



WE DO WINDOWS
THE WINDOW
 COME DO WINDOWS WITH US



**CADDO-BOSSIER
 WINDOWS
 USER GROUP**

Shreveport – Bossier City
 Louisiana

www.shreve.net/~cbwug

Volume 4, No 3

Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group Newsletter

March, 2002

ComputerSheaux Brought In The Crowds



Peter Guglielmo and Wayne Ebert help out at ComputerSheaux

The February 16th Computer Sheaux was a roaring success. Not only did we have 1540 people pay to come through the door 29 of them generously donated blood to the Sheaux sponsored LifeShare Blood drive in the lobby. That was almost double their goal of 15. The Radio Group donated two tickets to the Bob Dylan concert to be given to one of the blood donors. Wayne Ebert was the

lucky winner. A check for \$7,668.27 was presented to the Shriner's Hospital for Children in Shreveport as the donation from the February 16, 2002 Sheaux. A big thank you to all of our members who came to the Computer-Sheaux and helped with the many things that had to be done. Your generosity in sharing your time to help is truly appreciated.

The next ComputerSheaux is scheduled for Saturday, May 11. Hope you will mark your calendar and come to the Sheaux.

MEETINGS

Thursday Mar. 14, 2002

Thursday April. 11, 2002

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q

1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy
 Shreveport, Louisiana

*Meetings 2nd Thursday of each month
 7 p.m.*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Newsletter reproduction
 compliments of Office Depot
 East 70th-Shreveport**

Ark-La-Tex Computer Sheaux

~Sheaux Dates~

~2002 Dates~

February 16, 2002

May 11, 2002

August 10, 2002

November 9, 2002



www.computersheaux.org

~Contents~

ComputerSheaux Crowds	1
Sheaux Dates	1
Newsletter Reproduction	1
Club Information	2
Thank You	2
President's Page.....	2
Quick Tip.....	2
Playtime Tools.....	3
Virus Scan Problems	3
Door Prize Winners	3
Getting Started With XP	3
CDEX	4
Good Deeds	4
Web Sites	4



THE WINDOW

Published by
Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group

Co-Editors

Glenda Conradi (glenda@conradi.com)
Jay Graff (jay@jayGraff.com)

Submit articles for newsletter, in RTF file format, by last day of month to Glenda and Jay.

The opinions expressed in the articles in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher. Mention of products by their trade name does not in any way constitute endorsement by the editors or publisher.

The Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group is a tax exempt, non-profit club.

Membership Dues.
Full: \$12.00 a year
Spouse: \$6.00 a year (voting privileges)
Student: \$6.00 a year (no voting privileges)

C-B WUG's Web Address
www.shreve.net/~cbwug

Club Officers

President Bernie Conradi
(bernie@conradi.com)

Vice-President Wayne Ebert
(CBWUG@shreve.net)

Secretary Glenda Conradi
(glenda@conradi.com)

Treasurer Keith O'Kelley
(kokelley@sport.rr.com)

Program Director Mark Reeves
(markcr@msn.com)

~Thank You~

We want to express our gratitude to:

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy for letting our group hold our monthly meetings in a private dining room in their restaurant

ShreveNet, Inc. for generously providing an email account and internet access for C-BWUG

ShreveNet, Inc. – For providing web space for our club.

BancorpSouth on Youree Drive for providing us with a checking account at no charge.

~A QUICK TIP~**See What Is On Your Computer**

If you would like to see a system summary of your computer that includes your computer's name, manufacturer, operating system, processor, memory and much, much more here are the steps. Select Start/Programs/Accessories/System Tools/System Information to bring up a Help & Support window. Your system's summary will appear on the right side of the

window. Not enough information for you? Then click on the categories on the left side of the box. If you decide to choose print from the file menu be forewarned that I ended up with 44 pages. Much more information than the average person needs.

You can also access a computer terms dictionary in the Help & Support window. It is printable, too.

President's Page**Caddo-Bossier Windows Users Group Meeting**

February 14, 2002

This meeting being on Valentines Day we had a light turnout. So we had a rather short meeting. Since it is the meeting prior to the Computer Sheaux it was our regular question and answer session for the entire meeting. Announcements for the evening were about the Computer Sheaux and Ed Waites gave us a report on the success of installing a new hard drive to his computer. This was done at the last meeting and he is now up and running with the new hard drive. Mark asked that all those who are interested in the program Mail Washer to bring your money and sign up next meeting. We will be able to get a better price for it if more people sign up.

The questions for the evening were: problems with sending an attachment in an email; installing a new hard drive and how it changes the drive letters. Mark told us how to do it so the drive letters will not get scrambled. Carole White asked about noises coming from the hard drive and what they mean. We also had a question about turning the computer off and on more than once a day. The door prizes for the evening were: Multimedia speakers won by Wayne Ebert, and a Magic Key 3000 keyboard won by Darryl Strange.

If you have something that you think the rest of the group would be interested in, please do not hesitate to submit an article about it. Send your newsletter articles to both Jay Graff and Glenda Conradi.

Bernie Conradi, President Caddo-Bossier Windows Users Group

Playtime Tools

By Wayne Ebert

Playtime may not be correct; perhaps it should be reduce ignorance time. I wanted to know where all of the applications installed on a computer were located. I had downloaded "Window Watcher" a short while ago that displayed what was running on the computer in addition to the applications that I was using but did not recall the site I had downloaded it from. The name Karen Kenworthy may only have past Windows magazine subscribers familiar with the excellent tools she would write and have available for download. For those who are not familiar with her helpful programs, listed below are over twenty programs available at <http://www.karenware.com> that may be helpful to you. Be advised that these programs are being revised to add features users request. Your computer must have Visual Basic Runtime v6.0 installed. Suggest you place this URL on your list of sites to visit. Here is a listing of these programs:

REPLICATOR V 1.5.1 Automatically copy and backup files;
DRIVE INFO V 1.7.2 View information about the disk drives attached to your computer;
DIRECTORY PRINTER V 3.3.3 Prints the names, and other information, of all folders and files on your computer;
VERSION BROWSER V 3.1 View and print the "Version" information stored inside your Windows programs and other files;
COMPUTER PROFILE V 1.5.2 View your computers hidden secrets;
'NET MONITOR V 2.0 See if your web site is up, or down;
WHOIS V 2.1.1 Who owns an Internet Domain name and how to contact the owners;
DISK SLACK CHECKER V 2.2.1 How much disk space is being wasted;
WINDOW WATCHER V 1.6 See hidden programs running on your computer;
AUTORUN.INF EDITOR V 1.4 Create a file to automatically run programs when a CD is inserted;
POWER TOY V 2.4.1 Teach your computer to talk, sing, and dance;
COOKIE VIEWER V 3.3 View Web browser "Cookies" left by the web

site's you have visited; **URL DIS-COMBOBULATOR V 1.5** Understand those cryptic web addresses;
COUNTDOWN TIMER II V 2.9 No more forgotten appointments;
REGISTRY PRUNER V 2.5 Removes unneeded entries from Windows Registry;
REGISTRY RIPPER V 1.2 Extracts portions of the Windows' Registry and save them to a file;
FONT EXPLORER V 1.2 See fonts available on your computer;
SNOOPER V 1.4 Track what programs are being run, and when they are running;
ORIGINAL COUNTDOWN TIMER V1.4 The original appointment reminder;
PRINT LOGGER V 1.1 Record of each document your printer prints;
ALARM CLOCK V 2.4.1 make your computer an alarm clock;
EMAILER V 1.3 Send Email from Windows' command line;
CLIPBOARD VIEWER V 2.1 View the contents of Windows' Clipboard.

GETTING STARTED WITH XP

Contributed by David Huckabee

Turn on ClearType

Make the text clearer and easier to read. ClearType has been enabled in WindowsXP to smooth all fonts at all sizes, making the whole system much easier to read. To turn on ClearType:

1. Click **Start**, click Control Panel, then click **Appearance and Themes**.
2. Click the **Display** icon, click the **Appearance** tab, then click **Effects**.
3. Click the box next to **Use the following method to smooth edges of screen fonts** to select it, and select **ClearType** from the list.
4. Click **OK**, then click **OK** again.

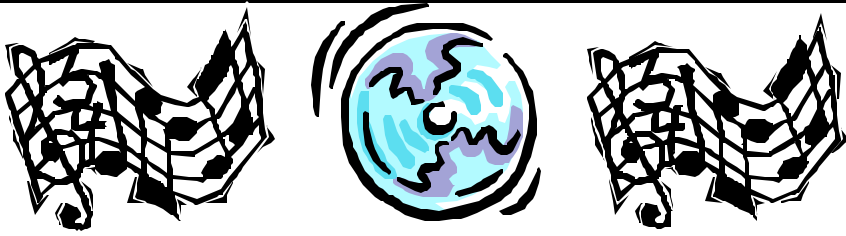
Now isn't that easier to read?

Door Prizes Winners for February 2002 Meeting



Wayne Ebert and Darryl Strange

At the February meeting the door prize winners were members Darryl Strange who won MagicKey 3000 an enhanced Windows ready keyboard and Wayne Ebert who won a set of Multimedia speakers. All Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group club members in attendance are eligible to win door prizes at the monthly meetings.



CDEX

By Jay Graff

Over the last few months, I have downloaded a ton of music from the web. My main goal was to make audio CD's from them so I could play them in my car. During this time, I discovered that there were lots of tricks you could use to accomplish this. One of the things I discovered was that I usually got better results if I first converted the MP3 file into a wave before putting it on CD. I always believed that the end results were always better. One problem though, is that MP3 files are smaller, whereas Waves are huge. I had used a number of programs to accomplish this, the latest one being Winamp. But I was having problems converting multiple files. Sometimes it did not work quite right. So I went looking for another one.

I came across this program called **CDEX**. CDEX is mainly a ripping program, but it converts formats quite nicely. For those of you that do not know what a ripping program is, I will explain briefly.

If you have a CD that you bought and would like to archive one or more songs from it, you would need a ripping program. There are a number of them out there, and their main function is to take a particular track you want and

convert it into a format that your computer can recognize and work with.

Anyway, CDEX is one of the better ones. The best thing is that it is free. But as I mentioned, it will also convert files from one format to another, and does it quite efficiently. There are probably lots of features that I don't know much about, but what I use serves my needs nicely.

As I mentioned, if you are converting a bunch of MP3's, don't expect to finish anytime soon. The average size of an MP3 is around 3meg or so. When you convert that 3 meg to a wave, it could be as big as 45 Meg. Needless to say you also need a big hard drive.

One more thing.....when you download a MP3, there is no way that you can tell how it was ripped. I suppose every program rips differently, depending on what equipment you have. So the downside is that you can download 5 songs and have 5 different volume levels on the CD. My next project is to find a program that will convert MP3's and make them all equal levels.

But in the meantime, I will stick with CDEX. If you are interested in it, you can find it at: <http://www.cdex.n3.net>
Happy ripping.

Good Deeds



Clyde Santifer & Wayne Ebert

Clyde Santifer and Wayne Ebert donate blood at the ComputerSheaux Blood Drive February 16th. Wayne was the lucky winner of two Bob Dylan concert tickets donated to the blood drive by the Radio Group.

~Web Sites~

A Helping Hand

<http://learn.at/ahh>

(Computer Help from Beginner to Expert)

Notes & Tips

www.tipsdr.com

(the new and improved Windows Tips website)

Find Out About Specific Hardware

<http://hardwarehell.com>

(provides links to many sites with information on hardware & more)

Windows XP Service Configurations

www.blkviper.com/WinXP/servicecfg.htm

(Windows XP Service Configurations and much more)

WinPlanet

www.winplanet.com

(A World of Premium Windows Information and Tutorials)



DID YOU KNOW?

Our Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group Web page was listed in Fred Langa's March 4, 2002 newsletter and should now be on his web Site www.langa.com You will have to search for it!