

The SAGATUG

INTERFACE

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

Art Molz - 5-10-1930 to 4-12-2003



Art Molz joined SAGATUG when he bought his first TRS-80 computer from Radio Shack in 1977



Memory Jogger...
See you at the next SAGATUG meeting this Friday, June 13, 2003 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.)

By Bob Allen

Most of you know by now, SAGATUG suffered a great loss April 12 when we lost Art Molz. He had been suffering from several health conditions for some time including congestive heart failure. His wife, Barbara, said he passed away peacefully and quite suddenly at home.

The *Interface* didn't learn of it until the May issue was completed so I called Art, who was keeping track of the mailing list and emailing the newsletter to everyone for me.

I called to tell him I had sent it to him so he could send it out and I wondered if it had been sent since I hadn't received mine yet. (My name is on the email list so I can tell when everyone else receives theirs.) Barbara, answered the phone and said sadly she was sorry to tell me that he had passed away. She didn't know how to contact anyone in SAGATUG since everyone's phone number was in Art's computer and she didn't how to get to them. So she had to wait until someone called.

Therefore, his story is appearing in this issue.

When I told her I wanted to write something about him in this issue she said she wanted to share some memories and some of his accomplishments with the SAGATUG members.. I learned that he was even more ingenious than I realized.

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Art Molz

She said he joined the club in 1977 shortly after he bought his first TRS-80 computer as soon as Radio Shack introduced it in their stores.

He joined SAGATUG so he could learn as much as he could about his new computer and the new computer technology in general. That was the beginning of his extensive relationship with SAGATUG and computers.

He tried to talk his employer of 44 years, Now Gould Electronic Engineering, into using the new computer in some of the corporate calculations and other applications. The management could see no future in this computer gadget. However, Art spent almost every free minute learning the computer and how it could be used at work. He showed the corporate expenses on a spread sheet to the management and finally convinced the company to try it out. That was the beginning of that corporation's use of computers. Art told me last year that the company saved a lot of money as a result.

Barbara said Art was truly a genius in mechanics and technology.

She said he invented a solar heater for their swimming pool back in 1964 before that sort of thing was available commercially. It's too bad he didn't patent it.

He was repairing television sets as a part time job for years as a way to earn extra money to get extra things for the household.

After color television became popular and common place he came home one day with a big color set, she remembered. They watched some of their favorite shows in color and then a few days later he took the set apart completely down to the last component. Then he put the whole thing right back together. He told her it was only way he could really figure how it worked.

Barbara said he also used their 1964 Buick as a laboratory for his innovative improvements. The objectives were usually to save money.

Two good examples were the conversion of the V8 engine to four-cylinders. It worked fine, she

said, after it attained full speed it would really move along. It made it over the "Grapevine" a little slower but it made it ok. Art approached General Motors with the idea but he was told that they didn't think the average car owner would share his enthusiasm of doing that to their cars. Especially when big cars and big engines were so popular.

He also designed an air spoiler that would fit on front and top of the Buick. She said it was very effective in cutting down the wind resistance when they pulled their travel trailer down the highways while on family vacations.

He came up with the idea when he saw fishermen driving down the highway with their boats fastened upside down to the top of their cars. It dawned on him that they probably would get better gas mileage because it improved the aerodynamic nature of their cars as they sped down the highway.

Barbara said he had the patience of Jobe as he helped the nine children with various projects over the years,. They raised six boys and three girls. Barbara and Art were married for 39 years. There are now 42 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

SAGATUG members remembered how he would bring an entire desk top computer and accessories to every meeting and would demonstrate whatever software or electronic gadget he had with him.

Art was not feeling well enough to attend the last few meetings, It was not nearly the same without him. Now SAGATUG will never be same without him.



The Google Cookie - Evil?

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When you visit Google, a “cookie” is stored on your hard disk. Contrary to what you may have heard, there is nothing intrinsically evil about cookies. A cookie is just a string of text stored in a file on your computer. It’s not software — so it can’t snoop around in your files or send salacious photos of Nina Tottenberg to everyone in your address book.

Cookies are most often used to make your web surfing more personal and convenient by remembering your preferences from one visit to the next. This can enable a website to serve up customized content based on your preferences, keep track of items in a shopping cart, or remember a login and password. Cookies can only be read back later by the site that created them, so you needn’t worry about Website “B” peeking at the cookie that Website “A” created.

The Google cookie remembers your Google preferences, and contains an identifier that is unique to your computer. Daniel Brandt, founder of a group called Public Information Research thinks this is a Really Bad Thing. Brandt claims that the unique ID in the Google cookie, along with a user’s IP address, could personally associate a specific individual with a stored list of Google searches. Why would Google want to do such a thing? According to Brandt: Matt Cutts, a key Google engineer, used to work for the National Security Agency. Google wants to hire more people with security clearances, so that they can peddle their corporate assets to the spooks in Washington.

So the mere fact that Google hired a former government employee makes them guilty of planning to sell their database of who-searches-for-what to “Washington spooks”? Sorry, but I fail to see the logic there.

Never mind that Google doesn’t know your name or email address. And never mind that there is nothing personally identifying in an IP address. It’s just a number your Internet Service Provider (ISP) assigns to your computer when you go online, so other computers on the Internet can communicate with yours. In most cases, the IP address is different each time you connect. Some service providers assign a static

(non-changing) IP address to customers, but even so, only the ISP knows the identity of the user with that address SNEAK AND PEEK..

So how will Google connect anonymous lists of “Some user with this IP address searched for X, Y and Z” with actual names of the searchers? Okay, they can’t. But Mr. Brandt sees another way for Spooks Incorporated to get the lowdown on you. Authorities can do a “sneak and peek” search of a Google user’s hard drive when he isn’t home, retrieve a Google cookie ID, and then get a keyword search history from you for this ID. Yup, they just break into your house, grab your cookies, and make a quick phone call to the friendly folks at Google...

CIA GUY: “Hi, this is Schmulder. How’s the wife & kids? Hey, I’m inside this guy’s house in Duluth. We think maybe he’s up to something.”

GOOGLE : “Hey, we’re here to help. Just gimme the ID from his cookie and we’ll see if he’s naughty or nice.”

CIA GUY: “Alrighty, let’s see... (tappity tappity click tap) here it is. 3-FOX-952-CHARLIE-7301-BAKER-49”

GOOGLE : Just a minute, here we go. Looks like he’s been searching for a Chicken Lorraine recipe. Might have bought tickets to see Springsteen. Not much else here, sorry.”

Sound likely to you? I’m not saying the things that trouble Mr. Brandt’s sleep are impossible. But they do seem rather improbable. There is one comment on his website that DOES trouble me, though. Brandt says: Google is so important to the web these days, that it probably ought to be a public utility. So putting Google under the control of the government will HELP to keep the spooks away from your search history??? Hmmmm. If you’d like to read more from Daniel Brandt and his concerns about Google, check out his Google Watch website:

<http://www.google-watch.org>
By Patrick Rankin and Douglas Crispin, From the Internet TourBus Subscribe, Signoff, Archives, Free Stuff and More at the Tourbus Website <http://www.TOURBUS.com>

**Next SAGATUG Meeting
Time and Place:**

7 to 10 p.m., Friday, June 13, 2003
**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	John Calhoun, john@sagatug.org
Vice President	Royal Brown
Treasurer	Art Heywood, heywoodm@worldnet.att.net
INTERFACE Editor	Bob Allen, boballen99@earthlink.net
Past President	Art Molz, art1sam@juno.com
Members at Large	Roy T. Beck, roytbeck@ix.netcom.com
Webmaster, SAGATUG.org	John Calhoun, john@sagatug.org

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 Swap Meet 3rd Saturday, monthly, at Cal Poly Pomona, 3801 W. Temple Ave., Admission Free

Pomona Fairplex, July 12 & 13, bldgs. 6 & 7 at LA Fair grounds, Gate 14, Admission \$7, plus parking.

Burbank, June 21 & 22, 2003(Sat. & Sun.), Hilton Burbank Airport & Convention Center, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA 91505. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$5 admission

Costa Mesa, Sept 12 & 13, bldg. 12, 2002, Orange County Fair and Exposition Center, 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., \$5 admission

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Deadline for the Newsletter

The deadline for the INTERFACE is the last Saturday 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 There you will find photos of the meeting site, maps to the meeting, articles from other sources and an archive of the SAGATUG Interface.

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