

# The

# INTERFACE

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The San Gabriel Valley Technology User's Group. The Club for TRSDOS and MS-DOS

## **SAGATUG.ORG is ALIVE, ALIVE!!! Our Club Has a New Cyber Home**

Thanks to long-time club member, John Calhoun, SAGATUG now has a new cyber home! Let's let him tell the story in his own words through the e-mail he sent to the *Interface* on March 1.

Hi all!

Well, guess what?! SAGATUG.ORG is ALIVE, ALIVE!!!

We have a new website host. Best of all, it's FREE!!! I contacted BBB to get info on a host advertising in the Computer User Magazine, but got negative results. I looked for others on the BBB site, and contacted one, asking if they would be willing to host us for free, in exchange for an ad in the newsletter and website. They said YES, so I took the liberty of setting up SAGATUG.ORG at GoDaddy.com, as suggested by Al-

len Jacobs. After almost 3 weeks, it finally went live today, so this is your official notice to take a look. Best of all: NO BANNER ADS! It should work just by typing sagatug.org.

You can also use:

[www.sagatug.org](http://www.sagatug.org)

<http://sagatug.org>

<http://www.sagatug.org>

John Calhoun

SAGATUG Webmaster

The website begins by explaining what the club is all about and then has links to other sites of interest such as:

Don't d/load spam: bounce it back!

Ratings on infomercial products

The place to go for medical info

Online computer vendor evaluations

Claremont Senior Computer Club

Why did the Chicken cross the road?  
(Questions about Chicken video? Ask here)

He also includes links to two chats groups, a link to maps and directions to the club meetings and a way to contact him as webmaster directly.



### ***Memory Jogger...***

**See you at the next SAGATUG meeting this Friday, March 8, 2002 from 7 to 10 p. m. at the Arcadia Park Senior Citizen's Center, 405 S. Santa Anita Ave. (See page four for directions and more upcoming events.)**

# I Spilled the Beans (er, Coffee)

Roy T. Beck

Yep, I did it. Last night I was trying to demonstrate something to a friend, and I had a cup of coffee near the keyboard. You guessed it, I knocked the tall paper cup over, and slosh went the contents into and around the keyboard. Quick like a bunny, I grabbed a handful of Kleenex and began mopping furiously. When I had the desk top reasonably dry, I tipped up the near end of the keyboard, and more coffee ran out of it! Oh, My! I then stood the keyboard on end until coffee stopped running out of it. The computer seemed to continue to function alright, and I blithely assumed I had cleared up the problem. I then shut the machine down and went to do something else. Later last night I came back and restarted it. No apparent problem. Still later, after downloading some e-mail, I began printing the items, one at a time. When I got to the last item, the cursor began jittering up and down on the screen. Now what? It was late, so I decided to give up for the evening.

This morning I tried to restart the machine. Even more squirrely behavior, to the extent I could only shut it down by hitting the power switch. Phooey! I should note at this point I had forgotten about the coffee, and was mentally blaming XP for the problem. Next I attempted to reload XP from the CD ROM. Now when I tried to access the BIOS to tell it to boot from the CD ROM where the XP disk was, I couldn't even get it to respond to DEL.

Finally it dawned upon me that maybe the keyboard was acting up. I still didn't remember the coffee episode, that was ancient history. I then borrowed a keyboard from another machine, and again attempted to

restart. This time XP began to come up, but was complaining about the possible damage due to improper shutdown, etc. When it sorted itself out and decided the drives were OK, Lo and Behold, it ran properly again. All because I had spilled a teensy bit of coffee on my desk top. Bah!

Now that I knew the machine and XP were OK, I completed some business, and finally looked over at the coffeed keyboard which was lurking nearby. I got out my jeweler's screwdriver set, and started dismantling it. About a dozen tiny Phillips screws were holding it together. Upon removing all of these, the bottom plate came off. The keyboard consists of a sandwich of three layers of Mylar (?), two of which are printed circuits, a plastic pad with dimples, and the top of the case with all the keys rattling around in it. Fortunately, they are all retained by little plastic tangs, so I didn't have to worry about spilling them and then trying to get them back in the correct holes.

Examining the mylar sheets, I deduced the mode of operation and the (coffee) problem. The two printed circuit sheets are separated by the plain mylar sheet which in turn has holes punched for each key. There is a printed contact on the bottom and top sheet. When a key is pressed, the top mylar sheet is pressed down through the hole in the second sheet to make contact with the bottom sheet. Talk about a clever, cheap design! No wonder they can sell the things for \$5 and still make a profit!

Examining the mylar sheets, I could see coffee stains in between them, some damp and some dried out. Evidently capillary (SP?) attraction had drawn coffee in between the sandwiched layers of mylar, and the keys effectively were short-circuited. I took all the bits and pieces to the bathroom and proceeded to wash them with warm water. They are now hung about my office to dry.

Several hours lapse at this point for drying. Well, I just reassembled it and found that some keys work and some don't. I will let the thing dry for a day or two, and hope all remaining traces of water evaporate. To learn the conclusion of this odyssey, ask me at the meeting next week. Meanwhile, I will cross my fingers. I wish I had a vacuum chamber, I'm sure that would do the trick



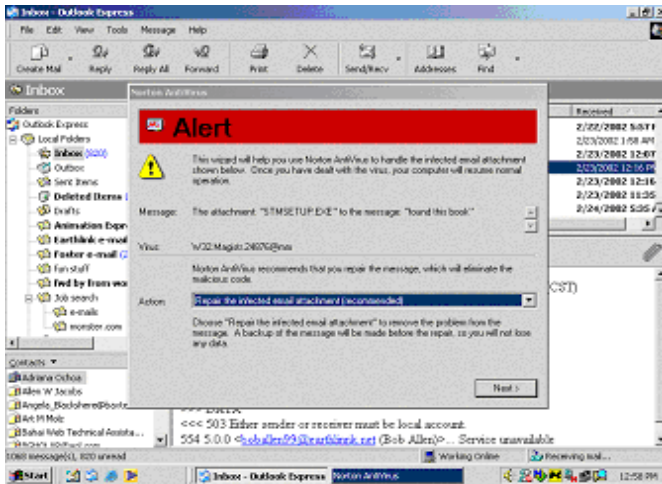
# An Example of Norton at Work

By Bob Allen

I had an experience last weekend that was an indication what happens when Norton Antivirus goes into action.

I was routinely checking my e-mail when suddenly Norton Antivirus graphically woke me up verbally and graphically with a warning box. (see below)

You probably can't read what the warning message is so let me help you read it.



Next to the yellow triangle it says:

This wizard will help you use Norton Antivirus to handle the infected email attachment shown below. Once you have dealt with the virus, your computer will resume normal operation.

Next it says:

Message: The attachment "STMSETUP.EXE" to the message: "found this book"

Virus: W32Magistr.24876@mm

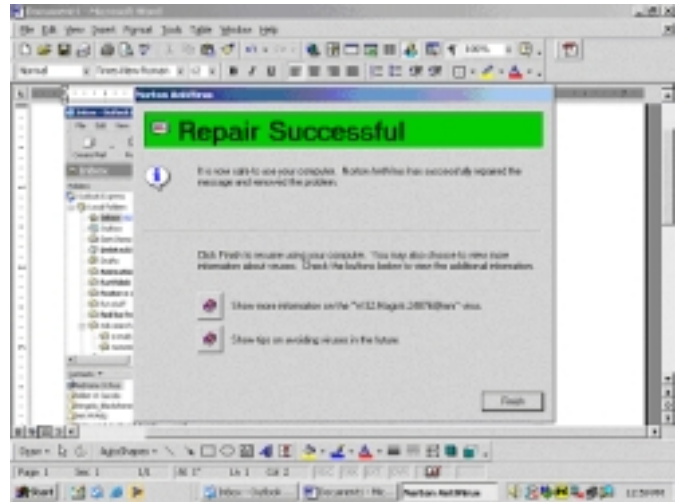
Norton Antivirus recommends that you repair the message, which will eliminate the malicious code.

Action: Repair the infected email attachment (recommended)

Choose "Repair the infected email attachment" to remove the problem from the message. A backup of the message will be made before the repair so you will not lose any data.

Next >

The next message box said:



Next to the "i" icon it says:

It is now safe to use your computer. Norton Antivirus has successfully repaired the message and removed the problem.

Click Finish to resume using your computer. You may also choose to view more information about viruses. Check the buttons below to view the additional information.

The two buttons show two more screens but there is not enough room on this page to show them and the text together so the text follows:

Virus Name: W32Magistr.24876@mm

Likelihood: Common

Length: 24876 bytes

Characteristics:

Memory resident	Triggered event
Size stealth	Encrypting
Full Stealth	Polymorphic

The other button listed a number of precautions to avoid viruses such as updated you antivirus program and other items from the Norton website.

**The second installment of the Win XP Guide to be continued here from the February issue will appear in it's entirety in the next issue as a pull out section which can be used as an easy reference guide.**

**Next SAGATUG Meeting  
Time and Place:**

**7 to 10 p. m., Friday, March 8, 2002  
Arcadia Park Senior Citizen's Center  
405 South Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia.  
(In the park just south of Huntington Drive)  
Meetings are on the second Friday of every month**

**Club Officers and Board Members:**

President	Art Molz, art1sam@juno.com
Treasurer	Bob Day, trebor543yad@earthlink.net
INTERFACE Editor	Bob Allen, boballen99@earthlink.net
Past President	Art Heywood, heywoodm@starquest.net
Members at Large	Roy T. Beck, roytbeck@ix.netcom.com
Disk Librarian	John Phillip, jphillip@pop.primenet.com

**Upcoming Events:**

**Manhattan Beach**, Last Saturday, monthly,  
TRW Swap Meet, Admission Free.

**Santa Ana**, last Sunday of each odd month,  
ACP, 1310 E. Edinger, Admission Free.

**Pomona Fairplex, March 23 & 24, 2002**  
Bldg. 4 at LA Fair grounds, Gate 14, Admission  
\$7, plus parking.

**Buena Park:** The computer fair at Buena Park  
will be moving to the Orange County Fairgrounds.  
As soon as the schedule is announced it will re-  
ported here.

**Pomona Swap Meet** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, monthly,  
at Cal Poly Pomona, 3801 W. Temple Ave., Ad-  
mission Free.

**Santa Monica, March 9 & 10, 2002**, at Civic  
Auditorium, Admission \$5.

**Santa Barbara, March 16, 2002**, at Earl Warren  
Fairgrounds, Admission \$5.

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**Deadline for the Newsletter**

The deadline for the INTERFACE is the last Sat-  
urday of the month.

**Republication:**

Articles may be republished if credit is given to  
the author and the San Gabriel Valley Technology  
User's Group.

**Please visit the new SAGATUG website  
at [www.sagatug.org](http://www.sagatug.org)**

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