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WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER EDITION OF FAMILY COMPUTER NEWS
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If you have received this newsletter by mistake or do not wish to receive it in the future, then we apologize. Please email us with details at support@familycomputerusa.com

FIGHT BACK AGAINST EMAIL VIRUSES

It seems like a majority of recent computer viruses are being spread through email. If you use Outlook Express for your email reader, then here is a tip to help keep you from spreading an email virus if you should catch one.

Many email viruses work by sending a fake email message, with a virus attached, to everyone in your Outlook Express address book. To the recipient, it looks like they are getting a new email message from you, someone they know. By creating a new contact in your email address book with no email address and placing it first in your list you can prevent virus spreading.

To do this in Outlook Express, go to Tools menu, and choose Address Book. Once the Address Book is open, click the New pull-down toolbar item, and then click New Contact.... In the field that says First, type in !GOTCHA and then click OK. (You can use any word you want, as long as you start with the exclamation point to insure that this new contact is sorted alphabetically to the first spot in the list.)

This contact will now show up as your first contact in the Address Book. If a virus attempts to do a "send all" on your contact list, you see an error message that says:

"The Message could not be sent. One or more recipients do not have an e-mail address. Please check your Address Book and make sure all the recipients have a valid e-mail address."

If you click on OK, the offending infected message will not have been sent to anyone. The infected message will then be stored in either your "Drafts" or "Outbox" folder. You may delete the offending message from that location by highlighting the message, hold down the Shift key and press Delete, and then confirm. This way the virus is not spread and you have been alerted so that you can apply whatever remedy the situation calls for.

If we can get enough folks to do this, it might slow down the next new virus scourge to strike the Net via this method.

KILL THOSE COMMERCIALS

Remember the foam rubber bricks you could throw at the TV when particularly annoying commercials would come on? Nowadays the Internet is full of those pesky pop-up ads that are distracting and slow down your browsing. To fight back, consider installing a pop-up ad eliminator. Here are links to two different solutions that you can download:

POP-NOT blocks pop-up ads and is a shareware program that you can try-before-you-buy. Registration, should you decide to keep it, is only \$12.00
PopNot: <http://www.hdsoft.com/popnot/>

ADSUBTRACT blocks banner advertisements. The SE (Standard Edition) is free. The PRO version will also block pop-up ads and has many additional security features, and it costs \$29.95
AdSubtract: <http://www.adsubtract.com/>

INTEL DROPS PRICES ON PROCESSORS

If you've been waiting for the prices to drop, then now is the time to get that new Pentium 4 system. We are offering three different flavors of the P4:

P4-1500 Our slowest! Pentium 4 system (1.5GHz), with 256MB RAM, a 40GB hard drive, 32MB video card, 52X CD-ROM, plus the usual accessories and software
\$1479.00

P4-1700 Our mid-range Pentium 4 system (1.7GHz), with the same RAM, hard drive, video and accessories, but with a CD Burner instead of CD-ROM
\$1659.00

P4-2000 The top-speed newest Pentium 4 (2.0GHz), with 512MB RAM, 80GB hard drive, 64MB video card, CD Burner, and the usual accessories and software
\$2049.00

To put the speed of these processors into perspective, if you have a 200MHz Pentium system (about 4-5 years old), the P4-2000 is 10 times faster at probably 2/3 the price!!

Keep dry during the summer storms and thanks for reading. Now you're one of the Family!

Eric Von Leue
Service Manager
service@familycomputerusa.com

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www.familycomputerusa.com
941-435-9210