & street)? Any special deals for user group members?
 - c. Version number and release date?
 - d. How difficult is the learning curve?
 - e. Would you buy/use the product?
 - f. Do you recommend it?
 - g. What don't you like about it?
 - h. What improvements or changes would you like to see?
 - i. Can the software be downloaded from the vendor's Web site; is there a free trial period before buying?
 - j. What warranty is there on hardware?
- VII. What are the Name, Address, Phone number (including 800#), and WEB address (e-mail & URL) of the vendor?

The following list of questions applies to books:

- a. What is the subject matter?
- b. Does the book meet its stated purpose?
- c. Is it timely? If it is a revised edition, what is new in the current edition?
- d. Is the title an accurate reflection of the content?
- e. What level of reader capability is required? Who will find it useful?
- f. Is it easy to read and technically accurate?
- g. Is it well illustrated and are the illustrations easy to view?



CAEUG Picnic Directions

Directions to CAEUG Picnic at Seven Gables Park:

- From Naperville and Butterfield Roads head NORTH on Naperville Road 0.8 mi.
- Turn left (WEST) on Danada Road.
- Follow Danada for 0.2 mi. to the stop sign at Brighton Road.
- Turn right (WEST) on Brighton Road.
- Stay on Brighton Road for 0.2 mi.
- Turn right (NORTH) onto Winners Cup.
- Follow Winner Cup 0.2 mi. to the entrance to Seven Gables Park . Entrance is on the left.
- A short distance into the park is a stop sign, At the stop sign turn right. That road will take you past the football field.
- We will be at the EAST end of the football field in an area that looks like a refreshment stand.



- h. Are there any major omissions and why are they important?
- i. How are the key points highlighted?
- j. Does the book have to be read in chronological order?
- k. Are there any accompanying extras (like CDs)?
- l. What do you like and dislike about the book?
- m. Is the author well known in this field? Does he/she have a web site for errata/updates?
- n. Finally, do you recommend it?

After you have answered these questions, you should have enough information to write your review. Please be precise but do not make it so technical that only a few people can understand. Please advise the Orange Bytes Editor if you need graphics, pictures, or illustrations to get your point across.

Guidelines for Submittal

Important! Please limit the length of your submittals, but length should be secondary to content sufficiency. However, we request you limit general articles and software reviews to 1300 words, SIG reports to 700 words, book reviews to 600 words, low cost CD ROM titles to 600 words and more sophisticated CD-ROMs to 1000 words. As far as the minimum is concerned, we'd just like to see you do justice to any general article or to any product that's reviewed. An expensive software package (\$500-1000) deserves at least 1,300 words. An inexpensive program (\$50 or less) might have 400-500 words.

Reviews must be completed within 2 months so that the Reviews Editor can, in a timely manner, send a copy to the vendor. If you change your mind about doing the review, please call him (714)779-1936 or e-mail (reviews@noccc.org) ASAP to make arrangements for returning the product for reassignment. We hope you enjoy writing your review.

You can e-mail articles directly to the Orange Bytes Editor (editor@noccc.org), or give the file on a disk with a printout directly to the club President, Publications Chairman., or Reviews Editor on the next meeting day. If you e-mail your review, please send a copy to: reviews@ noccc.org.

Articles or reviews can be in .txt or .rtf format. All documents should use 10-point font and have flush left margins with double-carriage-returns (skip a line) between paragraphs. If you use .rtf format (in Microsoft Word or other word processor), bold your title, paragraph headings, and wherever else appropriate. Then zip the article (if lengthy) and attach it to your e-mail.

Don't use CAPS for emphasis; that's like shouting at someone! Also please spell check your article, and try to follow the ordinary rules of grammar. Don't use columns, tabs, indents, justification, hyphenation or other such formatting codes. (If columns or tables are absolutely needed, send us a hard copy to guide us.)

We look forward to seeing your submittal in print and on the NOCCC Web site.

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

CAEUG Editor Note: This article has a great outline and questions to give writing an article by anyone a start. Any new gadget, new software, even a book, or informative article can be turned into a review article for fellow club members of CAEUG.

! * ! See pages 3 and 4 for CAEUG Picnic map and directions ! * !

May 2007 CDOM

123FreeSolitaire - 470 solitaire games
7-Zip - File archiver
AdvancedDiskCleaner - Find and wipe away all the garbage files on your computer
Ares - Peer to Peer sharing program
ARI - CAEUG newsletter
AVGAnti-Virus - Free anti-virus software
BazookaAdwareSpywareScanner - Detect spyware, adware, trojan, keylogger and trackware
BelarcAdvisor - System hardware and software detector
BillQuickLite - Time Billing and Project Management software
BizPlan - Business plan writer
CoreFTPL - Free FTP client software for Windows
CPUID - freeware that gathers information on some of the main devices of your system
DownThemAll - DownThemAll lets you download all the links or images contained in a webpage
ECLIPSECROSSWORD - Create crossword puzzles in minutes
FastStoneImageViewer - Free graphic and photo viewer
Forecaster - Plan your spending for sustainable portfolio withdrawals
Free FTP client, secure file transfer software_files
Glest - A free 3d RTS (real time strategy) game
Iconoid - Hide and show desktop icons, maketransparent backgrounds_files
iDump - transfer your songs from your iPod to any PC
IE7 - Internet Explorer version 7
IrfanView - The most popular viewers worldwide_files
KirbyAlarm - Alarm And Task Scheduler
KlipFolio - Personal dashboard and side bar
MarioForever - A free Mario game
MaxType - Typing tutor
MBFreeSubliminalMessage - An advanced subliminal message-displaying program
MediaMonkeyStandard - Media database and organizer w/ MP3 player
NotepadPP - A free source code editor (and Notepad replacement)
OcularInk - A 2D game
OldTimeRadio - Old radio programs
OpenOffice22 - Open source office suite
PaintDotNET - Free Photo Editing Software for Windows_files
ParagonEncryptedDisk - Limited disk encryption
ParentalControl - Shield your children from explicit websites
PrimoPDF - Free PDF creation and manipulation tool
REGSCANNER - RegEdit replacement with additional features
Scorched3D - A 3D Remake Of Scorched Earth_files
Seamonkey - Open source browser
Skype - Free internet calls with video
Songbird - A desktop Web player, a digital jukebox and Web browser mash-up
Street Challenge - Free Online Drag Racing Game
StumbleUponToolbar4IE - A desktop Web player, a digital jukebox and Web browser mash-up
Sudokumat - Create, play, & print Sudoku games
TheGIMP - The GNU Image Manipulation Program_files
Trillian - Instant Messaging program
TrueCrypt - Free Open-Source On-The-Fly Disk Encryption for Windows Vista-XP-2000 and Linux_files
TweakNowRegCleaner - Free registry cleaner
Ur-QuanMasters - Star Control game remake
VistaStartMenu - A Vista menu for XP or 2K

VunetFind - Free disk search
WordWeb5 - Crossword puzzle compiler
Xnews - A free Usenet newsreader for Windows 9x/NT/2000/XP
XnView - Graphical viewer
ZoneAlarm - Free firewall

LampPost 84
by John Spizzirri
May 20, 2007



Attorney General Alberto Gonzales who heads the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ <http://www.usdoj.gov/>) and the head of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC <http://www.ftc.gov/>) announced the completion of the ID Task Force; <http://ftc.gov/opa/2007/04/idtheft.shtm> . The result of the task force is an ID theft web site; <http://www.idtheft.gov/> . The Electronic Privacy Information Center (<http://www.epic.org/>), Center for Democracy and Technology (<http://www.cdt.org/>), and the Identity Theft Resource Center (<http://www.idtheftcenter.org/>) were not happy with the results, citing the weakness of the proposed laws combating ID theft and database confidentiality. The full story is at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/04/23/AR2007042301401.html> .

The Identity Theft Resource Center mentioned in the proceeding paragraph has numerous pages that can help you prevent theft of your ID. A questionnaire at http://www.idtheftcenter.org/artman2/publish/c_theft_test/ID_Theft_Test.shtml checks your awareness of ID security. There is a check list of what to do if you find that your ID has been stolen at http://www.idtheftcenter.org/artman2/publish/v_fact_sheets/Fact_Sheet_100_-_Financial_Identity_Theft_-_The_Beginning_Steps.shtml . The site details a new scam. The URL at http://www.idtheftcenter.org/artman2/publish/s_specific/Warning_-_New_Scam.shtml reports, "Beware of calls from life insurance companies claiming they hold a policy for someone who recently died. They may ask for your Social Security number to verify who you are. They may even tell you payments are overdue, and in order to claim the full policy value, you need to give them a credit card number to complete the payments." They recommend one thing - HANG UP. The information is excellent. The design of the site leaves alot to be desired even though it has just been redesigned. Don't be discouraged. Keep hunting on the site for what you need.

Life Lock (<http://www.lifelock.com/>) is a company that claims to help its customers protect their identity, for a fee. They guarantee their work for up to \$1 million. They advertise on PBS and Rush Limbaugh. There have been news stories on them by CNN (<http://www.cnn.com/>), MSNBC (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/>), CNBC (<http://www.cnbc.com/>), and The Wall Street Journal Online (<http://www.wsj.com/>).

The BBC News reported that, after 60 years, the Nazi records of the holocaust stored in Bad Arolsen, Germany will be opened to historians per an agreement among 11 countries. The records are currently handled by the International Tracing Service (ITS <http://www.its-arolsen.org/english/index.html>), a branch of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The records will be copied to electronic format and transfered to Yad Vashem The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Israel (<http://www.yadvashem.org/>) and U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. (<http://www.ushmm.org/>). The BBC News through this <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4988378.stm> and other stories reported that their are 16 MILES of shelf space devoted to the records of people and events in the death camps. These records were created and kept by the Nazis themselves.

If you ever wanted to be a newspaper reporter, here is your chance. The Tribune is trying out citizen journalism at <http://www.triblocal.com/> . Currently, the available reporting area is restricted to some far south suburbs and parts of the Fox River Valley. You won't get paid but you will get credit for

your writing. I found the story at <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/18204665/> . You may post pictures, report events, or just general local news. You must give some information about yourself in order to post stories.

If you have an older device (scanner, printer, network equipment, etc.), you may not want to 'upgrade' to Microsoft Vista. Microsoft (MS <http://www.microsoft.com/>) supplied 30,000 drivers that will support 1.7 million devices and are adding 1,500 to 2,000 new drivers per month. The trouble for consumers is that if you own an unsupported device, you are out of luck until MS or someone else writes a driver for it. If MS does not approve of the driver, it will never see the light of day. Windows NT 4 did not support USB ports. A company (now out of business) wrote a driver for MS Windows NT 4 that supported USB ports. MS wanted everyone to buy Windows 2000 and sued the company out of business. Win NT 4 was capable of supporting USB ports but MS did not allow it. There is also the possibility of writing your own driver. I would not recommend that. I only know one person that has written a driver. I found the story at <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17872053/> .

Does your software work with Vista? Not only are there hardware problems but some software does not run on Vista as well. You can check the list of software that runs (or not) on Vista at http://www.ixbeta.com/wiki/index.php/Windows_Vista_Software_Compatibility_List .

The release of Vista has raised the revenue of Microsoft. The bulk of the increase came from the premium business versions of Vista. I found the story at http://www.cbronline.com/article_news.asp?guid=1540AC54-C4C7-4DF5-BA35-B9766907B856 .

Mozilla Foundation (<http://www.mozilla.org/>) sues Microsoft over tabbed browsing. Internet Explorer (IE) version 7 has tabs for browsing multiple pages simultaneously, just like FireFox (<http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/>) and SeaMonkey (<http://www.mozilla.org/projects/seamonkey/>). I first found this story at <http://yro.slashdot.org/yro/07/04/01/0630203.shtml> . It now appears in many other places.

SCO Group (The Santa Cruz Operation <http://www.sco.com/>) may have its NASDAQ stock (traded as SCOX) delisted. The stock has gone from over \$20 in 2003 to about 88 cents last week. SCO has 6 months to get the stock above \$1 or NASDAQ will delist it. The story is at http://www.cbronline.com/article_news.asp?guid=F5A73261-E2D1-432A-AA5C-A58C02AAE4DB .

Microsoft claims open source products (Linux and products that run on Linux) infringe on 235 MS patents. MS is not filing any legal claims about this infringement. MS requests that its customers that are concerned about it, use it's partners (Novell) product Suse. The story at http://www.cbronline.com/article_news.asp?guid=B64949DF-6D27-4B0F-8C1A-D3A1E6F61343 states, "The company's [MS] reluctance to detail its claims is reminiscent of the position taken by SCO Group in its copyright infringement claims against Linux. SCO's reluctance to detail its evidence eventually led to it being heavily criticized by Magistrate Judge Brooke Wells in June 2006." Could the criticism of SCO led to its low stock price? Could that happen to MS? Time will tell.

Novell wants no part of Microsoft's patent claims. Novell issued a significant statement that said in part, "...our agreement with Microsoft is in no way an acknowledgment that Linux infringes upon any Microsoft intellectual property." I guess even partners can disagree about which one is violating the law. The story is at http://www.cbronline.com/article_news.asp?guid=BE40F937-452D-481F-B728-0262DE6FB8D4 .

Between you, me and The Lamp Post that's all for this month.

! * ! See pages 3 and 4 for CAEUG Picnic map and directions ! * !

CAEUG OFFICERS

President	Mike Goldberg
V.P. (Programs)	Tom Anzalone
Secretary	Dean Holste
Treasurer	L. Johnson
Newsletter Editor	Kathy Groce
Membership Chairperson & Circulation Manager	Pete Nicchia
Webmaster	John St. Clair



Reminder:
You'll get better, faster service
if you use CAEUG in the
subject of your e-mail.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER:

This printed version of our newsletter was laid out using **Adobe's Pagemaker Version 7.0** for Windows.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the CAEUG Officers, members or other contributors. CAEUG, its officers, newsletter editor, authors or contributors are not liable in any way for any damages, lost profits, lost savings, or other incidental or consequential damage arising from the use of the information provided herein. Every reasonable effort has been made to confirm the accuracy of the contents of this newsletter, but that accuracy is not guaranteed.

Permission is granted to reproduce any or all parts of this newsletter for personal use. Also granted is permission to reproduce for publication any part of this newsletter provided that a copy of the publication is mailed to CAEUG, immediately following publication and CAEUG is given credit.

The CAEUG newsletter is published eleven times annually. Contributions by members are encouraged and will be gratefully acknowledged in the newsletter. We have a policy of exchanging newsletters with other users groups across the nation. Several CAEUG member articles have already been picked up and reprinted.

MEMBERS HELPLINE

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

Beginner Helpline Billy Douglas

Beginner hardware problems . . . Dick Fergus

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

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

Beginner's SIG

Ask questions and discuss computer experiences
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??

SIG meets before regular meeting from **9:05 to 9:45**

Great Midwest Computer Show ©

**OPERATION HAS BEEN SUSPENDED
NO FURTHER INFORMATION
IS AVAILABLE**

Family owned business is your source for the most complete line of high-quality, low-cost toner, inkjet cartridges and other imaging supplies (paper) for printers, copiers and fax machines.

Jax's Ink Cartridge
330 Randall Road
South Elgin, IL
847-742-0921
email: jaxsink@sbcglobal.net

CD OF THE MONTH FORMAT: Is now available in **two (2)** flavors. The **Basic CD** will be packed with the standard items, while the **CD of the Month** will have NEW and updated items.

NEW Money Saving Offer for CD of the Month **Pre Order + Prepay = SAVE \$\$**

The club will offer the CD of the Month on a pre order, prepaid basis. The charge will be \$70.00 a year for 9 months. This is \$20 annual savings over buying them for \$9 each month. Lynn Johnson, the treasurer, will keep track of anyone placing a 9-month order.

MAIL Request - There will be a \$2.00 mailing charge per CD

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

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Meeting place and date information:

The next **REGULAR** meeting will be held at the **Glenside Public Library in Glendale Heights** starting 9:45am on **4th Saturday May 26**

The Glenside Public Library is located at 25 E Fullerton Avenue, Glendale Heights, Illinois. The Library is located on Fullerton between Bloomingdale Road (stop light intersection) and Schmale Road (stop light intersection) on the south side of Fullerton. Fullerton is parallel to North Avenue (Route 64) and Army Trail Road. North Ave. is south and Army Trail is north of Fullerton. Please park away from the building. Thank you. The meeting(s) are not library sponsored and all inquiries should be directed to Mike Goldberg at MikeGold60137@yahoo.com. 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, Mike Goldberg at MikeGold60137@yahoo.com, at least five (5) days prior to the program, so that reasonable accommodation can be made for them.

**CONFIRMED Future Meeting dates for 2007 at Glenside Public Library:
May 26, June 23 CAUEG PICNIC**

May 26th
Our May presenter Dick Fergus
Analyzing the Electrical Activity From Weather Fronts

Hope to see you there.

CAEUG website has a new home.
Remember to change your bookmark to the new address to <http://www.caeug.net>