

# The Newsbyte

THE TRI-COUNTY COMPUTER CLUB

March 1999

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## Editor's Corner

Spring is just around the corner, bringing warm temperatures and the return of birds and flowers. The bad weather, which forced us to cancel our January meeting, is behind us.

Hopefully, the third time will be a charm for the program this month. Again, it will be about configuring Windows 95/98/NT with TweakUI. The program was originally scheduled for the cancelled January meeting. We ran into a glitch at the February meeting.

Coming out soon are two major new programs by Microsoft. Internet Explorer 5.0 is being released on March 18. This includes an improved search option, and a new "go" button next to the address bar for people new to the Internet. The new button can be removed, if the user so wishes. The other new release is Microsoft Office 2000, which comes bundled with IE 5.0. Among the included features is the ability to use HTML as the native file format.

Visit TCC Online!  
<http://www.tricountycc.org>

## NEXT MEETING

March 9, 1999 – 7:30pm  
OSU-ATI Skou Hall Room 101

### Program

Configuring Windows  
with TweakUI  
by Brian Powell

Pick From Available  
TCC Library Software

## 1999 Club Officers

### PRESIDENT

Willis Troyer (330) 669-3925

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Brian Powell (330) 828-8365  
[brianmp@neobright.net](mailto:brianmp@neobright.net)

### PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Tom Zimmerman (330) 264-5521  
[zimmerman.4@osu.edu](mailto:zimmerman.4@osu.edu)

### SECRETARY-TREASURER

Pat Johnston (330) 264-8726  
[dolphinpj@aol.com](mailto:dolphinpj@aol.com)

## Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Pat Johnston

Balance as of 2/9/99 –	\$607.56
Income –	\$27.50
Expenditures –	\$0.00
<b>Balance as of 3/9/99 –</b>	<b>\$635.06</b>

## Club Membership Report

Current Membership → **21**

Members Joining in February

None

Members Renewing in February

Joe Hoover (January)

Tim Johnston (January)

Wayne Schmidt (January)

Tom Zimmerman (January)

Kit Wilson (January)

Harold Walters

Goldia Pratt

All new 1999 memberships expire on December 31, 1999. Visit TCC Online at <http://www.tricountycc.org/joinus/> for more info.

## TCC Software Library Is Being Disbanded

After a discussing at the February 9 meeting, the TCC members present at the meeting voted to eliminate the TCC Software Library. The complete library will be available at the March and April meetings for members to pick software they would like from. 1999 club members receive preference. Most software is at least 4-5 years old and runs on DOS. A club member who has requested it will receive what is left.

## Secretary's Report

February 9, 1999 Meeting Minutes

The February 9, 1999 meeting of the Tri-County Computer Club was called to order by President Willis Troyer at 7:30pm.

The meeting was begun was a question and answer session of computer troubles that members had.

Next, whether or not to disband the club library was discussed. Various pros and cons were mentioned, as were suggestions such as purchasing shareware CDs. A vote was taken and it was decided to disband the library. The software will be available for members to choose from at the March and April meetings. After the April meeting, what remains will go to a member who has already submitted a request to receive it.

There also were suggestions on how to boost membership. Some ideas included placing advertisements in local papers for major meetings, and adding new content geared to beginners to meetings. Another suggestion was to hold a meeting for people new to computers, but it was agreed that we would have to have other services so they would continue attending meetings.

The program scheduled for the meeting, "Configuring Windows with TweakUI", had to be postponed due to a compatibility issue with computer.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm. The next meeting will be on March 9 at 7:30pm. The TCC Software Library will be available for members to choose items from.

## Modem Download Speeds

These are the average speeds of downloading a 10mb file using a modem or network connection. These speeds may vary on line quality, Internet traffic, and many other factors. Also, incorrect setting or old drivers can hinder your download speeds. Finally, some ISPs (like AOL) have different access numbers for different speed modems. Be sure you are dialing into the right number.

Most home users use 28.8kps (or 33.6kbps) modems, with most new computers having 56kbps modems. Some new home users are using cable modems. Many businesses use ISDN, with the larger companies having T-1 access.

<b>Modem/Network Speed</b>	<b>Download Time</b>
9600 bps modem	2.3 hours
14.4 kbps modem	1.5 hours
28.8 kbps modem	46 minutes
56 kbps modem	24 minutes
128 kbps ISDN line	10 minutes
1.5 mbps T-1 line	52 seconds
4 mbps cable line	20 seconds
10 mbps cable line	8 seconds

*Source: Cablelabs*

## Web Site of the Month

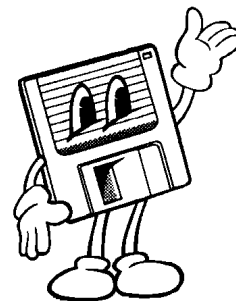
**CNET Download.com**  
**www.download.com**

CNET: Download.com is a great web site to download shareware and freeware computer software at. The software is divided into many categories, and you can search for specific items.

## Volunteers Needed for Beginner's Corner

We are looking for a member or members who are interested in helping run our Beginner's Corner program. It is a section of the monthly meeting that teaches the other members how to perform certain computer tasks, particularly those that are easy to moderately hard to do. You may want to write an article for the Newsbyte, as can be found in this issue. You would then give a demonstration at the club meeting.

If you are interested, please contact Brian Powell via e-mail at [programs@tricitycc.org](mailto:programs@tricitycc.org).



## Enfish Tracker Pro Review

This month, we are featuring a review of the program Enfish Tracker Pro, made by Enfish Technology of Pasadena, California. This review was conducted on an Intel Pentium 200 system with 80mb of RAM running Windows 98.

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I found this program extremely easy to install. I inserted the CD-ROM, and picked the install option from the AutoPlay screen. I used the default settings, with the program taking up about 20mb.

After installation was complete, I visited the Enfish Technology web site at <http://www.enfish.com> and clicked on "Product Updates". I downloaded the update application, which downloaded upgrades to Enfish Tracker Pro 1.1. In all, I downloaded about 13mb of files.

After running the update, I found that Tracker Pro ran much better. Before I had installed the patches, I had unsuccessfully tried to have the program also index my Zip drive. I followed the instructions, but it did not include it. It worked just as the documentation said it would after the update was installed

At the heart of Enfish Tracker Pro is the program that allows you to search through your information. There are several built in trackers, including information pulled from e-mails that Tracker Pro works with (such as Outlook Express). You can easily add new "trackers", or default searches. There are also utilities that allow you to create trackers for people, businesses, and projects. You can limit your searches to files in certain locations and

of certain types, in addition to searching for text. For instance, you can limit your search to WordPerfect documents created after January 1, 1999, located on the E: drive that are larger than 50kb. Enfish Tracker Pro features a very powerful search engine!

In addition to searching local drives or those connected to a local network, you can also search the Internet using AltaVista, Excite, Infoseek, or Yahoo!. You can also set up specific trackers to search the Internet.

I was extremely pleased with the performance of Enfish Tracker Pro, and I highly recommend it to anyone to help cope with information overload.

Enfish Tracker Pro retails for about \$80. It is available at Electronics Boutique (there is one located in New Philadelphia) and various online retailers, and directly from Enfish.

### Enfish Tracker Pro

Enfish Technology, Inc.

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135 N. Los Robles Ave., Suite 650  
Pasadena, California 91101-4500  
<http://www.enfish.com/>

### System Requirements

Pentium system (P-166 recommended)  
16mb RAM (32mb recommended)  
Windows 95/98 or Windows NT 4.0  
VGA display with minimum 256 colors  
Internet connection recommended

Hard disk space —  
20mb for installation  
2-3% of drive for data indexes

## Creating A Boot Disk

Boot disks. They're the salvation of many computer users. However, many users don't have them. In this article we will show you how to create a boot disk on a PC running DOS or Windows 95 or Windows 98. The boot disk **must** be made in the A: drive.

### MS-DOS/Windows 3.x Computers

First off, if your computer has running Windows 3.x, you need to exit by choosing *File – Exit* and go to the MS-DOS prompt.

You need one blank diskette. Any data left on the diskette should be erased. If the diskette is not blank, delete all the files by entering the command *DEL A:\\*.\**. The system files tend to take up a large amount of space, so it helps to have as much space available as possible. Then, enter the command *SYS A: .* This will transfer all the system files to the diskette. If you want to format the diskette, the command *FORMAT A: /S* will also transfer the system files.

Be sure to use your boot disk and test to be sure that it works and if applicable, your CD-ROM drive works. You can do this by following the instructions in the next column.

Once you've tested everything, move the tab on the diskette (or add the sticker) so that the diskette is read only.

### Windows 95/98 Computers

You will need one blank diskette. Insert it in your A: drive. Any data on the diskette should be deleted to be sure you have plenty of space for all of

the system files.

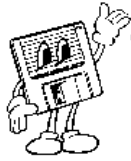
If you want to delete all of your diskette's files, start by going to Windows Explorer (*Start – Programs – Windows Explorer*), click on the A: drive in the left pane, highlight all the files and press the Delete key. Close Windows Explorer. Next, or if your diskette is blank, go to Control Panel (*Start – Settings – Control Panel*) and click on Add/Remove Programs. Pick the Startup Disk tab. Click on the button there, and follow the prompts. You may need your Windows CD or diskettes.

If you are running Windows 98, the diskette may already have the drivers for your CD-ROM drive. If you test the diskette by booting with it and it doesn't find your CD-ROM, or if you are running Windows 95, you will have to follow the directions shown below.

After you have settled any CD-ROM issues, add the sticker or slide the tab to make your diskette read-only.

### CD-ROM Drives

If you need specific CD-ROM drivers, you will need to copy and paste CD-ROM references from the *AUTOEXEC.BAT* and *CONFIG.SYS* files in your C: drive's root directory. Delete references to drives and directories (ex. *C:\DOS\MSCDEX* becomes *MSCDEX*). You will need to locate the drivers on your hard disk and copy them to the boot disk. Be sure to test the boot disk once you're done!



# The Newsbyte

THE TRI-COUNTY COMPUTER CLUB

Enfish Tracker  
Pro Review

Making A Boot  
Disk for Your  
Computer

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Dalton OH 44618-9475

## Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 9  
At 7:30pm

OSU-ATI Skou Hall  
Room 101

Using TweakUI  
by Brian Powell