

IBM MIDRANGE USER GROUP

FOR USERS OF THE IBM AS/400 COMPUTER SYSTEM
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June 1997 Newsletter

June Meeting

Our meeting topic for the month of June will be **Creating Procedures with ILE RPG**. **John Dietz**, Senior Consultant with Vitrex, will be presenting this topic.

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

May Meeting Highlights

In May we held our annual luncheon and user group officer elections. The luncheon was held at the Hometown Buffet restaurant. The election results are as follows:

President

David Larsen - MIS Director, Murray City

Vice President

Michael Meservy - Project Manager, GSE Erudite Software

Secretary

Gary Larson - Software Engineer, Lagoon Corporation

Treasurer

John Dietz - Senior Consultant, Vitrex

In the News

Stay Out of the Hospital December 31st 1999

The Third Annual Healthcare Technology Survey found that many hospitals have yet to address the year 2000 problem. Here are some of the findings:

- Less than one-third of survey respondents have developed a strategy to prepare their systems for the year 2000.
- 20% have begun implementation of a year 2000 plan.
- 18% are planning no action to protect their systems.
- More than 40% do not expect completion by 1999.

So, along with elevators, parking garages, airplanes and nuclear facilities; hospitals are another place to not be when the year 2000 rolls in.

May 1997 *AS/400 Systems Management*

Have We Gone Too Far?

With all the latest technology have you ever stopped and wondered if we really need all this stuff? Do you ever long for the days before pagers and cell phones and fax machines? Well, now your car can be ever smarter than you are. Cadillac has introduced and new driver convenience: the OnStar System.

OnStar combines onboard computer electronics, cellular phone technology, and a global positioning system (GPS) to provide an array of safety and security amenities. For instance, if you've locked yourself out of your new Caddy while in a strange city, no problem. Just get to the nearest phone and call Cadillac's dedicated 800 number and give the operator your car's unique ID code and the operator can unlock the vehicle for you by remote control and your back on the road in minutes.

Or, if your car's airbag system is deployed, OnStar signals the service center and an operator immediately calls your car phone. If there's no answer, the local authorities are instantly informed of a probable accident, and are given the precise location of your car, via GPS location.

If your car is stolen, OnStar automatically dials for help the instant its anti-theft system is triggered. The on-duty Cadillac operator quickly dials the local police and homes them in on the car's exact location.

Oh, and if you happen to misplace your new Cadillac in some sprawling parking lot, just call OnStar and the operator will start your car's horn honking and flashing its lights. What will they think of next!??

April 1997 *IDSystems*

Humor Department

Can You Insure Against Stupidity?

An insurance company asked for more information regarding a work-related accident claim. This was the response:

"I put 'poor planning' as the cause of my accident. I am an amateur radio operator and was working on the top section of my new 80 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the

tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items using a pulley.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools into a small barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools. You will note in block number 11 of the accident report that I weigh 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley.

I regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my pain. At the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming up.

This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools so only three vertebrae were cracked.

I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope..."

Thanks again to Dennis McConnehey who submitted this one through e-mail.

Mark Your Calendar

June 11

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.



June 12

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.

June 15-20

AS/400 Technical Conference

San Diego, CA. call 1-800-426-8322 and ask for "Conferences."

June 24

IBM Class: AS/400 RPG IV Programmers Workshop

Advanced Topics, Denver, Colorado, Course # S6088, call 1-800-426-8322 to enroll.

User Group 1996-1997 Officers

President	David Larsen Murray City (801) 264-2501 dlarsen@ci.murray.ut.us
Vice President	Michael Meservy GSE Erudite Software (801) 373-6100 meservym@gses.com
Secretary	Gary Larson Lagoon Corporation (801) 451-8035 glarson@davis.uswest.net
Treasurer	John Dietz Vitrex (801) 393-0008 john.dietz@vitrex.com

Mailing Address:

**Greater Salt Lake IBM Midrange User Group
PO Box 11923
Salt Lake City, Utah 84147-0923**