

Computer and Information Services Newsletter

This newsletter is an information resource for the University of Minnesota.

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▼ Computer Store News

Williamson Hall: 625-3854

The computer discount program is available not only to departments but also to students, faculty, and staff, subject to the eligibility rules of the program.

Get Info Electronically

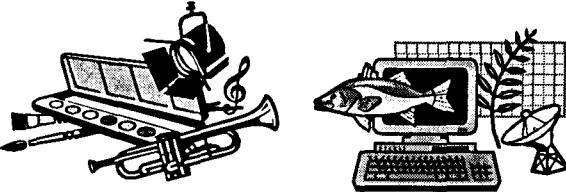
To get product and price change bulletins for the products sold through the Computer Store sent to you electronically, subscribe to the *Bookstore prices* list by sending E-mail to:

request@boombox.micro.umn.edu

Use Gopher to search the Computer Store's database to find out part numbers, prices, and product availability; follow this path:

Computer Information\U of M
Microcomputer Prices\BookCenter
Electronic Desk

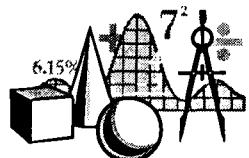
Browse the Web with Minuet



We recently released Minuet 1.0, Beta_18, and it includes a Web browser.

Text to Super-VGA Modes

Minuet can run in text-only mode on any IBM-compatible. Or if you have a EGA, VGA, or Super-VGA display, Minuet now runs in graphics mode too, adding a bit of excitement to Internet browsing.



GIF and JPEG

It fully supports Web GIF and JPEG images in up to 65,536 displayed colors. JPEG requires at least a 386 CPU.



Printed on recycled paper.
Addressing & Mailing's
Cheshire labels are recyclable.



Accessing a Web Site

When you select *World Wide Web* from the *Windows* menu (or with the **F8** key), the Web server name that is entered in the

Setup/Server

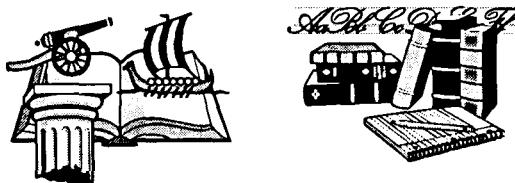
menu is displayed in the text box. You can press the **[←Return]** key to access that server or type in the name of a new Web site to access a different Web page.

To access another Web server, you must close the current Web window and select *Window/Web* so you can type in another name.

The "Open URL" Option

URL stands for Uniform Resource Locator; it is a naming scheme that includes the location and method of obtaining items or directories on the Internet.

The File menu's *Open URL* option is useful for automatically accessing URLs that are embedded in mail messages and other text files. To access the resource that the URL points to, put your cursor somewhere in the URL (to select it), then select the Open URL command. Minuet will start up the proper Minuet module — that is, FTP, Web, Gopher, or news — and establish a connection with the machine that hosts that information.



What's Minuet?

Minuet is the Minnesota Internet User's Essential Tool; it was developed by Distributed Computing Services at the University of Minnesota. Minuet is an integrated network application for the IBM PC that does E-Mail (POPmail), NetNews, Gopher, FTP, Telnet, and now World Wide Web, too.

Minuet runs on IBM PC's under DOS, from the lowly 4.77Mhz with 512k of memory up to the latest Pentium machines. For Internet access it comes with its own TCP stack; you just have to supply a packet driver. This makes it very easy to install.

Available via FTP

You can get Minuet by anonymous FTP from the host and directory listed below. Minuarc.exe is a self-extracting archive; when you type minuarc it automatically expands to become the Minuet program plus some info files.

`minuet.micro.umn.edu
/pub/minuet/latest/minuarc.exe`

Minuet is distributed as shareware. If after trying the program for 15 days, you decide to continue using it, you must register your copy by sending us \$50. Site licenses are available, and the University of Minnesota has a site license for students, faculty, staff, and departments. For further information, contact

`software@boombox.micro.umn.edu`

Installing Is Painless

Installing Minuet is painless. You don't need separate helper applications to: access Web and Gopher servers or anonymous FTP sites; establish a Telnet session; access news groups; or to view GIF and JPEG graphics. We also provide an install program that copies everything into directories on your hard disk. You just have to type in personal information, such as your password, in the *Setup/User* menu.

Upgrading Is Painless

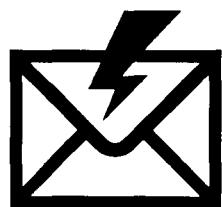
Current Minuet users can use FTP to upgrade to the latest version. Those who upgrade do not need to worry about recreating "setup" files, group names or what happens to the mail they are saving. This information is not disturbed when you upgrade.

The Minuet Team hopes you find our newest Minuet even more helpful and enjoyable to use.

`minuet@boombox.micro.umn.edu`

Electronic Mailing Lists

Unsubscribing, Digests, Finding Addresses, and More



If you change your residence or activities in the summer, you may want to unsubscribe to the mailing lists you receive in your electronic mail box. A drawback to doing this for some people is that there isn't one address or set of commands that is recognized by all the software that allows electronic communications to be broadcast to subscribed users. That is: how you unsubscribe depends on which list managing software handles the list(s) you subscribe to. We'll refer to this software category as List Servers.

Common Features

Many of the mailing lists our department manages are handled by a "request" program. Other widely-used List Servers are: LISTSERV, Majordomo, Listproc (Unix List processor), Mailserv, and Mailbase. Fortunately, the commands to unsubscribe (and subscribe) from these lists are basically the same, as shown in Table 1. Some software supports the command "signoff" in addition to the "unsubscribe" command.

Other common features of List Servers are: they run without human intervention, understand only precisely worded messages, and have a very limited vocabulary. Like a dog listening to your conversation, the software will "act" on the words it knows. Many dogs understand walk, out, and cookie. Our "request" software only understands the words subscribe and unsubscribe. Other software has a larger vocabulary. In the sections below we will discuss some common commands and also point you to a few sources for tracking down E-mail List Server addresses.

Two Addresses

Electronic mailing lists that are also discussion groups generally have two addresses you should remember. You use one address to communicate with the entire group and the other address to communicate with the List Server.

Save that Welcome Message

When you subscribe to a list you usually get a "welcome" message that includes basic instructions, such as how to unsubscribe and get help. This is important information. Unfortunately, many people foolishly do not save that message.

Those who "lost" their Welcome message and have forgotten the List Server address can read the section called *Finding Lists' Addresses* for clues about finding out how to unsubscribe. That section will also be useful to people who just want to locate interesting discussion topics.

Unsubscribe Commands

Usually you must tell the list manager software which list you want to leave (unsubscribe) because the software installed on that site's computer manages many lists. In Table 1 where you see [listname], substitute the actual name of the list, for example the list name "topten."

Table 1: Unsubscribe Commands

| Software | Unsubscribe command |
|-----------|------------------------|
| Request | unsubscribe |
| LISTSERV | unsubscribe [listname] |
| Majordomo | unsubscribe [listname] |
| Listproc | unsubscribe [listname] |
| Mailserv | unsubscribe [listname] |
| Mailbase | leave [listname] |

Example Address and Command

listserv@listserv.clark.net
unsubscribe topten

Discussion List or Bulletin

Moderated discussion lists and electronic bulletins often take a different approach to unsubscribing. Examples from the "This is True" and "A Word a Day" bulletins are shown below.

Figure 1: Overview of List Server Commands
 Includes excerpts from: *Discussion Lists: Mail Server Commands*

Help Command

For more information on any of these programs, send a message containing only the word "help" to the appropriate mail server. [Editor's note: The "request" mailing list we manage does not understand "help."]

Addressing the Message

Remember to send all commands to

mailserver@host

Mailserver is the program that maintains the list and host is the address of the host computer. Examples of mailservers are LISTSERV, listproc, mailbase, mailserv, and majordomo. Examples of hosts are cleo.murdoch.edu.au and ucdavis.edu. For example, to join the discussion list law-lib@ucdavis, John Doe must send a subscribe command to the listproc address, as shown below.

```
listproc@ucdavis.edu
subscribe LAW-LIB John Doe
```

Generally all commands go in the message section, not the subject section.

Digests

Receive the list in digest format (multiple messages compiled into a single mailing, usually daily or weekly):

| Software | Command |
|-----------|---|
| Listproc | set [listname] mail digest |
| LISTSERV | set [listname] digest |
| Mailbase | not supported |
| Mailserv | not supported |
| Majordomo | subscribe [listname]-digest — in the same message, unsubscribe from the undigested version unsubscribe [listname] |

Cancel digest format; receive the list as separate mailings.

| Software | Command |
|-----------|---|
| Listproc | set [listname] mail ack |
| LISTSERV | set [listname] mail |
| Mailbase | not supported |
| Mailserv | not supported |
| Majordomo | unsubscribe [listname]-digest — in the same message, send the line subscribe [listname] |

Acknowledgment of Own Messages

Receive copies of your own messages:

| Software | Command |
|-----------|---|
| Listproc | set [listname] mail ack |
| LISTSERV | set [listname] repro — to receive an automatic acknowledgment that your message has been sent to the list, use set [listname] ack |
| Mailbase | standard feature; you always receive your own messages |
| Mailserv | same as mailbase |
| Majordomo | same as mailbase |

Do not receive copies of your own messages:

| Software | Command |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Listproc | set [listname] mail noack |
| LISTSERV | set [listname] norepro |
| Mailbase | not supported |
| Mailserv | not supported |
| Majordomo | not supported |

Whenever you see [listname], substitute the actual name of the list.

Obtain Subscriber's E-mail Addresses

Obtain a list of subscribers:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Software | Command |
| Listproc | recipients [listname] |
| LISTSERV | review [listname] f=mail — can also be sorted by name |
| | review [listname] by name f=mail |
| Mailbase | review [listname] |
| Mailserv | send/list [listname] |
| Majordomo | who [listname] |

Note: Mailbase is used primarily by United Kingdom subscribers. You can get information about Mailbase mailing lists from this Gopher site:

mailbase.ac.uk

Archived Files

Obtain a list (index) of archive files:

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Software | Command |
| Listproc | index [listname] |
| LISTSERV | index [listname] |
| Mailbase | index [listname] |
| Mailserv | index [listname] |
| Majordomo | index [listname] |

Retrieve an archive file.

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Software | Command |
| Listproc | get [listname] [filename] |
| •example: | get law-lib feb94 |

LISTSERV

| | |
|-----------|---|
| get | [filename] [filetype] [listname] f=mail |
| •example: | get int-law log9406 int-law f=mail |

| | |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| Mailbase | send [listname] [filename] |
| •example: | send law-europe 05-1994 |

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| Mailserv | send [filename] |
| •example: | get envirolaw smith.txt |

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Majordomo | get [listname] [filename] |
| •example: | get elaw-j boyle.txt |

Example: This is True

To receive "This is True" every week free by e-mail, send e-mail to listserv@netcom.com with the message: "subscribe this-is-true" (without quotes) — please, nothing else on the line. To unsubscribe e-mail [this-is-true-approval@netcom.com](mailto>this-is-true-approval@netcom.com)

Example: A Word A Day

How can I subscribe/unsubscribe? Send a message to wsmith@wordsmith.org and leave the body of the message blank and make the subject line as follows:

To subscribe:

subscribe [YourFirstName LastName]

To unsubscribe:

unsubscribe

They Say I'm Not Subscribed!

If you follow your list's unsubscribe instructions but they don't work, check your spelling; be sure you've noted the differences between 1 and l (number one and lower case L) and 0 and O (zero and upper case O).

If everything is spelled OK, you're probably having trouble because you are not a typical subscriber. Two common troublespots are: people who have more than one E-mail address or whose E-mail address has changed.

More Than One E-mail Address

Many people at this University have two E-mail addresses: one because of their employee status and the other because of their student status. To avoid logging onto each account separately to retrieve mail, people can make one address their "preferred" address and have mail from the other address forwarded to their preferred address. For our example we'll call the preferred address DOLLARS and the other address CENTS.

A minor problem can arise if you initially subscribe to a list using the CENTS address. The List Server automatically adds the CENTS address to its list of subscribers and sees that you get postings from the list. However, at some point you use the University's "forward" feature to make DOLLARS your preferred

address. This does not interfere with receiving postings from the List Server because mail addressed to CENTS is automatically forwarded to DOLLARS. In this scenario you will probably send the correct unsubscribe command from the "wrong" address. The minor problem is that the List Server automatically gets the DOLLARS address from standard information (a header) that is sent along with your message; as a result the List Server cannot match that address with the addresses it maintains of subscriber addresses.

You can unsubscribe by logging onto your secondary account (CENTS) and sending the unsubscribe message from that account. Other options are described in the "Solutions" section below.

Your E-mail Address Changes

Some people at the University had their E-mail address changed in the Fall of 1993. When the free E-mail and Internet program began people did not have the word gold or maroon as part of their E-mail address. Instead their addresses contained the words student or staff, for example

ENUF1234@STUDENT.TC.UMN.EDU

The University plans to forward mail sent to the old student and staff addresses to the newer maroon and gold addresses indefinitely. Since the old names still work, people get whatever mail is sent to the old address. The plan works smoothly until people try to unsubscribe and the List Server software cannot carry out their order. These people run into the same problems described in the *More Than One E-mail Address* section above.

Solutions: Troubleshooting Addresses

If you know exactly what E-mail address you used to subscribe to a list, you can send mail directly to the list's owner and ask the owner to remove that address from the list. This may take awhile. The list owner may be on vacation when you send the message or may handle requests, say, on a weekly basis.

But what if you don't know the list owner's address or the exact address you used to subscribe? As we've

noted in other articles, LISTSERVs (and many other List Server programs) maintain other files that contain this kind of information. For example, a LISTSERV "review" file records the name and E-mail address of the list's owner and the same information for the list's subscribers. The review command is discussed in Figure 1. The "finding addresses" section below also contains pointers to Internet List Server resources.

List Server Commands

As mentioned earlier, a common feature of the software listed in Table 1 is that they all run without human intervention. Figure 1 gives you an overview of the commands the List Servers understand. Most of this information was excerpted from *Discussion Lists: Mail Server Commands*, June 30, 1994, James Milles, Saint Louis University Law Library.

The latest version of Milles' document is available by E-mail and anonymous FTP; information on how to obtain the file is listed below.

E-mail:

LISTSERV@UBVM.cc.buffalo.edu
get mailser cmd nettrain f=mail

FTP:

ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu
/nettrain
mailser.cmd

Bitnet versus Internet Addresses

Occasionally you will find a List Server or list address that has a Bitnet form, such as:

listserv@bitnic
listserv@umslvma
listserv@psuvvm

You can send mail to any Bitnet address from an Internet account simply by appending

.bitnet

to the address, for example

listserv@bitnic.bitnet

Figure 2: A Sample Header

```
Received: from ivory.educom.edu (ivory.educom.edu [192.52.179.128]) by
boombox.micro.umn.edu (8.6.9/8.6.6) with ESMTP id LAA13274; Wed, 17 May 1995 11:34:36
-0500
Received: from localhost ([127.0.0.1]) by ivory.educom.edu with SMTP id <166254-5>;
Wed, 17 May 1995 12:25:16 -0400
Received: from [155.229.13.142] ([155.229.13.142]) by ivory.educom.edu with SMTP id
<166157-3>; Wed, 17 May 1995 09:57:39 -0400
Message-Id: <95May17.095739edt.166157-3@ivory.educom.edu>
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 09:57:34 -0400
Reply-To: info@ivory.educom.edu
Sender: owner-edupage@ivory.educom.edu
Precedence: bulk
From: info@ivory.educom.edu (Edupage) ←≡
To: Edupage <edupage@ivory.educom.edu>
Subject: Edupage: 5/16/95
X-To: edupage@ivory.educom.edu
X-Sender: info@educom.edu (Unverified)
X-Listprocessor-Version: 8.0(dev) – ListProcessor by CREN
```

How the List Server Knows Who You Are

When you subscribe, unsubscribe, and otherwise correspond with many List Servers, you usually do not type in your E-mail identification. You don't need to. The List Server gets that information from the "header" that is automatically sent along with each message. The header is usually invisible to you. Figure 2 shows a sample header; that header's "from line" is shown below.

From: info@ivory.educom.edu (Edupage)

The header also shows you the path(s) the message took to reach you.

Signatures: a Fine Point

Remember, List Server software is designed to run without human intervention, and it recognizes only a few commands. Since many E-mail programs let you automatically append signature information to your messages, if you've set up such an automatic signature, it is a good idea to suppress it when you correspond with a List Server. However, if you do include your signature, the software will probably just tell you that "John Doe" — or whatever you put in your signature — is an unknown command.

Finding Lists' Addresses

If you lost the address you need to use to unsubscribe, what do you do? Below we discuss several options.

LISTSERV@BITNIC

You can send your unsubscribe request to

listserv@bitnic.bitnet

Since that LISTSERV maintains an extensive record of LISTSERV lists, it may be able to handle your request. If the Bitnic LISTSERV cannot act on your unsubscribe request, you will receive a polite message similar to the one shown in Figure 3, a response to our request to unsubscribe from the list called "typetalk."

Figure 3: Unknown List

```
> unsubscribe typetalk
No LISTSERV list by the name of
"TYPETALK" is known to exist. Note that
lists can be marked "confidential" and
that the existence of such lists is
usually known only to the server that is
actually hosting it.
```

To get a list of all the LISTSERV lists known to the LISTSERV@BITNIC address, send that Bitnic address this command

```
list global
```

Web Sites

Two Web sites can also be very helpful for finding addresses and topics. Since each site carries names that are not on the other's list, you may want to visit both sites.

Bitnet and Internet Lists

Nova Southeastern University maintains a searchable database of lists on a Web site. The source of their list is the list of Bitnet and Internet Interest Groups maintained at Dartmouth College; that list contains nearly 6,000 entries. You can use the Web resource to enter keywords to search for topics that interest you or to enter the name of a list to find the address you need to use to unsubscribe.

When we searched on the topic "theses" we received no matches, but the topic "graduate" yielded 58 matches. Figure 4 shows six of these matches; note

Figure 4: Partial Results of Search on the Word "Graduate"
Search List of Discussion Groups, a Web site

Noble Savage Philosophers mailing list
NSP-L
Addresses
 NSP-L@RPICICGE.BITNET (list)
 COMSERVE@VM.ECS.RPI.EDU (listserv)
 USERF98F@MTS.RPI.EDU (Barry B. Floyd)
 (owner)

Description
 This list is an undergraduate/graduate forum for discussion of various philosophical topics and studies.

Minority Health Issues in the US
MINHLTH
Addresses
 MINHLTH@DAWN.HAMPSHIRE.EDU (list)
 listserv@dawn.hampshire.edu (listserv)
 Michelle Murrain (owner)

Description
 This purpose of this list is fourfold: 1) for researchers who either directly or indirectly look at issues of minority health, from a variety of perspectives and fields, to network. 2) For announcements of meetings,

fellowships, graduate school opportunities, workshops, etc. 3) To discuss and answer specific questions and issues in minority health research, and 4) To discuss and share perspectives of research in this area.

Psycho-Pharmacology
psycho-pharm
Addresses

psycho-pharm@netcom.com (list)
 listserv@netcom.com (listserv)
 Ian Pitchford (owner)

Description
 The purpose of the Psychopharmacology Mailing List, psycho-pharm, is to provide a forum for the professional discussion of all aspects of clinical psychopharmacology. Clinical psychopharmacology is broadly defined as the treatment individuals with psychiatric disorders through the use of psychotropic medications. All mental health professionals, and graduate students may subscribe to the Psychopharmacology Mailing List {sic} is run on MAJORDOMO software.

that the *Addresses* section contains the address of the List Server.

This Web site is frequently busy and at times the response may be very slow.

<http://alpha.acast.nova.edu/cgi-bin/lists>

Publicly Accessible Lists

The fourteen part Publicly Accessible Mailing Lists document maintained by Stephanie de Silva is another a good source for Internet mailing lists. Her

compilation contains addresses for non-LISTSERV lists. It is available two ways:

(1) by anonymous FTP from the site and directory listed below

`rtfm.mit.edu under
/pub/usenet-by-group
/news.answers/mail/mailing-lists`

(2) from the Web; the URL is:

<http://www.neosoft.com/internet/paml/>

The Psychology Graduate Student Journal:
PSYGRD-J
Addresses
PSYGRD-J@ACADVM1.UOTTAWA.CA (list)
LISTSERV@ACADVM1.UOTTAWA.CA (listserv)
Matthew Simpson (owner)

Description

There is a new electronic journal in the field of psychology, called The Psychology Graduate Student Journal: The PSYCGRAD Journal (PSYGRD-J). The purpose of the journal is to publish, from the graduate student perspective, professional-level articles in the field of psychology. The PSYCGRAD Journal is primarily published and written by graduate students in psychology. It is targeted for anyone interested in the field of psychology.

Public Policy
PUBPOL-L
Addresses
PUBPOL-L@VM1.SPCS.UMN.EDU (list)
LISTSERV@VM1.SPCS.UMN.EDU (listserv)
Steven Clift (owner)

Description

PUBPOL-L is an electronic forum for graduate students, professionals, faculty, and staff in the fields of public policy, public administration, planning, and other

related areas. Substantial areas of discussion will include current public policy issues, events and conferences, research, teaching, curriculum and courses, employment and career opportunities, activities of public policy practitioners, use of electronic communication in the public sector, and other topics of interest.

Student Nurses Conference List
SNURSE-L
Addresses
SNURSE-L@UBVMN.BITNET (list)
LISTSERV@UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU
(listserv)
Dan Fisher (owner)

Description

Welcome to the SNURSE-L list, the student nurses conference list. This list has been established as an effort to initiate undergraduate nursing students to a world of electronic health data. SNURSE-L has a number of different goals lined up: 1. The collection and processing of health data. 2. Discussion of trends and issues in nursing. 3. Enhanced communication between undergraduate student nurses. 4. An area for communication among nursing student leaders.

At no time should mail be sent to many lists or “all lists.” Such “junk mail” causes many duplications and network congestion and is a violation of the spirit of most network usage agreements.



She includes a wide range of List Servers, including lists run from commercial services. Topics range from “a-ha” the Scandinavian rock group to “Z-car” Datsun/Nissan discussions. Figure 5 is an overview of Parts 1 through 14; it shows the first and last lists included in each of the sections.

Like an increasing number of “publications” that are available on the Internet the da Silva list is copyrighted. This quote is from the May 1995, Part 1 document:

This compilation is copyrighted 1994, 1995 by Stephanie da Silva. No part of it may be reproduced in any form, except through normal Usenet distribution channels, without explicit permission from the author.

Dartmouth's Gopher List

Dartmouth maintains a “catalog” of LISTSERV lists that contains several types of information, including a description of the list and the E-mail address you use to unsubscribe from the list. The URL for this Gopher is

gopher://dartcms1.dartmouth.edu/11/
siglists

This information is used by the Nova Southeastern University Web site listed above. Using Dartmouth

information directly on your own machine will involve more steps than simply selecting the Gopher item; you will find more details in the *About Dartmouth List of Lists* document on that Gopher. The Dartmouth compilation is similar to the information you can get with the LIST GLOBAL command from Bitnic (discussed above).

Excerpts from *About Dartmouth List of Lists*:

This list-of-lists differs from some similar lists and the list returned by sending the LIST GLOBAL command to a backbone LISTSERV in that:

- a) Duplicate entries are deleted
- b) Lists obviously intended only for local use are omitted
- c) Information about the lists is field delimited, allowing simple parsing
- d) Both Internet and Bitnet lists are included
- e) A text description of the purpose of the list is provided

At no time should mail be sent to many lists or “all lists”. Such “junk mail” causes many duplications and network congestion and is a violation of the spirit of most network usage agreements. If you are in doubt about this policy please check it out with your system administrators before sending mail to a list.

**Figure 5: Publicly Accessible Lists
Accessible via the Web and anonymous FTP**

Part 1

- 12step ↵ 12 step programs
- awilder ↵ Alec Wilder's life and work

Part 2

- B-Greek ↵ Biblical Greek Studies
- Byrdmaniax ↵ discussion of the Byrds

Part 3

- C-IBM-370 ↵ C programming on S/370s
- CZ ↵ Convergence Zone, Parpoon naval wargame series and related topics

Part 4

- Dallas Mavericks
- Extropians ↵ run from a commercial service

Part 5

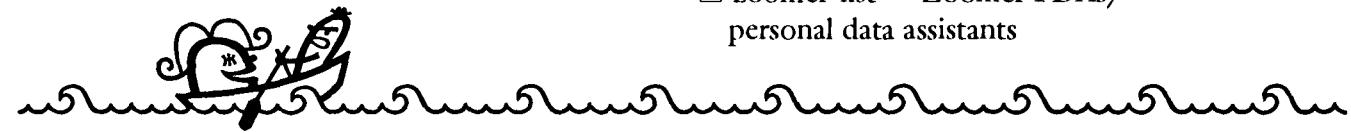
- f-body ↵ all types of Cameros and Firebirds
- gymn ↵ all aspects of the sport of gymnastics

Part 6

- hadiko ↵ forum for members of HaDiKo – Karlsruhe, Germany
- IXO ↵ IXO protocol

Part 7

- J/24 ↵ a one-design racing sailboat
- LymeNet-L ↵ Lyme disease newsletter

**Part 8**

- MacLawyers ↵ attorneys and legal assistants, law students and professors who use Macintoshes
- My So-Called Life ↵ forum for TV program

Part 9

- NA-Net ↵ numerical analysis discussions
- The Ozian Times ↵ all aspects of Oz

Part 10

- PA-Libernet ↵ liberty for Pennsylvanians
- RX7Net Email Club ↵ Mazda RX7 discussions

Part 11

- S-news ↵ S language
- Szemle ↵ news about Hungry in digest form

Part 12

- T-Zone ↵ discuss original Twilight Zone series
- UXU-Info ↵ provides readers of uXu with latest files

Part 13

- Valiant Visions ↵ moderated newsletter, Valiant comics
- wxsat ↵ weather satellites, ground stations, associated topics

Part 14

- X ↵ generation X
- zoomer-list ↵ Zoomer PDAs/ personal data assistants

Want to Get Your List Included?

How can you get your list included in the Publicly Accessible Lists compilation that is managed by Stephanie Silva? Send a request to

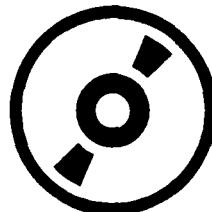
arielle@taronga.com

Include the list name, contact (request) address and a brief description of your list in the format of the mailing lists already included.

U.S. Government CD-ROMs, an Update

Nancy Herther, nherther@iic.lib.umn.edu, University Libraries

CD-ROMs Save Printing Costs



Popular due to pricing and content, CD-ROMs produced by the U.S. and other governments have been enormously popular in business and information/education markets; Figure 1 includes some percentages on CD-ROM publishing by the U.S. government.

The U.S. government has led the way with a variety of well-selected titles at very reasonable prices. The Social Security Administration, for example, distributes over 225 publications monthly and expects to save \$21 million in printing costs over five years using CD-ROM.

Few textual government CDs have the 'bells and whistles' that users would really like to see; however, given the pricing, few would complain. Many have also been picked up by commercial developers who have worked to make the content more accessible – but at much higher prices. Last summer the General Accounting Office issued a report criticizing the wide disparity in pricing for CD-ROMs from the government: from \$13 to \$1,895. Whether this will result in lower costs is in question as CD-ROM publishing by the government is put under scrutiny by the new Republican majority in Congress, which seeks to privatize many of these sorts of activities.

We can hope that these efforts won't result in less information – or innovation – for government data. Efforts, such as the current work at NASA's Ames facility to work with educators to create educational products which teach students the puzzle of planetary exploration by using Mars data as the example, couple research scientists (who best know their own data) with educators (who best know the needs of students and classes) and the private sector (who can perhaps do the best job of packaging and marketing the results of these joint development projects). Other agencies also have begun to partner with educational agencies or commercial publishers to create discs which are more appealing and informative, especially for K-12 markets.

Our Expanding CD-ROM Collections

We will soon release a revised, updated listing of CD-ROMs in the University Libraries. Here is just a sampling of some of the new governmental CD-ROMs in our Government Publication Library on the 4th floor of Wilson Library. Stop in; give them a spin!

- 1990 Census of Population and Housing
- Ancestry of the Population in the United States (Subject Summary Tape File SSTF 2). Summary social, economic, and housing data.
- Characteristics of the Asian and Pacific Islander Population in the United States (Subject Summary Tape File 5). Summary social, economic, and housing data.
- The Foreign-Born Population of the United States (Subject Summary Tape File SSTF 1). Summary social, economic, and housing data.
- Persons of Hispanic Origin in the United States (Subject Summary Tape File SSTF 3). Summary social, economic, and housing data.

- Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1995 issued by U.S. Bureau of Management and Budget. Adobe Acrobat software must be used with this disc.

- Consolidated Federal Funds Reports (CFFR) 1983-1991. CFFR data include all Federal expenditures, except interest on the Federal debt. These expenditures are detailed by grants, salaries and

Figure 1:
*Statistical Breakdown on CD-ROM Publishing
by the US Government*
Source: Government Accounting Office, 1994

| | % |
|--|----|
| Commerce | 52 |
| Interior Department | 17 |
| NASA | 15 |
| GPO | 10 |
| Other (Defense, Agriculture, and Library of Congress) | 6 |

wages, procurement, and direct payments for individuals, and other expenditures. Amounts for loans and insurance activities are also shown. Issued by U.S. Bureau of the Census.

□ DA PAM 25-30: Consolidated Index of Army Publications and Blank Forms; 1 CD; contains basic pamphlet, dated 1 October 1994. Index to administrative publications, forms, technical publications, etc.

□ Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms. Joint Pub 1-02; Vol.1, No.1. Has re:Search software. Handbook on disc; handbook can be viewed while in program. Brief paper guide.

□ Education Statistics on Disk (EDsearch). Contains over 1800 tables, charts, and text files from several NCES publications in compressed form. Issued by National Center for Education Statistics.

□ Geographic Information Code Scheme (GICS). Displays census identifiers for several areas of census geography, down to the place level. Also provides internal point latitude and longitude, population density, total population and housing units, and land and water area.

□ 1994 Green Book; Overview of Entitlement Programs: Background materials and statistical data on the major entitlement programs within the jurisdiction of the committee. Issued by Ways and Means Committee, U.S. House of Representatives.

□ Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System 1990 (IPEDS). Has Bookware software and technical documentation on the disc. Contains data on Completions 1989-90, Institutional Characteristics 1990-91, Fall Enrollment 1990-91, Staff Salaries 1990-91 and Finance, 1989-1990. Issued by National Center for Education Statistics.

□ International Financial Statistics on CD-ROM. Monthly disc with retrieval software and documentation on disc. Uses CD Answer retrieval software. Issued by International Monetary Fund. Contains time series data from 1948 to date on exchange rate series, major fund accounts series, and money index series. Updated monthly.

□ 1990 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey 1 CD with SETS search software, documentation on disc. Issued by National Center for Health Statistics.

□ National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Document Data Base. Bibliographic information on over 125,000 items for the period 1972-1993. Issued by U.S. National Institute of Justice. Updated semiannually; first issue received is 1994.

□ National Security Archive Index on CD-ROM (Chadwyck-Healey). Index to twelve collections in The Making of U.S. Policy series. Three of these collections are held in microfiche in GPL, along with their printed guides.

□ Radiosonde Data of North America. Vol. IV, 1990-1993 [Updated]. Version 1.0, Oct. 1994. Issued by Forecast Systems Laboratory, Boulder Colorado and National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, NC. SHARP software files for use in analyzing data extracted from the CD must be FTP'd from NCDC.

□ Statistical Compendium CD-ROM. Comprehensive statistics (1970-90) on production, consumption, and trade of 34 mineral commodities arrayed by commodity, state, and country. Uses TextWare Lite retrieval software. Optional use of Lotus 1-2-3, ver. 3.1+ to access .WK1 files. Issued by U.S. Bureau of Mines.

□ Statistical Masterfile (Congressional Information Service). Contains bibliographic records for three major statistical indexes: the American Statistics Index, the Index to International Statistics, and the Statistical Reference Index. Range of years covered varies by database: ASI from 1973; IIS from 1983 and SRI from 1980. 3 discs; updated quarterly.

Getting More Information

To learn more about these CD-ROMs or other governmental information, contact the Government Publications Library by stopping in their offices on fourth floor Wilson Library or by calling 624-5073 during reference hours.

World Wide Web by E-mail



Even if you don't use a Web browser, you can retrieve the text used in specific Web pages by using E-mail.

The E-mail Address

To do this send your request to

`listserv@mail.w3.org`

In the body of the message, type

`send [URL]`

Figure 1 includes examples of Web URLs. All Web URLs begin with this designator: `http://`

You will not receive any pictures when you use this method.

However, the text you receive will include whatever links to other

Figure 1: Send URL Command

```
send http://www.law.vill.edu/Fed-Agency/fedwebloc.html  
send http://home.netscape.com/home/internet-search.html  
send http://www.pmedia.com/Avon/avon.html
```

Internet resources were included on that Web page. Those links show up as footnotes and will be in the URL format. Frequently those links will be to other Web pages, which you will also be able to retrieve by E-mail.

URLs

U-R-L stands for Uniform Resource Locator. URLs are an Internet naming scheme that includes the location and method of obtaining items or directories on the Internet. The methods of obtaining Internet resources include http (HyperText Transport Protocol), Gopher, news, mailto (E-mail), FTP, and, Telnet. A critical step for increasing acceptance and utility of URLs was the release of rfc 1738, a document produced by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) — rft 1738 defines a standard form for URLs.

Try These Web Sites: a Correction

Two Corrections

We've two corrections to the Web sites we listed in *The Web and Web Browsers* article in our May newsletter. (These errors will not show up in the Acrobat version of the May newsletter.) The Federal Web Locator and the Internet Search URLs incorrectly ended in: `html/`

The correct Fed-Agency and Internet-Search URLs are shown in Figure 1.

New Cancer Awareness Site

Figure 1 also includes the URL for Avon's new Breast Cancer Awareness Crusade site.

Free Help: Computing & Information Technologies

University of Minnesota Accounts

Phone

Help Line Hours

Distributed Systems: Microcomputers, Workstations, LANs

| | | | |
|---|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Software, hardware, peripherals, local area networks | 626-4276 | M—F | 9 am to 4 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East Bank 152 Shepherd Labs | above | above | above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> West Bank 93 Blegen | above | above | 1 pm to 4 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> St. Paul 58 Biological Sciences Center | above | above | 1 pm to 4 pm |

Central Systems

These systems require a user name and password, which you get when you open an account.

Qualified users can apply for grants to cover some computing related costs.

| | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EPX (Unix), NVE (NOS/VE), UZ (Ultrix), VX and VZ (VMS) | 626-8366 | M—F | 9 am to 4 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VM1 (IBM/CMS) 90 Coffey Hall walk-in consulting | 624-6235 | M—F | 9-11 am, 2-4 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEDLINE (MinnesotaMEDLINE on NVE) | 626-8366 | M—F | 9 am to 4 pm |

E-mail and Internet

| | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Call for help using your University account | 626-7676 | M—F | 9 am to 4 pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forgot your password? Staff: call 626-8366. Students: go to any Computer Facility — e.g., 14 Folwell, 26 Lind, 305 McNeal, HHH 50. Troubleshooting: if Maroon or Gold are down, you'll hear a status report at 626-1819. | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LUMINA: call if you have trouble connecting | 626-7676 | M—F | 9 am to 4 pm |

General Information

Computer Store

Williamson Hall Book Center 625-3854
(Inventory and prices also available on Internet Gopher)

University Computing & Information Services

| | |
|---|--------|
| Administrative Information Svcs. (AIS) Help desk | 4-0555 |
| Biomedical Graphics, various locations | 6-3939 |
| Central Computing Services, 100 LaudCF | 6-1600 |
| Accounts: EPX, NVE (incl MEDLINE), UZ, VX, VZ | 6-8366 |
| Data Entry | 6-8351 |
| Statistics Services | 5-2303 |
| System Status | 6-1819 |
| Tape Librarian | 6-1838 |
| Computer Facilities (also call individual facilities) | 5-1300 |
| _FolH 5-4896 _Lind 6-0856 _McN4-5367 _HHH 4-6526 +more | |
| Disability and Computing Services, voice/TTY | 6-0365 |
| Distributed Computing Services, 190 Shep Labs | 5-1300 |
| Engineering Services, 103 LaudCF | 5-1595 |
| Equipment Repair and Warranties | 5-1595 |
| Faculty Resource Center (for appointment) | 5-1300 |
| Gopher Hotel (server set up for a fee) | 5-2303 |
| Kodak Printer Service | 6-1661 |
| St. Paul Computing Services, 50 CofH | 4-7788 |
| Accounts: VM1 (IBM/CMS) | 4-7788 |
| Tape Librarian | 4-3482 |
| Statistics Services | 4-6235 |
| Software Services (contract programming) | 5-2303 |
| Supercomputer Center Help, 3030 SCC | 6-0808 |
| Telecommunications, 30 TelecomB | |
| Networking Services Information | 6-7800 |
| Networking Services Repair | 5-0006 |
| Training, Course Registration, 190 ShepLab | 5-1300 |
| U Libraries, Integrated Information Center | 4-2020 |
| University Networking Services, 130 Lind | 5-8888 |

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Information Technologies

Donald R. Riley, Professor 626-9816

Access Information

SLIP: 2400/14,400 626-1920

SLIP: ADI-100 and ITE (with MKO) 3-0291

- Terminal settings for these systems are 8-1-N (8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity) unless otherwise noted. The number you dial may depend on the modem's bps or baud rate.
- Internet addresses.
- Dial-in Server: 626-0300, -1200, -2400, -4800, -9600
- At 9600 Telecomm supports V.32 and MNP level 5 error correction.
- On campus ADI-100 and ITE setups use 626-2400.

LUMINA: 300/1200/2400 625-6009

V.32 4-7539

Telnet & tn3270 PUBINFO.AIS.UMN.EDU

E-mail and Internet Service and Servers, Twin Cities

 MAROON.TC.UMN.EDU GOLD.TC.UMN.EDU

Gopher, alternate access (log in as gopher)

 300, 1200, 2400, 9600 see Dial-in Server

 CONSULTANT.MICRO.UMN.EDU

Consulting via E-mail: low priority Central System ques

 Format CONSULT@MACHINE.NAME.UMN.EDU

AIS SecureID V.32 626-1061

 300/1200/2400 6-7770

 tn3270 & Telnet ADMIN.AIS.UMN.EDU

EPX, NVE (includes MEDLINE), UZ, VX, VZ

 300, 1200, 2400, 9600 see Dial-in Server

 EPX or UZ or VX or VZ or NVE.CIS.UMN.EDU

EPX, NVE: 300/1200/2400 625-1445

 up to 19.2 campus data phone 3-2400

VM1 (IBM/CMS) at 7-1-even

 9600 624-3668

 1200/2400 & <19.2 campus data phone ..4-4220

 VM1.SPCS.UMN.EDU

Please be legible. Help us keep our costs down by using a campus mailing address whenever possible. Thanks.

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Computer and Information Services Newsletter

University of Minnesota

Distributed Computing Services

Room 190, Shepherd Labs

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Minneapolis, MN 55455-0421

Computing and Information Services

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