



## Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2006

Time: 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM - Networking  
6:30 PM to 9:00 PM - Main Meeting

Location: Microsoft Rocky Mountain Office  
4643 South Ulster Street Suite 700  
Denver, CO 80237

Directions: [Microsoft Offices](#)  
DAAUG Website: [www.DAAUG.org](http://www.DAAUG.org)

## This Month's Presentation

### “Sco's Miscellaneous Code Samples - Part 3”

Presenter: **M.L. "Sco" Scofield**

The last time that Sco showed some of his code snippets was December, 2004. This has always been a popular topic. As in the past, audience interest will dictate the direction of the presentation.

Our presenter, Sco Scofield, is a Microsoft Access trainer and consultant in Denver, Colorado. He is an active member and President of our group. Sco is also a frequent speaker at our group. He has been using Access since version 1.0. Sco spends a large amount of his time as an instructor training all levels of Access from the introductory level all the way through advanced programming. When he is not training or consulting, Sco spends time helping other Access users in the Access newsgroups on the Internet. He is a "Microsoft Certified Solution Developer," a "Microsoft Certified Professional," and is A+ certified. Sco was awarded the prestigious "Microsoft MVP" award from 10/1/2001 through 10/31/2005 in recognition of the time he spends helping Access users.

See Sco's company profile on our DAAUG web site Consultants list at [www.daaug.org/consultants.asp](http://www.daaug.org/consultants.asp) and on his web site at [www.ScoBiz.com](http://www.ScoBiz.com).

## Product Demonstration

## “MZ Tools”

Looking at the early responses from our web survey, most of the people in our group describe themselves as either developers or consultants. With that in mind, I would guess that most of you spend a far bit of your time writing VBA code for your company or clients. So for this month's mini product review we will take a look at my all-time favorite VBA utility... MZ-Tools.

## Next Month

To be announced at a later date.

## A Message from the Prez

### “More Questions than Answers”

Hello Members and Friends,

My first meeting is now behind us. Do you like the new meeting format? Please let me know.

Thank you to those of you that have taken the time to fill out the survey already. If you haven't done so, please take the three to five minutes to fill it out. Despite my title this month, your answers are a big help. The link is <http://express.perseus.com/perseus/surveys/1734848031/5ae3aa8a.htm>.

So, what's with my title? Well, to meet our goal of keeping the survey short and sweet, we made the survey short and sweet. ☺ After looking over the replies, it became clear that there were a few questions that we didn't ask. I hate to tell you this, but we are going to put together another survey later this month to help clarify some of your responses from this survey. Fret not. We plan to keep the next survey short and sweet! ☺

One thing that you made painfully clear is that you do not like the officer introductions at the beginning of the meeting. With the exception of introducing myself ☺ and pointing out Dean Haze so that people can give him money, the officer introductions are history!

Something that came through loud and clear is that you are apparently tired of my presentations. ☹ As this was indicated by typed statements in the fill-in-the-blank boxes and not just a yes/no check off, I have to believe you are serious. So, this month will be my last presentation this year. It's not like I won't be in front of the group. After all, you will still have to listen to me MCing the meetings. What are we going to do for presenters? First, with the new format, we only need 11 presenters instead of 22. Second, it seems that most of you like our networking and kibitzing time. If we continue to have trouble getting presenters, we will either turn the entire meeting into a networking session or we will just cancel the meeting. Although this will be one of the questions on the next survey, feel free to email me your thoughts now.

A lingering question that we didn't ask correctly on the survey was whether you want food at every meeting. What we asked was if you would be willing to have your dues increased to support having food. Slightly more than half of the replies so far indicate that you would. The problem is that this doesn't really tell us if you want to have food or not. If it turns out that you do, we will have to make some changes. Providing the food every month is just too much for only one person to handle. If we are going to commit to having food, we need a small group of people that will coordinate and assure that

we will have food every month without exception. I personally think that being inconsistent is not fair to the group. People don't know whether they need to stop and eat before the meeting or not. As was demonstrated at the election in January, we continue to have trouble getting people to fill our board positions. Are there really three or four of you out there willing to step up to this responsibility? If we don't get the necessary volunteers, wanting food will be a moot point.

Speaking of empty board positions, we still have a need for a webmaster. As I mentioned last month, this is not a difficult position. Are there any takers?

On a brighter note, more kudos go to our new Lab Director, Jim Pilcher. It looks like Jim has come up with a winning formula. There were four seekers and four gurus at the last lab. I guess that you like the "Caribou Coffee" atmosphere. Keep up the good work Jim.

Something that a lot of you liked last month was Kevin's product review. Because this segment was so well received, Kevin will be doing another product review this month. If you have an Access product or an Access add-on that you'd like to take between 15 and 20 minutes to tell the group about, please let Kevin Bell know.

One last thing from the survey that I'll bring up now concerns the 5 PM to 6 PM time slot just before the meeting.

- 68% of you would like to start the networking time at 5:30 and then start the meeting at 6.
- 58% of you would like to see the SQL SIG reinstated from 5 to 6.
- 39% of you would like to see the lab run from 5 to 6.

Here are my thoughts:

- The Visual Studio group has been networking from 5:30 to 6 and starting their meetings at 6 quite successfully for several years. I'm OK with this if the group is in favor of it.
- Jim's biggest problem with the SQL SIG was the same one that we have for the main meeting, not enough presenters. Unless a lot of speakers are going to step forward to cover these meetings, I am against this idea.
- The problem I see with having the lab before the meeting is the limited amount of time available. People seem to stay at the lab anywhere from 1 ½ to 3 hours. If we have the lab before the meeting, it would need to be cut off at exactly 1 hour. I think this would defeat the lab's goal of trying to solve people's problems.

For those of you that are interested, we will be publishing the results of the survey later this month before we send out the next one.

Remember, this is "your" group. We really do want to hear from you.

**Your President,**

**M.L. "Sco" Scofield**

## **Welcome New, Renewing, and Returning Members**

Nick Brindisi  
Eric Blommel

Robert Lommas  
George Mosteller  
Martin Bolt  
Barb Hagerman  
Alan Ruff  
Mike Nindorf  
Greg Holle  
Lindsay Wert

## Last Month's Giveaway Winners

Nick Brindisi - Scofield Business Services Gift Certificate  
Eric Lommatch - \$20 Soft Pro Certificate  
Robert Lommas - 256 USB Jump Drive  
Connie Williams - LCD Night Light  
Bruce Benninghoff - MS Access 2002 Desktop Developers Handbook  
Mark Evans - MS Data Warehouse Toolkit  
George Mosteller - SQL Server 2005 Express Edition Starter Kit  
Barb Hagerman - MS Access 2003 VBA  
Sean Hauptmon - Programming MS Office Access 2003  
Linda Huff - MS SQL Server 2000 Reporting Services Step By Step  
Eril Blommel - MS Office Access 2003 Step By Step

## Access Tip of the Month

### “Controlling a Report's Printer Object”

I had a really tricky problem. One of my clients has a very expensive and highly specialized envelope printer that I must make work with Access. That's no problem except that the hardware manufacturer makes it very difficult to obtain and install printer drivers. That makes life difficult for any developer (Me!) who writes code on a computer that is not physically attached to the printer. I found a solution in Microsoft Access 2003 that is both elegant and 100% effective.

I use one of my favorite features of VBA—the compiler directive, along with the ability that Access gives me to manipulate at run time the Printer object of every report in a database. Below you will find a procedure that I wrote that allows me to determine whether or not the code is in production or development. Based upon that, I specify a particular printer without regard to special printer drivers or expensive hardware. Then I print the report without worries. Development is simplified and headaches are minimized.

Here is the code. Note that error handling has been omitted for the sake of clarity. Always include error handling in your code.

```
Public Function PrintEnvelope() As Boolean

    'Open the report in preview mode while hidden to give the programmer
    'time to set the printer properties before going to the printer

    DoCmd.OpenReport "rptEnvelope", acViewPreview, , , acHidden
```

```

With Reports("rptEnvelope")

    #If Dev = 1 Then

        'During software development...

        .Printer = Application.Printers("PowerPDF Printer")

        .Printer.PaperSize = acPRPSEnv10

        .Printer.PaperBin = acPRBNAuto

        .Printer.Orientation = acPRORLandscape

    #Else

        'In production mode...

        .Printer = Application.Printers("Pitney Bowes W650")

        .Printer.PaperSize = acPRPSEnv10

        .Printer.PaperBin = acPRBNAuto

        .Printer.Orientation = acPRORPortrait

    #End If

    .Printer.TopMargin = 2 * 1440

    .Printer.BottomMargin = 0.5 * 1440

    .Printer.LeftMargin = 4 * 1440

    .Printer.RightMargin = 0.5 * 1440

End With

'This statement sends the report to the printer, but does not close it.
'Note that this works because the report is already open, so the
'DoCmd.OpenReport merely uses the already opened report along with the
'temporary changes we've made to the report's printer object.
DoCmd.OpenReport "rptEnvelope", acViewNormal, , , acWindowNormal

'Close the report or the preview mode will remain on the screen
DoCmd.Close acReport, "rptEnvelope", acSavePrompt

End Function

```

So there you have it. I simplify my development cycle by circumventing the need for special printer drivers and an expensive printer. On the other hand, I did need to determine the proper parameters for my client's expensive printer by working through Windows Terminal Services through a remote connection to my client's server. That's a small price to pay for not having to install obscure drivers on my own hardware.

**Your Lab Director,**

**Jim Pilcher**

Do you have a favorite Access tip you'd like to share with others? Send it to the newsletter editor at [Communications@DAAUG.org](mailto:Communications@DAAUG.org).

## Denver Visual Studio User Group

As a service to our sister group...

Date: Monday, March 27, 2006

Time: 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Location: Microsoft Rocky Mountain Office

### **“ASP.NET 2.0 Jumpstart for 1.1 Developers”**

Presenter: Tom Wisnowski

ASP.NET 2.0 brings many new features to the table that can make you a more productive developer. However; things like a new IDE, new compilation models, and new language features means a new learning curve for experienced ASP.NET developers. Learn what you need to know now about ASP.NET 2.0 and really hit the ground running!

## Laptop Lab Report

### **“You Should Have Been There”**

Any of you folks that missed the lab last month missed a great gathering. We all met at Caribou Coffee at 5198 South Broadway. I passed out complimentary coffee cards that the manager, TJ, donated to DAAUG. I set out two boxes of books, free for the taking. We solved a particularly sticky problem with a golfer's tournament database. And in the end, most of us were watching TV! Come visit us on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 P.M. Pick up a free book, enjoy a little coffee with a scone, and enjoy using Microsoft Access. It's worth the trip.

**Your Lab Director,**

**Jim Pilcher**

## Book Donations

### **“Wiley/Sybex/Wrox Become Major Supporters of DAAUG”**

The Denver Area Access Users Group would like to thank Wiler/Sybex/Wrox for their generous donation of several hundred dollars worth of high-quality books to our group. We greatly appreciate their help in making DAAUG a great user group. Please consider books published by Wiley, Sybex and Wrox the next time you are in the book store.



## DAAUG Library

### “Want to Use the DAAUG Library but You Don’t Know How?”

The Denver Area Access Users Group has a library of learning materials and you are welcome to you it, for free, as part of your DAAUG membership. If you know of a specific learning resource that would benefit you but it’s not in the Library, you may also make a request to get that item and we will see what we can do to get it for you.

To request an item for check-out from our Library, perform the following steps:

- 1) Go to [www.daaug.org](http://www.daaug.org).
- 2) Click on the Library link.
- 3) Browse through the list of items in our library. If you want to know more about a particular item, click on the Info link next to the item. The item description will open in a separate browser window.
- 4) When you find the item you want, make note of the title, author and deposit amount. Then, click the Librarian’s hyperlink that’s just above the item list. This will open a new email where you may complete your request to our Librarian, [Mark Evans](#). Please enter "DAAUG Library Request:" in the subject line plus your name, the item title and the item's author in the email body.
- 5) Mark will bring your requested item to the next main meeting for you to check-out. Please bring a check for the deposit amount made payable to DAAUG. Your check will be held per the rules outlined at the top of the Library Web page.

## Member to Member

Do you have something that might be of interest to other DAAUG members? Have a service? Something to sell? Looking for something? Then this new section is for you. And no, it doesn’t need to be computer or Access related.

This section will be on a space available basis. (This is email! :-) Postings will be limited to members only. Please send your message as plain or RTF text in the body of an email. Messages with attachments will be deleted without being read. Also, include a contact phone number in case of problems. The editor reserves the right to edit or refuse any message.

Send your listings to [Communications@daaug.org](mailto:Communications@daaug.org) with "Member to Member" in the subject line.

### *Access classes by M.L. "Sco" Scofield*

Check out our online schedule at <http://www.scobiz.com/ClassSchedule.asp>. We offer classes at all levels from beginning to advanced. To find the right class for you, check out our web site, call Sco at 303-757-7768, or send an email to [Training@ScoBiz.com](mailto:Training@ScoBiz.com).

Be sure to ask for the special DAAUG member discount.

### *Database Consulting from Linx Consulting, Inc.*

[Linx Consulting, Inc.](http://www.linxco-inc.com) offers database application development for small to medium sized organizations. For more information on how we may serve you, please visit our Website at [www.linxco-inc.com](http://www.linxco-inc.com). The Website has been redesigned with a new, consistent look and new "Of Interest" items have been added. The entire site contains examples of what we can do for your Website. Please take a look.

## Colorado Event Calendar Website

To find user group meetings and other programmer related events in the Denver metro area and throughout Colorado, be sure to check out [www.MSColoradoEvents.com](http://www.MSColoradoEvents.com).

If you know of a user group that is not posting their meetings, please let them know about [www.MSColoradoEvents.com](http://www.MSColoradoEvents.com) and have them contact the administrator at [administrator@mscoloradoevents.com](mailto:administrator@mscoloradoevents.com).

## A Message from the Editor

### **“Wanted – New DAAUG Logo”**

Your DAAUG Board of Directors is considering a new or additional logo for the Denver Area Access Users Group. The current logo is the one you saw at the top of this newsletter. We like this logo but it looks best as a header. We would like a logo that anyone would recognize at any size or any location in a document. A suggestion that I came up with was a dog (get it, DAAUG), similar to the one that walks across the screen on my Website at [www.linx-co.com](http://www.linx-co.com). However, the logo doesn't have to be a dog or any animal. It should be easy to fit into a small rectangle and it should be easily resized. If you have a good idea for a new DAAUG logo and/or if you are an artistic person who would like to help your group, please reply with an email to [communications@daaug.org](mailto:communications@daaug.org) or talk to Patrick Headley or another board member at the next meeting.

### **“Presentations and Presenters”**

We are always looking for speakers and topic ideas for our monthly meetings. To volunteer to be a speaker or to suggest a topic, see our Vice President, Kevin Bell ([vicepresident@daaug.org](mailto:vicepresident@daaug.org)) or our President, Sco Scofield ([president@daaug.org](mailto:president@daaug.org)). You may also email one of them with "DAAUG Speaker" or "DAAUG Topic" in the subject line.

We are always looking for articles for our monthly newsletter. Send your articles to [Communications@daaug.org](mailto:Communications@daaug.org) with "DAAUG Article" in the subject line.

As always, for the latest DAAUG news, visit our web site at [www.DAAUG.org](http://www.DAAUG.org).

This newsletter is being sent to everyone on the DAAUG mailing list, including members, past members, and people that have been associated with the group. If you are a non-member and wish to be removed from our list, please send an email to [Communications@daaug.org](mailto:Communications@daaug.org) with "REMOVE" in the subject line.