Newton Tidbits

Apple and Newton OS 2.0

Diana Hwang at Computer Reseller News has an article called "Emerging Technologies: Newton's New Top Gun Ready For Battle Ahead" in the 28Aug95 issue. Here is the major info:

- Sandy Benett is acting VP and director of engineering of the Newton Systems Group (NSG), he has been at Apple for two years, and was formerly at Go Corp.
- Sandy thinks that the next version of the Newton OS will successfully meet customer needs because Apple has been listening and watching the market for the last two years
- this Fall will bring the Newton OS 2.0 (with little hype), new development tools, and the Newton Connection Kit (NCK) 3.0
- the NOS 2.0 will have tight integration between the Newton and desktop machines, and will allow for better connectivity capabilities
- the NOS 2.0 upgrade will aid not only the consumer but also developers, system integrators, and value-added resellers (VARs)
- Claris is supposedly working on Newton applications [Article forwarded to NewtNews by Mark Heringer <4535904@mcimail.com>]

Yvonne Lee has an article in the 04Sep95 issue of InfoWorld about the next iteration of the Newton OS being prepped for release to developers in October 1995, with general availability slated for November 1995. Major new features:

- better handwriting recognition - better desktop synchronization
- portrait or landscape viewing mode
- support for multiple communication protocols
- programmable toolbar
- ability to view and annotate desktop files There is going to be a MP150 that is palm-sized and a MP200 that is slate-size. These will be available in 1996, with the MP150 shipping before the MP200.

The Newton on the Beat

Steve Reynolds from Technological Business Solutions reports that his company has created a new system for police officers in Derby, Great Britain that uses the Newton. At the scene of the crime, the officer on patrol will take down the details using a Newton. When the names have been taken, a form appears with all the relevant questions he needs to ask. For more information you can call: 44-1773-828766 or send email to: <steve@tbsnewt.demon.co.uk>.

Newton Highlighted in Mainstream Press

On Sunday, September 10, 1995 the San Francisco Examiner had an article called "Apple Hoping to Turn Around Its PDA PDQ." The article touches on the history of the last two years. Following is some of the interesting information that was included:

- one of the key reasons the Newton has survived is because of a "small core of software developers" who are creating great solutions

- development tools for the Newton is better than any other PDA platform
- PDA Developer magazine has over a readership over 1,000
- Industry analysts still feel that for PDAs to take-off they need an affordable and integrated access to two-way wireless networking
- Apple shipped 60,000 Newtons so far in 1995 and 78,000 in 1994.
- Apple is working with Cirrus Logic to develop a less power consuming ARM chip - DEC is also designing a new chip called "StrongARM" and should be available in Oct95, priced between $10-20 depending on volume
- the high-end PDA price needs to be under $500

Additional Bits. . .

Apple has finished Alpha testing and is now in Beta testing of the Windows Newton ToolKit (NTK) for developing Newton applications. Not only will be you be able to create Newton applications but you will also be able to create Newton Books. The rumor on the Net is that you can expect Windows NTK available for the general developer purchase sometime in Q1,96.

Gerald Mesaric <gmesaric@iicm.tu-graz.ac.at> the Editor & Publisher of NewtReport reports that the NewtReport July 1995 (Volume 1, Number 3) is now available at: <http://www.iicm.tu-graz.ac.at/CNewtReport> NewtReport is a free available hypermedia journal on Newton Technology over the Internet.

Green Mountain Software Corporation (GMSC) would like to let the Newton community know that Hardy Macia has joined their company as a Newton Software Engineer. His arrival enhances the company's custom software development and systems integration services for Apple and Motorola Newtons. Hardy is best known for his Newton shareware applications he has developed through his own company, Catamount Software. His most recent addition, Aloha, is an AOL email client. He has also developed PocketMoney and MPG which were both given honorable mentions in the Macuser Shareware awards September

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95 issue. Hardy will continue to run Catamount Software in his new role. For more information about GMSC, contact Ann Pettyjohn by phone at: 802.865.2728 or by email: <Ann@GreenMtnSW.com>.

A PC Card modem by a PC company that works with the Newton and only costs $29? Well, it looks like it is true. Most people on comp.sys.newton.misc say that they have been able to: fax, send Newton email, use Aloha, and get terminal connections using the Compaq $29 PC Card with their Newtons. You do have to load up the latest modem enablers, and you do have to have enough internal RAM to pop out in storage cards you might be using. The biggest problem appears to be finding them now, they are reportedly very scarce.

US Robotics Corp has diversified from their current acquisition binge by acquiring Palm Computing, the developer of software for handheld devices (Graffiti). This deal is mainly accomplished in stock trades, but it does put a $44 million price on Palm. [Via PowerPC News -- Computergram International]

Gerald Fox <GeraldFox@eWorld.com> has posted the 3rd issue of "Newton News & Report" to eWorld and to Internet FTP sites. There are currently people from five countries working on this publication. It offers free Newton news, commentary, and reviews. It is distributed in full color stand-alone Macintosh Docmaker format.

Starting with NewtNews-052-26Jun95, Mark Heringer <heringermr@pobox.com> has been publishing the Newton Book version of NewtNews. Several unique features have been added in the past several weeks. A section listing the WEB URLs mentioned in the newsletter has been added to the end of the book. Additionally, this section of the book now includes a button that will save the WEB URL listing to the Notepad. Mark is using the weekly NewtNews newsletter as a vehicle for exploring the capabilities of the Bookmaker and the Newton Tool Kit. More features are being planned for future issues. If you have any ideas about functions that you would like to see incorporated in the Newton Book version of NewtNews or any comments on the formatting and layout, please feel free to drop Mark an email.

Upcoming Events

PDA Developers East '95

PDA Developers East '95 held in August 1995 was extremely successful, and the folks at Creative Digital have decided to produce another one on January 14-16, 1995 in San Francisco [exact location to be determined]. Instead of a tightly-structured agenda, they would like to find the cream of the PDA Developers crop to do short (1/2 hour) presentations and longer tutorials, or participate in panels. For consideration, email a short proposal (preferable) to Creative Digital <cdi@cdigital.com>, or give them a call: 415.621.4252 or fax: 415.621.4922.

General Magic Developers Conference

General Magic has announced that it plans to host its first developer conference October 29 - 31, 1995 at the Red Lion Hotel in San Jose, California. The first General Magic Developers Conference will provide existing and potential developers with an in-depth look at the Magic Cap and Telescript platforms and related market opportunities. The conference will begin the evening of Sunday, October 29th with a welcome dinner. Conference attendees can select from sessions organized into three tracks: Magic Cap Development, Telescript Development, and Market Opportunities. This allows them to focus on either a specific platform or explore more general business opportunities. Sessions range from introductions to the platforms to in-depth looks at class libraries of both Magic Cap and Telescript. Sessions will be led by the company's own Magicians, current developers, and representatives from several of General Magic's alliance partners. In addition to attending the conference, developers can participate in a variety of practical hands-on programming sessions. The conference registration fee is $395; after October 13 the fee will be $495. The registration fee includes two full days of conference sessions, access to additional exhibits, all meals, and the latest programming information. Developers interested in registering or obtaining further information on the conference should call General Magic at: 800.468.4342, ext. 4273. Developers can also request conference information via email by sending a message to: <magic_devcon@genmagic.com> or a fax to: 800.774.3311. Additional information on the conference will also be available on General Magic's Web Site at: <http://www.genmagic.com>.

Medical Conference

Dr. Chuck Jaffe <CharlesJ13@aol.com> is running the American College of Allergy Conference this November 10-15th in Dallas, Texas. There is expected to be over 5,000 attendees. Dr. Jaffe is a diehard Newton user and would appreciate hearing from any Newton authors or publishers that would be interested in displaying their stuff at the conference. The conference is also going to have PC, Mac, and Newton training sessions. So if you are interested, send Dr. Jaffe email at the address above.

Rumor Mill

More on OS 2.0. . .

Johnny Haeusler <100042.560@compuserve.com> recently posted the a message in the Future Newton section of CompuServe about his viewing of a NOS 2.0 machine at the IFA in Berline, Germany (Consumer Electronics Show). Some highlights:

- release in US sometime in Nov95, release in Germany Jan95
- German ROM upgrades to existing MP120s is about US$140 (DM$200)
- handwriting recognition is much improved (letter-by-letter is

similar to Graffiti's speed)
- landscape view on a MP120 is "a rush ;-)"
- a lot of the built-in applications have been improved
- outlining is easy to do in the Notepad

There was a post on comp.sys.newton.misc that quotes an article in a recent MacWorld that states ACT! for the Newton is shipping. This is one rumor that appears not to be true. Sorry for the bad news....

Newton & the Web

Sites to Check Out

Marty Mankins <75300.1770@compuserve.com> reports that NewtNews readers will be interested in the following site published at <http://www.info-stream.com> by his company InfoStream. They publish the printed magazine "Portability!" that will soon be released on a regularly monthly schedule. The above site is their home for "Portability! Online" which will feature product reviews and industry news. Marty also expects to be re-starting two other newsletters: "Palm To Palm" (ASCII and PDF format) and "Take It With You - Newton Edition" (available 01Oct95). Send Marty email if you'd like more information.

Ascribe Software <AscribeSft@aol.com> reports that they have gotten their WWW site up and running at: <http://www.ascribe.com>.

Liem Bahneman <roland@ssc.com> suggested that people check out the following page by Motorola on their new Newscard: <http://www.mot.com/MIMS/PPG/org/pcss/pcss-homepage/gifs/motlppg.gif>.

The Lightbuld Factory is now on the WWW. These are the people who make Elegance (tool bar) for the Newton! Check out: <http://www.lightbulb.com/welcome.html>

Better Hold Products has a product called Grip-It Strips -- attach them to your Newton for better grip when you hold your Newton. Check out their WWW site at: <http://www.grip-it.com/> if this sounds interesting.

Tristan Bostone <tbostone@uunet.uu.net> reports that he has gotten a "rough draft" of the PDA Survey web page up at: <http://www.clever.net/tristan/survey.html>.

The September issue of "mobilis: the mobile computing lifestyle magazine" is now available on the WWW at: <http://www.volksware.com/mobilis>. mobilis is a monthly magazine that features interviews, tutorials, reviews, and opinion concerning all aspects of PDAs, wireless communication, and mobile peripherals.

The latest edition of HotFlash published on 01Sep95 has some two interesting articles. The first is by Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak on his thoughts on a previous article by Dave Winer. For the complete text check out: <http://www.hotwired.com/davenet/>. The second article is by Market Forces columnist David Kline and deals with the state of pen-based computing. Check out the article at: <http://www.hotwired.com/market/>.

Apple has updated the following Newton applications at most online services and via FTP at: <ftp.info.apple.com> or <ftp.support.apple.com>:

- Newton Connection Kit (NCK) 2.0.3 Update for Windows: This patch updates NCK 2.0 to 2.0.3. Version 2.0.3 fixes a bug when used with Motorola Marco units. It also fixes a translator problem. The .SEA file is self-extracting archive of a Disk Copy 1440k DOS disk image and the .EXE One is the DOS self-

extracting archive of DOS files
- Newton Toolkit (NTK) Updater 1.5.2b2

Wireless

Corporate Downsizing

The Wall Street Journal recently reported that Motorola has plans to cut its staff at its wireless data group by about 20% or about 180 jobs. Motorola officials said that it still "remains committed to developing the market for its new wireless product line" The principle reason for the cuts has be attributed to the "poorly developing PDA market." The state of the market is compared to the cellular phone market of 10 years ago -- little growth, high prices. The cuts were deepest (20%) in the PDA area, but according to Motorola officials they should not effect current Envoy, Marco, and communication based PC Card efforts.

Photonics, the makers of wireless infrared LAN technology for Macs, Newtons, and Intel machines, has reportedly stopped all development, and slashed their staff from 27 to 7. The company is looking for a merger partner. [MacWeek, 04Sep95, Nathalie Welch, page 24]

Wireless Messaging

CE Software has finished up MobileVision for the Macintosh/Newton that enables a QuickMail (QM) server to connect to the ARDIS wireless radio network. After loading up your QM Server with the necessary software and your Macro with a client Newton application, you can deliver wireless QM messages. You also need to add the InfoTAC Personal Communicator to you Macintosh server to broadcast the message. For more information contact CE Software at: 800.523.7638 or 515.221.1801. [MacUser, October 1995, page 122]

Wireless Access Gets Easier

McCaw Cellular (800.426.2229) and RAM Mobile Data (800.792.3210) are both expending a large amount of resources to insure that they can extend their range of wireless connectivity for their current and future customers. McCaw is focusing on providing broadband PCS network using Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) technology. RAM Mobile is adding 150 base stations by the end of this year, and another 350 next year. McCaw is planning to have 80% of the US covered, and RAM Mobile is aiming for having 94% of urban US covered. [PCWeek, 28Aug95, Michael Moeller, page 41]

Lotus Notes is expected to get wireless access enabled on AirMobile in limited functions in Q4,95 - with full functions enabled in Q1,96. [PCWeek, 21Aug95, Michael Moeller and Paula Rooney, page 2]

Wireless data networks are rising in usage. Some examples include: companies that provide security services that monitor multiple devices over a large area, and Coca-Cola distributers who are responsible for insuring that coke machines have product in them. [PCWeek, 28Aug95, Michael Moeller, page 37, 44]

FCC is planning on selling about 25-MHz in five 5-MHz slices in 179 regions. This spectrum is being labeled the General Wireless Communication Service (GWCS). For more information call: 202.418.1400. [PCWeek, 04Sep95]

Totally Wireless Skyway Communications has a mail-order catalog that is completely devoted to pagers, wireless email, and cellular modems. For more information call: 800.969.4735 or send email to: <skyway6@radiomail.net>. [MacWeek, 04Sep95, page 26]

Other PDA's

The folks at MetroWerks are really slashing the price of doing development work for the MagicLink. If you are a CodeWarrior Developer you can get at MagicLink, 1MB Memory, and a Rechargeable Battery for $399 (save $218 off of list). If you are just getting started, you can get a MagicLink, 1MB Memory, Rechargeable Battery, TeleBug Box, and CodeWarrior Gold for: $699 (save $466 off of list). For more information send email to: <sales@metrowerks.com> or call: 512.305.0400 or fax: 512.305.0440.

Hitachi has announced a new "advanced mobile communication terminal with a high-resolution (480 x 320-pixel) 80-column LCD" to be released in Japan on 01Dec95. The "Multicommunicator Possible" will have a internal modem, and allow communications over cellular and standard telephone. Users will be able to access online services, and send and receive email and faxes. Data will be entered into the device using a pen and include handwriting recognition. Hitachi is expected to offer two models for 98,000 and 125,000 yen. This device will be the major competitor against Sharp's Zaurus, the leader of the Japanese market. In 1994, Zaurus sold 380,000 units. [Data compiled from Online Services offered by CompuServe]

MagicCap folks reported on the MagicCap mailing list that in the "Tech Ticker" column on page one of the business section on the San Jose Mercury WWW page had the following headline: "Staff Shake-up under way at General Magic" and the following very short blurb:

"General Magic Inc.'s top marketing executive resigned and its co-founder and top scientist have taken a three-month leave, just six months after the software maker debuted as one of the hottest technology stocks to go public this year. General Magic, which makes software for hand-held computers and telecommunications networks is planning to announce a reorganization next week, spokeswoman Jane Anderson said."

The latest edition of PowerPC News, 28Aug95, reports that Motorola is nearly ready to show off their new embedding PowerPC chip called the MPC821 that is designed for PDAs, smartphones, and set-top boxes.

Sony has cut the price of a MagicLink to $499. [PCWeek, 21Aug95, page 2]

While Motorola's Envoy and Macro wireless devices have a combination of vertical and horizontal usages, the Forte CommPad is designed completely as a vertical market solution. It is a ruggedized 25-MHz 486SX that uses Windows for Pen Computing Environment, and it comes with a built-in wireless radio modem that accesses the Motorola 800-MHz DataTac network. The expected price is $5,500 and you can get more information by calling: 800.247.3107. [InfoWorld, 28Aug95, Yvonne Lee, page 47]

Microsoft has announced that it will be shipping to developers their PDA beta OS by the end of 1995, with a product shipping in 1996. The Microsoft OS is codenamed 'Pegasus' and will compete directly with the NOS 2.0. It will not run Windows applications but they will have "scaled-down versions of Word and Excel." [InfoWorld, 04Sep95]

Panasonic has developed a new personal electronic organizer with an integrated scanner, which can read in information from business cards, and keep a file of up to 500 records, including logos. The NeoFile, priced at $399.95, is also capable of hooking up to a personal computer to share data. [Knight-Ridder]

Sharp has announced that it will be publishing a new newsletter called 'Digital Ink' that will focus on the new Zaurus applications and emerging technologies about the product. Sharp has plans to sell a "business-use version" of their Zaurus electronic organizer that is: larger than previous models, runs MS-DOS, and uses a bigger liquid-crystal display.

Software Releases

Dave Pompea <74736.172@compuserve.com> of DMP Systems reports that they have released v1.1 of NewtDB - the shareware relational database solution for the Newton. This version now supports four databases and eight screens for $29.95, and has had some minor internal changes to better utilize the heap. NewtDb 1.1 should be available on most online services. If you are interested in a larger database, there are is one other option -- 16 databases and 32 screens for $49.95. This price is good until 30Sep95, then it will be listed at $59.95. Please contact DMP Systems at the email address above if you are interested.

Vision Solutions is busy working on getting Lotus Notes to Newton connectivity into a commercial application to be released sometime in Q3,95. The product will link Newtons soup entries with fields in a Notes database or any ODBC compliant database table. For more information send email to: <vision@crl.com> or call: 214.827.5372.

Jack Curtis <jackcurtis@aol.com> reports that Pinehill Software has announced that version 3.0 of AppGen will have a 50% price reduction from v2.2 prices to $49. AppGen enables users to generate their own custom tailored data-collection applications for the Newton. Version 3.0 is scheduled for release 01Oct95, and adds: a Sketch field type for capturing graphical data; hierarchical popups with up to 15,000 entries downloadable from the Mac/PC; variable expressions; a NotePad interface to allow formatting, printing; faxing, beaming, and direct transfer of collected data (via NCK); and multiple application generation. The $49 special offer includes beta copies of version 3.0 and of FormulaGen, a unique utility which lets users enter their own formulas into the Newton's formula-roll. For information or to order send email to: <pinehill1@eworld.com> or call: 508.548.4470.

Cesar Maiorino <Cesar@eWorld.com> has put the final touches on version 1.0 of Short List - a Notepad based list editor. You can view and modify your lists in the Notepad or by launching Short List. Lists created by Short List can be treated like any other Notepad note. After installation, a new item called "Short List" will appear on the pop-up for the Action Button (envelope) attached to each note. Selecting Short List launches the application which converts the text in the current note into a list. Each list item has three columns: Done, Priority, and Item; and you can sort by either of these columns. The software is freeware and has been loaded to most online services and to the regular Newton Internet FTP sites. Please read the READ ME for important compatibility issues.

MAR Software is now shipping a maintenance upgrade for their Newton bill management system, Bills to Pay. The new version adds a variety of memory management features and interface enhancements. Bills to Pay 2.3 is the program's sixth upgrade since version 1.0 was released in October 1994. The upgrade is available to registered users at no charge. Bills to Pay has a retail price of $15. For more information call: 510.337.0231 or send email to: <EdMartin@eWorld.com>.

There have been a series of updates to More Info 2.5 over the last couple of months. The latest version available on the Internet is

version 2.5.3. The major improvement is that if you are already a More Info user you can upgrade to the latest version by downloading the latest demo of More Info and entering in a 'de-demo' code provided by Silverware. You must contact Silverware for your code sequence.

GestureLaunch and GestureScript are ICS's answer to button bars and package launchers. Now you can assign up to four actions to each built-in button for a total of 24 different actions that are always available and don't take up as much heap or screen space as a button bar. Launch any package or NewtCase Archive with a simple gesture (select, caret, line, or scrub). GestureLaunch can even execute small NewtonScript programs entered with GestureScript (samples included). Shareware, $10. For more information contact: Tom Collins by email at: <tom@newts.com> or by phone at: 602.970.1032.

CreaTEC is busy putting the finishing touches on a specialized translation dictionary. The first international version covers Spanish-English and English-Spanish, including business phrases and words. The standard system includes: about 26,000 words (13,000 entries with multiple definitions for each language); fast searching and browsing; Intelligent Assistant support; application launch from the NotePad with the possibility to translate automatically the hi-lighted word; and fast language switching and automatic reverse of search. The product is focused to business people needing a fast and versatile tool to manage their translation needs.

Scott Hernden <SHern@eworld.com> has written a package called YAPI that lets a Newton download packages using an XMODEM connection. The latest version of YAPI is 1.0.2 and it can be found at: <ftp://newton.uiowa.edu/submissions>. Once you get the package on your Newton, you can easily transfer packages from a PC, Mac, or Unix box using a terminal program that supports XMODEM.

For those of you who aren't sure if NewtCase 2.2 is for you, now's your chance to find out first-hand how it drives. Download a 30-day demo from ICS' WWW page at: <http://www.newts.com/nc&ess.html> or FTP site: <ftp://ftp.newts.com//pub/> or from most online services. NewtCase 2.2 builds on the success of the shareware version of NewtCase. Here's a list of what has been added to version 2.2:

- Soup management tools: calculate storage used, find possible orphans, merge across stores and delete unneeded soups.
- Move packages between stores with a single tap.
- Significant interface improvements to the QuickPicker.
- Download packages to either store (Info Menu).

ICS has also released SoupKitchen 1.0, a full-featured soup editor <http://www.newts.com/soupkitchen.html>. For more information about ICS and their products please send email to: <tom@newts.com> or phone at: 602.970.1032.

ACCSYS Corporation has release a DEMO Version of AMIGO 1.5 - the Spanish/English dictionary reference and translation program. It was posted to the Newton FTP sites and to most online services. This is a limited version that has a very small dictionary and does not allow customization. Version 1.5 incorporates some of the changes that were requested by AMIGO users and also has some new an interesting features. These include:

- an unlimited space for custom dictionary entries
- intelligent assistant support
- flash card for vocabulary practice
- much improved search speed
- access to the dictionary view now accumulates letters as they are entered
- an expanded dictionary to include 1000 new medical terms Version

1.5 will be released in mid-September and will be sent to all registered users free of charge.

Version 1.5 will be selling for $34.95 including 1 year of upgrades at no charge. For more information please send email to: Randy Kaplan <rkaplan@ACM.ORG> or you can call: 610.436.4570.

Rudy Moore <orn@cs.wisc.edu> has released Lunacy 1.0 ($2 shareware) to the Internet. This is a brain twister puzzle. The objective is to move the large tile from the upper right to the upper left of the playing field. This might be pretty easy except that the puzzle pieces are not a uniform size and shape. If you need more info, send Rudy email.

HealthCare Communications recently completed an agreement with Physix, to become an authorized reseller of Pocket Doc, the highly popular and respected medical application for the Newton. Pocket Doc joins FilePad, PowerForms, and Hippocrates as the 4th in a collection of products offered by HealthCare Communications for use with Newtons Pocket Doc is a point-of-care application that stores patient histories and physical findings, much like an electronic index card. Designed to follow in-patient and out-patient encounters at multiple sites, Pocket Doc includes chart notes, prescriptions, referral letters and discharge lists which may be printed, faxed, or electronically transferred directly from the Newton. For more information, contact Physix at: <pocketdoc@physix.com> or on the WWW at: <http://med-amsa.bu.edu/newton.medical/PocketDoc/pocketdoc.html>.

Confused about Newton spreadsheet options? Well, MacWorld's Charles Seiter tries to help you out by reviewing QuickFigure Pro (QFP) 2.1 and Equate 1.0. Both score a three out of five stars. The biggest pros for Equate is: convenient Excel compatibility and special spreadsheet keyboard. The biggest pros for QFP is: fast, and includes charting and linear equation solving. The biggest cons for Equate is that it is slow loading, saving, and recalc. The biggest cons for QFP is that file imports require workarounds. To sum it up, Charles says that Equate is the best Newton spreadsheet if you have to have desktop Excel connectivity, and QFP is the best "stand-alone" spreadsheet for the Newton. For more information about QFP contact PelicanWare at: 503.221.1148 and for Equate contact Holosoft at: 408.748.9648 [MacWorld, October 1995, page 85]

MacUser has announced their 1995 MacUser Shareware Awards. Three Newton packages were mentioned:

- Winner: WakeUpWeek by Ben Gottlieb (Stand Alone Software). This is a set of tools for getting organized, including agenda management, notes, to-dos, and appointments.
- Honorable Mentions: MPG by Hardy Macia (Catamount Software). This package acts as a mileage log. And PocketMoney, also by Hardy Macia. This packages help you to keep track of bank accounts on your Newton.

Stand Alone has released the following software to most online services:

Jumble v1.0 -- is a word search game wherein the player attempts to find words hidden in a two dimensional grid of letters. Puzzles can be created with pre-determined sets of words to find, or the Newton can generate these lists randomly, resulting in unlimited game play. Jumble is $15 shareware with a 30-day demo.

Speed v1.1 -- is a collection of enhancements for the built in Names file and Note Pad applications. Normally, switching to a particular folder on a Newton with several hundred names or notes takes as long as several minutes, but with Speed installed, this time is cut to a matter

of seconds. Speed also allows the user to view email addresses from any portion of the names file, set certain start up options for the Names file (such as it's initial folder and view) and gives several options for quickly going to a particular name card (a scribble window, pop-up menu, and mini-keyboard.) Speed is $25 shareware with a 30-day demo.

Wake Up Week (WUW) v2.73 -- is a full featured agenda management application that allows the user to quickly view all upcoming events (meetings, day notes, and to dos,) over a certain user-definable period (anywhere from one day to three years) from a variety of places on the Newton. WUW recently won MacUser's best Newton Shareware product award for 1995. WUW is $20 shareware with a 30-day demo.

For more information, please contact Stand Alone by phone: 312.262.5150 by fax: 312.262.5148 or by email: <info@standalone.com>. For a complete Stand Alone Product list send email: <products@standalone.com>.

Revelar Software has released Revelar Connection Utility (RCU) version 1.5 for Macintosh and Newton devices. A Windows version 1.5 is expected to be released by Oct95.

RCU is an alternative/supplement to Apple's Newton Connection Kit (NCK), and permits you to have a real time connection to the basic features of your Newton. This program lets you link your Mac to the Newton and type in your Notes, Names, Dates, Calendar Day Notes, and To Do items. You can also delete or modify any of them as well. Furthermore, you can import tab-delimited text files (i.e. spreadsheet) into Notes, Names, and Dates, or export existing Notes, Names, and Dates from your Newton as well. The RCU Quick User Guide takes you through step-by-step. Changes that have been made since version 1.3:

- Redesigned interface.
- AppleTalk support.
- Localization support for: English, French, German, Spanish.
- Import and Exporting features improved by speed and error checking.
- Bug fixes.
- Print a #10 envelope from the Names application.
- New electronic documentation.

RCU 1.5 will retail for $49.95 and a developer version will sell for $99.95. You can contact Revelar for more information by email at: <REVELAR@aol.com>, or by phone at: 800-669-5191 or 801.485.3291, or check out their WWW site at: <Web: http://www.xmission.com/~revelar>.

Ragout is a soup tool designed for Newton developers, consultants, and power users. It includes a comprehensive feature set not found in any other soup tool. Ragout lets you:

- Create, delete, copy, and move soups;
- Add and remove soup indices; - Create, delete, copy, move, view, and edit soup entries, and change slot data types;
- Delete all entries in a soup or index;
- Create multiple copies of a soup entry, a feature that is particularly useful for sizing potential soup structures.
- Fax and print soup information and entry contents for documentation purposes; and
- Beam soup entries to other Newtons.

Ragout's retail price is $55 + S&H is $7.50 within North America, $12.50 elsewhere. Created by Ricardo Martinez, Ragout is available exclusively from Creative Digital. Contact Creative Digital by phone at: 415.621.4252 or by email at: <cdi@cdigital.com>.

Recent Events

Newton Development Conference Info

Underscoring the momentum behind the Newton platform, several hundred developers from all around the globe converged upon San Francisco this past week to participate in Apple's 2nd Newton Platform Development Conference, entitled "Turn on the Light." In response to developer feedback, Apple announced that it is dropping the 1% royalty fee for developing on the Newton platform, and highlighted Apple's comprehensive developer support programs and co-marketing opportunities. The underlining theme though was on developer related information, particularly on what programmers were going to have to do to make their code behav e as a Newton OS 2.0 savvy application.

Keynote speakers at this year's conference included Michael Spindler, president and CEO of Apple, and Guy Kawasaki, who recently joined the company as an Apple Fellow. A noted author, columnist and speaker, and the founder of various personal computing enterprises, Kawasaki has played a significant leadership role in the "evangelism" of the Apple Macintosh computer and its software. Spindler outlined how Newton technology fits into Apple's corporate product plan and overall company strategy, while Kawasaki described the role Apple will play in supporting Newton developers and highlighted the rich array of software titles available for the Newton platform.

So what was the agenda at the Newton Developer Conference? Here is a break down on what happened each day:

- Wednesday: Newton ToolKit (NTK); other tools, Soups & Stores (Newton object storage system), Protos (used to display data), Views (interface, manipulations, buttons), Compatibility (current a future OSes and hardware)
- Thursday: Recognition, using Text and Ink, System Services (routing, storage, finding, etc. ...), I/O box and Routing, building custom communication services, and using new communications
- Friday: building custom application extensions, DIL (Desktop Integration Libraries), Application Frameworks, and Developer Support Review.

In addition to the formal sessions, the conference offered technical forums where Newton engineers answered developers' questions. A hands-on testing and programming lab was open until 2 am for those who wanted to write new code or test existing code against the new technologies.

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QUICKNAMES PRO - facilitates rapid retrieval of contact information using an easy interface ($39)! Only 67K ($39). For more info, contact LandWare, Inc. by phone at: 201.347.0031, fax: 201.347.0340, email: <sales@landware.com>.

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The **NEWTREST** desktop PDA stand. Place your OMP, 100, 110 or 120 Messagepad onto the NewtRests angled frame while sitting at your desk and keep your Newt at the perfect viewing angle without having to pick it up. Just $12.95. Available through the Newton Source at (800) Newton1

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NEW! The Third Volume of the **Totally Incomplete PDA CD-ROM** for Newton is now shipping! This CD-ROM from AMUG contains over 3500 files, 1000 packages, and 220 megs in Mac and PC format. $29 + S/H. Call 602.553.0066 or email <info@amug.org> to order! Web order page: <http://amug.org/amug/store/order.html>.

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THE ANGLER is simplicity itself. Simply insert the tips of The Angler into your MessagePad Charging Base and instantly get an extra 30 degrees of tilt. That's enough angle to view your Newton's screen at a glance. $9.95. Available through NewtonSource - 800.Newton1.

AMIGO, an English and Spanish dictionary reference and simple translation program is now available for the Newton. Only $19.95 plus $1.50 S&H from ACCSYS Corporation. Call 610.436.4570 for more information or email: <rkaplan@acm.org>.

NEW! **AvailWorks 2.0** For Newton -- the only Newton software to integrate text processing, spreadsheets, drawings and graphs into a single application. $79.95+S&H. Info/orders, contact: Avail Technology, Phone: (408) 730-6855, email: <Avail2@aol.com>.

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Admin Info

This is the second issue of the monthly NewtNews Pro, "A Independent Spin-off of NewtNews." Thanks to all who provided feedback from last months issue. We will incorporate changes as they become possible. Once again, any and all feedback on the content, distribution, etc. of the newsletter is very welcome. Please send comments to myself <daverh@aol.com> or to Steve Holden <sholden@owens.ridgecrest.ca.us>.

From the previous issue, some comments were received on poor appearance using the PC version of Acrobat. We will be toying with different font set-ups in the future to improve on this.

The primary focus of NewtNews Pro is to create a "printable" monthly Newton magazine that leverages the wealth of information provided by the freeware online newsletter NewtNews. It is designed to appeal to those who are too busy to read NewtNews on a weekly basis, people who are not online, but are potential Newton customers, and vendors who wish to distribute a hard copy to customers. The ultimate goal is to increase awareness of the Newton in areas not yet capitalized on.

NewtNews Pro will be distributed in Acrobat format so that it can also be viewed on Macs, PCs, and Unix boxes. We have printed this version out to a laser printer from the Macintosh version of Acrobat Reader 2.0.1 and it looks as good as if it was printed out in Claris Works 4.0 (which is what we used to format this version).

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Please direct any questions/comments at myself. See above for contact information.

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NewtNews in both text and Macintosh Newton book format from: <ftp://ftp.io.com/pub/usr/btorres/NewtNews>. The FTP site is also administered by Bob Torres <btorres@io.com>, if you have problems please let him know. Bob is also the Reviews Editor, please send him email if you want your product reviewed, or if you want to review a piece of Newton hardware or software.

There is also a WWW site for NewtNews. Point your favorite Web browser at: <http://www.ridgecrest.ca.us/NewtNews/NN_top.html>

Administivia

If you'd like to contribute some information that you have -- anonymously or not -- write to: <sholden@ridgecrest.ca.us>. You can also send any comments, corrections, reviews, or suggestions to the address above.

The text, the Newton book and HTML versions of NewtNews are being edited and published by Steve Holden. The monthly Pro version is being edited and formatted by Dave Hina <daverh@aol.com>.   NewtNews books are now being formatted for the Newton by Mark Heringer <4535904@mcimail.com>.

Bob "The Email List Guy" Torres <btorres@io.com> offers the following information on how to subscribe and unsubscribe to the NewtNews email list:

To subscribe, send email to <majordomo@tristero.io.com> with the message 'subscribe newt_news' as the body of your message (excluding the quotes).

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You can also subscribe or unsubscribe to the mailing list on the web using the following URL: <http://www.io.com/~btorres/subscribe.html>

You can anonymously FTP the latest and past issues of

This is the Premier Issue of NewtNews Pro. An issue will be produced each four weeks, and the content will be taken from NewtNews. We would appreciate any suggestions and/or comments. Let us know what you think!!

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