



WASHINGTON AREA COMPUTER USERS GROUP

PC DISK OF THE MONTH

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In keeping with the theme of the meeting, February's Disk brings you two freeware picture editors and a demo of the latest version of Paint Shop Pro. Also, on this disk are two utilities to capture stills from video clips, an add-on to enable viewing "DivX" videos on-line, a utility to create your own picture-show screensavers, an alternative Web browser, one to rip audio files directly to a recordable disk, a good new address book, a program to help you keep to your diet, one that educates you on weather systems, and a new action game for the kids.

**3D Canvas v5.7** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from Amabilis. Enter new realms of creativity with this real-time 3D modeling and animation tool, which incorporates a drag-and-drop approach to 3D modeling. You can construct complex models from simple 3D primitives, or create them using the program's object building tools. 3D Canvas's modeling tools can deform, sculpt, and paint 3D objects. This program can import many popular 3D file formats, so allowing you to incorporate many of the public domain 3D models into your scenes. <http://www.amabilis.com/>

**Capturex v1.1** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from Cliprex.com. Capturex is a DirectShow image grabber designed to save frames from videos to a wide range of image formats. It has a intuitive GUI with an instant preview of every grabbed frame and the possibility to open the image in any external image editor direct from the application. Also drag-drop support is implemented and a history list of used editors. Changes since version 1.0 are: Save images to .bmp, .jpg, .gif, .wmf, .emf, .tiff, .png, .ico, Set captured image as wallpaper, Capture images from webcam or video device. Requires Microsoft Direct-X v8.1 or v9.0 to be previously installed. [http://www.cliprex.com/home/public\\_html/](http://www.cliprex.com/home/public_html/)

**Cradle Rocks v1.0** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from Warner Bros. Taiwan Agent Duncan Su needs your help! You must find and recover mysterious, powerful black diamonds that were stolen and scattered throughout the city. But, time is of the essence and lives are at stake. Navigate the streets of Los Angeles on your ATV, dodge barriers, avoid apprehension from the police to find thirty diamonds and return them to Agent Su. Run out of time, incur major damage to your vehicle, or run out of gas and your quest is over. Requires DirectX 7.0 or later and the Shockwave Player. <http://www2.warnerbros.com/>

**DietWatch Diary v3.1** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT from DietWatch. Use your Web browser to keep a log of your diet, your weight, and your exercise regimen. You can chart personal data and compare your nutritional profile to others. The program delivers up-to-date reports on your diet, reveals dependencies, tells you the latest diet news, and shares diet and nutritional information. <http://www.dietwatch.com/>

**DivX Video Bundle v5.0.3** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from DivXNetworks, Inc. The official DivX video software bundle. Contains the software you need to create and watch videos in the popular DivX video format. The DivX 5.0 generation includes many advanced features, such as enhanced video quality, more effective compression capabilities, and full support for decoding MPEG-4 Advanced Simple Profile video. DivX is also optimized for AMD Athlon and Athlon XP processors. This bundle also includes the DivX Player 2.0, which supports the MPEG-4 format and offers a skinnable interface system. Version 5.0.3 adds support for interlaced video and features that allow you to create video that plays in official DivX Certified hardware devices (DVD players, etc). <http://www.divx.com/>

**EasyBrowse v2.1.1** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from V-Rameen. EasyBrowse is a free Internet browser that works on all Windows platforms (95 and above). This new version includes a POP-UP Disabler option to a standard list of features including plug-ins, direct linking to 11 search engines, plug-in checker, large browsing window, favorites and a history list. <http://www.vrameen.com/>

CONTINUED ON REVERSE

**Exploring Weather v1.0** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me from Jackson and Tull. Use this program to learn about meteorological influences that affect our day-to-day weather. Teaches you about the atmosphere, earth systems, and the vocabulary used in Geoscientific applications. <http://www.jnt.com/>

**FreeRip v2.11** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from MGShareware FreeRIP can record digital audio tracks directly from compact discs without going through your sound card. You can save tracks as CD-quality WAV files or encode them to Ogg Vorbis and MP3 compressed format. It supports ID3 tagging and FreeDB CD database. <http://www.mgshareware.com/>

**FreeSaver MP3 v1.10** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000 from MGShareware Select your favorite images and view them as screensaver while listening your MP3 files. See the brand new, real intuitive, 3D graphical interface. It sports a faster graphic engine compatible with JPG and BMP image formats, an integrated MP3 player and full drag and drop support. <http://www.mgshareware.com/>

**Paint Shop Pro v7.04** Demo for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from JASC Software. This exceptional drawing and painting utility has a low learning curve and will yield professional-quality effects. You can add elements in layers, edit text, crop, and resize images. You can also apply effects filters that can make your image look like watercolors, colored pencils, topography, and soft plastic. The program is quite handy at converting images as well. Since it supports more than 40 formats, you can turn your .gif into a .jpg in seconds. Version 7.0 adds photo enhancing and restoring, business logo and Web graphic creation, new multicolor gradients, textures, patterns, and sculpted special effects. With the included Animation Shop 3, you can create animations with professional-quality effects and transitions. <http://www.jasc.com/>

**TwinGrid Address Book v1.0** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from DataDynamica International, Inc.. A two-pane design record-based address book. On the right pane there is a list view of all records. On the left, an individual form view of one record. Main features include: instant Internet map, auto phone dial, auto mail to(s) fill, web site link, bi-directional sorting, scroll and arrow key navigating, on cell data editing, text searching, data sheet printing, standard mailing label printing, check-box column, unlimited customized columns, data marking, comma and tab delimited text import. <http://www.datadynamica.com/>

**VirtualDub v1.4.13** Freeware for Windows 9x/Me/NT/2000/Xp from Avery Lee. VirtualDub is a video capture and processing utility licensed under the GNU General Public License (GPL). It is designed to be a general utility that can trim and clean up video before exporting to tape or processing with another program. It does not possess the editing power of a general-purpose editor such as Adobe Premiere, but is streamlined for fast linear operations over video. It has batch-processing capabilities for processing large numbers of files, which you can extend with third-party video filters. VirtualDub is best at processing AVI files, although it can read (not write) MPEG-1 and handle BMP image sets. <http://www.virtualdub.org/>

ENJOY! (Downloaded and compiled by Bob Mason, PC SIG Leader)

