



The Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts
NEWS JOURNAL



Volume 18, Number 9

"Members Helping Members"

January 2002

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**Next Meeting
 January 12, 2002**

**Grant Township Meeting Hall
 Scheduled Demo
 Presented by
 J.J. Johnson**

FlipAlbum



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The L.C.A.C.E. News Journal is published eleven times annually. Members are encouraged to submit contributions and will be acknowledged in this newsletter.

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The News Journal is produced using a **Dell Dimension 4100 Computer**, Mustek 1200 III EP scanner using **MS Publisher 2000** software. Graphics editing and artwork provided by *Pegasus Enterprises*. Photos taken w/**Olympus D-400 Zoom Photo PC** digital camera. Printing is done on an **Epson Stylus Color 880 Printer**, and Adobe Acrobat for PDF conversion.

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts L.C.A.C.E.

c/o Group Ambassador

409 S. Elmwood Ave.

Waukegan, Illinois 60085-5219

Membership

Membership for L.C.A.C.E is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are \$20.00 per individual/family. Associate membership is only \$10.00 (out of state, unable to attend meetings). Membership includes a one year subscription to the L.C.A.C.E. News Journal and access to all club libraries and functions. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meeting, by request on the club Hotline and are now available on our WEB site at <http://inf-net.com/lcace>.

Meetings

L.C.A.C.E. meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at the Grant Township Meeting Hall, 411 S. Washington Ave., Ingleside, (Fox Lake) Illinois. The meeting location opens at 11:30 a.m., and the formal meeting begins at noon. All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

Advertising

Ad rates per issue: Full page - \$25, Half page - \$15, Quarter page - \$10, Business Card - \$5. Discounts are available on advance purchase of multiple issues. Please send camera-ready copy and payment to the club address by the 21st of the month preceding publication. For more information on ad pricing, please call our Hotline. Ads are **FREE** to all paid members.

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ARTICLE DEADLINE

The deadline for all articles being submitted for the News Journal is the 20th of each month. Send your articles via e-mail to Mike McEnery (mmcenery@core.com), Vic Falkner at (rvf@se-iowa.net) or the Club's e-mail at (lcace@inf-net.com)

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e-mail: lcace@inf-net.com

Web Site: www.inf-net.com/lcace and <http://lcace.tripod.com>



On December 11th, Corky Bell, our past President and now current Web Master and Program Coordinator, presented a \$50 donation from L.C.A.C.E. to the Annual Grant Township Christmas Food Drive. Pictured is Corky presenting the check to the Grant Township Supervisor, Mr. Gordon "Gordie" Kiesgen, as

FROM THE EDITOR

Well another year has passed and L.C.A.C.E. is well. I just wanted to thank the people who have given us demos over the past year and to all who have made the club what it is "**PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE**"

A special "THANK YOU" to J.J. for making the Christmas party another fun-filled event. Great job on the ham, and his choice of "Winter White Chocolate" and "Pralines and Cream" ice cream were a hit as always. J.J. did another super job with the door prizes. His hard work and dedication to the club are truly appreciated.

The PC Clinic is being re-scheduled for warmer weather. For some reason PC's don't like the cold and ice. J.J. will be presenting "FlipAlbum."

Do you have any good (or bad) reviews comments or ideas relating to computers? Let me know so we can share them with the Club. You might help someone else out.

other Grant Township Board Members observe the presentation. For those of you who are not aware of our relationship, Grant Township provides the group with a meeting hall each month, except December when the Hall is being used for the Food Drive setup. L.C.A.C.E. is proud to be a contributor to this very worthwhile project and thanks Grant Township for their support.

The Annual Christmas Food Drive is very beneficial to the residents of Grant Township, as it provides food and certain necessary household supplies to people of the Township who have encountered job losses, disasters such as fire or flooding, monetary losses due to accident and/or injury and to individuals who just cannot meet the daily needs due to situations they have been placed. Mr. Kiesgen has sent a **THANK YOU** to the group from Grant Township for the donation.



April is an important month – Elections. Remember your vote is important. Look what it did for Al.

We can't think of any thing else at this time so..... **Happy New Year**

M.j.





PRODUCT REVIEW:

Lexmark's X83 offers high-end functionality

By Sammy D. Katz

Pegasus Staff Writer

A Color Printer with Something Extra

So when my office copier stopped working a few months ago, I was in dyer need of a replacement. I had recently seen an ad for the new Lexmark X83 All-In-One, and the idea of gaining office space by replacing my scanner and printer with an one multi-function device, I was off to my nearest dealer.

With color ink-jet printer prices having fallen from bargain to commodity to free-with-PC-purchase, why would you pay \$199 for an ink-jet today? To get a free flatbed color scanner and copier with purchase -- the deal [Lexmark International](#) offers with its new X83. The multifunction unit isn't the fastest or flashiest at any of its three duties, but its combo design saves desk space, it's simple enough for school kids to operate, and its output looks good enough for a small business. The 15-pound X83 is naturally bulkier than most printers (an 18.5 by 21.5-inch footprint by 12.5 inches tall), but more compact than older multi-functions like HP's Office Jet G series. It uses a USB cable (not included) to connect with Windows 98/Me/2000 PCs -- Mac compatibility is planned for later this year; no parallel or network port is available. Bundled software includes MGI's PhotoSuite 8.1 image editor, Abbyy Sprint 4.0 optical character recognition (OCR), and Black Ice Fax programs as well as Lexmark's talking Windows driver ("Printing started! Printing complete! Please load more paper!").

A near-vertical, 100-sheet paper tray is at the rear, permitting a nearly straight-through path (playground-slide path?) to the 50-sheet catch tray at the front. A hinged lid lifts up (or, for bulky books, comes off) to reveal the 8.5 by 11.5-inch scanner/copier glass.

A control panel at the right -- whose LCD display letters were a bit thin and faint for our aging eyes -- offers controls for the X83's walk-up, no-PC-required copying feature, including number of copies (1-99), lighter/

darker contrast, reduce/enlarge (25-400 percent), paper type, and color or black copying, as well as quick, normal, and photo speed settings. "Scan To" and "Scan" buttons let you specify a target (a PC file, an application, e-mail attachment, or your fax modem) and then initiate a scan.

The included black and color ink cartridges snap into place in seconds, but the rest of the setup procedure could be smoother. The software installation opened and left no fewer than eight Explorer windows on our Win 98 desktop; on our first try, we clicked OK a bit too impatiently (not realizing one dialog box had temporarily appeared over another) and got a blue screen of death.

As I've experienced with other USB (Usually Stumbles and Balks) peripherals, the system needed a reboot to work properly ("Problem communicating with the printer!" intoned Mr. Lexmark). Even with these glitches, however, I was up and running within 20 minutes, although Lexmark provides only a skimpy printed pamphlet and refers users to an Adobe Acrobat manual on CD-ROM.

As a printer, the X83 is smooth and not too noisy, though it's not the quietest ink-jet I've owned tested. Between the pop-up printer status panel (resident in the Windows system tray, alongside the scanner/copier panel) and applications' printer dialogs, it's easy to specify paper type (plain, coated, photo, envelope, transparency, or iron-on transfer); one of four print speed/resolution settings (draft 600 by 300 dpi, normal 600 by 600 dpi, high-resolution 1,200 by 1,200 dpi, maximum 2,400 by 1,200 dpi); or handy options like multiple-sheets-per-page handout or poster printing.

A near-vertical, 100-sheet paper tray is at the rear, permitting a nearly straight-through path (playground-slide path?) to the 50-sheet catch tray at the front. A hinged lid lifts up (or, for bulky books, comes off) to reveal the 8.5 by 11.5-inch scanner/copier glass.

A control panel at the right -- whose LCD display letters were a bit thin and faint for our aging eyes -- offers controls for the X83's walk-up, no-PC-required copying feature, including number of copies (1-99), lighter/darker contrast, reduce/enlarge (25-400 percent), paper type, and color or black copying, as well as quick, normal, and photo speed settings. "Scan To" and "Scan" buttons let you specify a target (a PC file, an application, e-mail attachment, or your fax modem) and then initiate a scan.

It's also easy to keep an eye on ink levels, which -- as with virtually all ink-jets -- tend to sink more quickly than you'd like. Lexmark rates its \$31 black and \$38 color replacement cartridges at 600 and 275 pages respectively (and notes that's at 600 by 600 dpi, while some competi-

Continued From Page 4

tors use lower resolutions), but I was a bit dismayed to see my color gauge one-third empty after fewer than 80 page manuals and Acrobat pages and various-size photos in my first week. The unit's rated duty cycle is 3,000 pages per month.

Pros:

- Relatively compact and remarkably low-priced for a flatbed printer/scanner/copier
- High-quality ink-jet printing with extras like hand-out/poster/clone-image output
- Convenient walk-up (PC-free) copying and top-panel controls

Cons:

- Scanning, copying functions play second fiddle to printing
- Fine for family jobs, but too slow for a busy business
- Thin documentation hampers setup; some stumbles between control buttons and software control panels

The retail price of the X83 is \$199 at most dealer, but with a little research, you may be able to find it as low as \$149. Contact Lexmark @ www.lexmark.com

2002 MEETING DATES

February 9th.....	Microsoft Office XP
March 9th.....	Build Your Own Computer III
April 13th.....	Roundtable Q&A, Elections
May 11th.....	Flight Simulator 2002
June 8th.....	PC Clinic
July 20th.....	No Meeting
August 10th	Photo Manipulation
September 14th.....	Networking II
October 12th.....	Burn Your Own MP3's
November 9th.....	Video Editing



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All L.C.A.C.E. Members who present their membership card will receive a \$1 discount.

Members



The following is a listing of available LCACE members' E-Mail addresses:

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As much as we try, we do make errors. Please advise us if there is a mistake in your E-Mail address or if it is not included in this listing. Send E-Mail to lcace@inf-net.com with the additions and/or corrections. Thank you. This listing last updated - November 3, 2001

Members Web Sites

Corky Bell

<http://www.users.foxvalley.net/~corky>

Phil Grimm

<http://www.public.surf.free.com/pgrimm>

J.J.

<http://www.picturetrail/lcace>

TIME TO RENEW

Renewals will be posted on our WEB site which is:
<http://www.inf-net.com/lcace>

If it is time for you to renew your membership, please fill out a new Application and a Member's Profile Sheet. These forms can be obtained at the meetings or downloaded from our WEB site.

If you do not want your name published in the *News Journal* for any reason, please e-mail me and I will respect your wishes.

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- ◆ LCACE E-mail addresses
- ◆ LCACE information
- ◆ LCACE history and pictures
- ◆ LCACE meeting, location and map
- ◆ LCACE member's e-mail addresses
- ◆ LCACE online membership application

NEXT MEETING

January 12, 2002

Grant Township Meeting Hall
411 S. Washington Avenue
Ingleside, (Fox Lake) Illinois
11:30—2:00pm

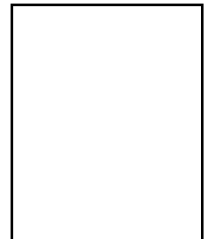
This month:

FlipAlbum

Have your questions ready.

L.C.A.C.E

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts
409 Elmwood Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087-5219



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