

IBM MIDRANGE USER GROUP

FOR USERS OF THE IBM AS/400 COMPUTER SYSTEM

August 1997 Newsletter

President's Message



WOW!!! Is it HOT! And I don't mean the temperature. I mean Client/Server! And that means Delphi! Right here on the AS/400! Right here in the Murray City Council Chambers on Lucky Wednesday August 13th, at 11:00 a.m. **Michael Meservy** of *GSE Erudite Software* will tell us about the latest developments in **Delphi/400**, so don't miss it! I know

the summer is busy. It means vacations. Some are just wrapping up one fiscal year to start another, while others are over half way though and are trying to keep up on schedules and deadlines. I know it is hard to make time and to take time. But in the end, that is what we all need to do. To take time to plan and learn. I know it is easier said than done. It takes discipline. Come join us on the second Wednesday of each month for an informative presentation and association with others with whom we can share and learn. We appreciate your support and contributions to the User Group. Thank You!!!

Our meeting this month will be held on **Wednesday, August 13th at 11:00 a.m. at the Murray City Offices (City Council Chambers), 5025 South State Street.**

July Meeting Highlights

We want to thank **Mike Saville**, IBM's local CISC to RISC upgrade guru, for speaking to us in July on the topic of the **AS/400 CISC to RISC Upgrade**. Mike has an extensive background on this subject, having performed the upgrade many times for IBM customers. He explained the reasons you would want to upgrade with the main ones being increased speed and the ability to take advantage of the latest technologies. Then Mike went through an overview of the process involved in performing the upgrade, discussing the 784 page roadmap publication that is used to guide you through the process. As his final comment Mike stated, "The journey may be long and tedious, but the destination is worth it!"

Thanks again, Mike, for a great presentation.

Short Takes

Who Should be Apple's New CEO?

When an unidentified attendee at the Fortune 500 CIO Forum in Aspen, Colorado was asked who he would suggest as the new CEO for Apple Computer he replied, "KEVORKIAN."

You Talkin' To Me?

The modern PC can withstand power outages and a multitude of viruses. But bullets are another matter. A 43-year-old man in Issaquah, Wash., fired several rounds at his PC last week.



Police were unsure if he was upset by one too many error messages or if he took a "Do you wish to delete this file?" query to heart. Fortunately, the PC suffered only minor injuries, even after taking four slugs in the hard drive and one in the monitor.

July 21, 1997 *Information Week*

NT - Is it Scaleable?

After Microsoft's Scalability Day in New York, this was the Aberdeen Group's comments on scalability:

"We believe that NT remains best suited to departmental applications, and have considerable difficulty finding sites with more than a few hundred users. Yes, many of the world's applications are now NT-capable. However, the real enterprise high-end legitimately remains the province of Unix, the AS/400, and even the mainframe."

Duck Soup

Chris Jesse, CEO of Tangram Enterprise Solutions, is known by his fellow employees as "Mr. Metaphor." Perhaps his best-known metaphor, one he outlines in his new book, *A Journey Through Oz*, is "Technology is a duck."



In it he writes, "A duck must be contained, requires constant care, becomes less valuable with age, leaves a mess wherever it treads, and is counterproductive until converted into a practical application."

Jesse also thinks too many CIOs are like duck farmers who waste time weighing ducks, or counting how many fit in a pen. "What we really want from ducks are eggs, meat, and feathers," he says. "Unfortunately, CIOs are not being given the tools to measure eggs, meat, and feathers" - that is, end-user productivity.

MS-WebTV

Watch for the following developments now that Microsoft owns WebTV:

- The TV takes 2 minutes to start up.
- To tape a ball game, you have to learn Visual Basic.
- After a year, Microsoft "enhances" the signal, and your TV is no longer compatible.
- Instead of "Seinfeld," you sometimes get "Error 404: Not Found."

IBM Corner

Please mark your calendars for the largest AS/400 announcement we've had in three years. The official announcement day is August 19, but we will have a big IBM announcement event on Thursday, August 21. We will have two sessions available. The first will be from 8:30-12:30, and the second from 1:30-5:30. We will have a jam-packed agenda including an executive from the Rochester lab to talk about future AS/400 directions; Roger Arndt, who is the National AS/400 Sales Manager from Atlanta, an advanced technology expert, who will demonstrate that latest AS/400 technology on-line through a "cyber-cafe", and much, much more. We will have demos, great info, and some give-aways. Topics will include new announcements, Java, Domino and the internet, and e-business. For those who may be on vacation on August 21, we will have one more follow-up session on September 17 from 8:30-12:30 as well. Buckle your seatbelts, because this is going to be a good one! Please call 1-800-426-7777 and reference Priority Code 6K7AB0001 to enroll.

Upcoming teleconferences - sit in your office, dial the 1-800 number, and enjoy with your cup of Java or cocoa or whatever.... To enroll, call 1-800-289-1579 or visit the web site <http://www.as4000.ibm.com/usa>. Please enroll at least 5 days in advance to ensure you receive the materials.

Announcement Update

8/19 10AM - #322201
8/26 11AM - #322202

AS/400 Documentation - Questions your never knew you had

8/21 10AM - #322206
8/28 11AM - #322207

Java for the AS/400

9/16 10AM - #322335
9/18 11AM - #322337

SAP R/3, The Big Easy for AS/400

9/17 11:30 AM - #340845

AS/400 Internet Security

9/23 10AM - #322340
9/25 11AM - #322342

Business Recovery Services - A Value Express

10/1 11:30 - #331809

AS/400 Integrated PC Server Update: Warp Server and Windows NT Server

11/4 10AM - #322357
11/6 11AM - #322359

Logus Domino on the AS/400...Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

11/18 10AM - #322350
11/20 11AM - #322352

For further information contact our local AS/400 Specialist: Robin Van Wagenen at 968-5552

AS/400 Tips and Techniques

Tracking Tape Read/Write Errors

Q: Does the AS/400 keep track of the read/write errors on the tape volumes we use?

A: Yes, the system stores the error statistics for tape volumes in the machine error log. For each volume, the log contains statistics on temporary and permanent read/write errors and total kilobytes read and written. An example of the command to print out tape errors is:

```
PRTERLOG TYPE(*VOLSTAT)      +
                                VOLTYPE(9347)
+
                                MODEL(001)
```

The statistics accumulate over the life of the tape volume. If you want to reset the error information for each volume, include the keyword VOLSTAT(*DLT) in the PRTERLOG command.

Compliments of NEWS/400 magazine. For subscription information, call (800) 621-1544.

Humor Department

Engineers

An engineer dies and reports to the pearly gates. St. Peter checks his dossier and says; "Ah, you are an engineer -- you are in the wrong place." So the engineer reports to the gates of hell and is let in.

Pretty soon, the engineer gets dissatisfied with the level of comfort in hell, and starts designing and building improvements. After a while, they've got air conditioning and flush toilets and escalators, and the engineer is a pretty popular guy.

One day God calls up Satan on the telephone and says with a sneer: "So, how's it going down there?"

Satan replies: "Hey, things are going great. We've got air conditioning and flush toilets and escalators and there is no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next."

God replies: "What??? You got an engineer? That's a mistake? He should never have gotten down there; send him up here!!!"

Satan says: "No way! I like having an engineer on my staff, and I'm keeping him!"

God says: "Send him back up here or I will sue you!"

Satan laughs uproariously and answers: "Yeah, right. And just where are YOU going to get a lawyer?"

Mark Your Calendar

August 13

IBM Midrange User Group

Monthly meeting held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 AM at the Murray City Office (City Council Chambers), 5025 South State Street.



August 14

Utah Computer Society (Blue Chips)

Monthly meeting held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the U of U Engineering building, room 104. For more information call 281-8339.

August 21

AS/400 Announcement Seminar

Held at IBM, Salt Lake City. See IBM Corner above for registration details.

September 17

AS/400 Announcement Seminar (Repeat)

Held at IBM, Salt Lake City. See IBM Corner above for registration details.

September 21-26

Fall 1997 COMMON Conference

Held in San Antonio, Texas. Tel: 800-777-6734; Web: <http://www.common.org>

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