



Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 20th, 2008

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

Location: **Microsoft USA - Rocky Mountain District**
7595 Technology Way
Suite 400 (4th Floor)
Denver, CO 80237
([driving directions](#))

DAAUG Website: www.DAAUG.org

This Month's Presentation

There will be two presentations this month

Presentation One **“Add-ins and Your Mama”**

Presenter: Aaron Kogan

If “necessity is the mother of invention,” then Microsoft Access add-ins should be getting a Mother’s Day card this year. Add-ins allow easy access to tools, created by you or someone else, in virtually all of your database projects. Aaron will be showing some Access add-ins that he created. (And maybe a couple that he stole.)

Our first presenter, Aaron Kogan, is the owner of SLM Data LLC. He has been developing databases for the National Park Service, The Nature Conservancy, The Maui Invasive Species Committee and many other companies since 2000. Aaron also dabbles in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) when he has a free moment. Aaron can be contacted at Aaron@SLMData.com or check out SLM Data LLC’s website at www.SLMData.com.

Presentation Two

Title: Another Real World Application

Presenter: M.L. "Sco" Scofield

Because the group likes seeing other member's applications, Sco will be demonstrating another one of his production Access applications. After an introduction to the application and a walkthrough of how it works, Sco will show some of the not-so-everyday code used in this application.

Our second presenter, M.L. "Sco" Scofield, is a Microsoft Access trainer and consultant in Denver, Colorado. He is an active member and past 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. 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 that he has spent helping Access users in the Access newsgroups on the Internet. See Sco's company profile on our DAAUG web site Consultants list at www.daaug.org/consultants.asp and on his web site at www.ScoBiz.com. Contact Sco at Sco@ScoBiz.com.

Short Demonstration

None. There will be two medium length presentations this month.

Next Month's Topic (April 17th, 2008)

What is SQL Server and What is new in SQL 2008

Presenter: Kevin Cox, Microsoft - Principle Program Manager, SQL Server Product Group Customer Advisory Team

If **you** are interested in presenting to the group, please contact Mark Trevithick at vicepresident@daaug.org.

From the Prez

"Extend Your Database Horizons"

Do you use SQL Server? I do. I'm not a SQL administrator, merely a designer and developer. Although Microsoft Access comprises as much as 95% of my work, I have several clients who have put in place hybrid applications, using Access as the front end and SQL Server, rather than Jet, as the back end. Working with SQL Server can be both rewarding and frustrating. Done properly, SQL Server applications are potentially far more flexible and much faster than Access applications. The big difference though is that SQL Server is inherently a multi-user database manager, unlike Jet. Any database application that receives heavy use from many users is a very good candidate for an Access to SQL Server upgrade. I know we are an Access user group, but being aware of extended and alternative solutions never hurts any developer.

I will not see you this month. I have an opportunity to spend 18 days in south Florida. No sane database developer would turn down that opportunity, would he? Look for me again in April.

Your President,

Jim Pilcher
DataOne, Inc.
(720) 301-0479

New and Returning Members

The Denver Area Access Users Group gives thanks to our new and renewing members for supporting our user group.

Phil Ferraro
M.L. "Sco" Scofield

Access/VBA Tip of the Month

Compact a remote database in VBA code

Many Access developers use a separate Access MDB file to hold temporary information during processing. The practice is efficient because it largely eliminates the problem of bloating your front-end MDB. Constant deletes and inserts into tables can cause database size to soar, sometimes severely impacting performance. Placing temporary information in a second external MDB allows you, the developer, many more options for data maintenance and performance tuning.

I have many databases where the temporary tables are stored as a separate MDB in the same folder as the front end. They are accessed as linked tables. Each time the user opens the front end, my startup process runs this bit of code:

```

Private Sub CompactLocalTables()
    Dim strLocal As String
    Dim strTmp As String

    strLocal = CurrentProject.Path & "\MyDbLocal.mdb"
    strTmp = CurrentProject.Path & "\MyDbTemp.mdb"

    DBEngine.CompactDatabase strLocal, strTmp

    Kill strLocal
    Name strTmp As strLocal

End Sub

```

Note what happens. In the simplest form of this kind of process, I assume that there is a database by a specific name in the same folder as the front end. The DBEngine compact process creates a copy of the database. It does **not** replace it. You have to do that. Once the compacted copy is created, the code deletes the old copy and renames the new one to the old name. That way the linked tables continue to work properly. Be warned: the code must have exclusive access to the temporary database or the process will throw an error. This is usually not a problem with this type of linked database.

My sample code runs very quickly in most cases unless you have a temporary database with lots of undeleted residual data. I'm talking many tens or hundreds of megabytes here. Running this procedure keeps the temporary database well-conditioned. If you've done the right thing and set up your temporary tables with primary keys and other indexes, it also keeps those items refreshed. If you find that a quickly bloating database causes problems during the execution of your front end, you can also give the user a menu option for "Database Maintenance" or silently run the procedure at strategic points in your code.

Next month I'll demonstrate how to make the local database as tiny as possible. I'll offer code that will automatically clear out all temporary data and then compact the tables. That can leave you with a clean temporary database of only a few hundred KB in size every time your user starts your application.

Until next time, happy computing!

Your President, 2000-2005, 2008

Jim Pilcher

DataOne, Inc.

(720) 301-0479

Last Month's Prize Winners

\$20 Soft Pro Certificate - David Nealey
Wiley Book - Kevin Bell
Power Strip - Dale Tweden
Optical Mouse - George Mosteller
Light & Laser - Phil Ferraro

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.

If you know of a user group that is not posting their meetings, please let them know about www.MSColoradoEvents.com and have them contact the administrator at administrator@mscoloradoevents.com.

Denver Visual Studio User Group

As a service to our sister group...

Monday, March 24th, 2008 (4th Monday each month)
Networking & Refreshments 5:30 p.m., Meeting 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Location: Microsoft, Desert Mountain (Denver)

Topic to be announced. Please visit the Denver Visual Studio User Group Website at the link below to see the topic when it's posted.

For our complete agenda and e-mail, join the Denver Visual Studio Users Group™ at www.DenverVisualStudio.net.

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 section is for you. And no, it **doesn't** need to be computer or Microsoft Access related. Send your listings to Communications@daaug.org with "DAAUG: 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.

Be sure to ask for the special DAAUG member discount.

Linx Consulting, Inc. would like to help your organization

[Linx Consulting, Inc.](#) offers database application development for organizations, large and small. Linx Consulting, Inc. develops applications using MS Access 2000-2007, SQL Server 97-2005, PostgreSQL 8.x, VB.Net 2003-2005, Crystal Reports and other technologies with a focus on database applications that use MS Access as the user front-end and MS Jet or a server database engine as the back end.

For more information on how we may serve you, please call Patrick Headley at (303) 916-5522 or visit our Website at www.linxco-inc.com. The entire Website contains examples of what we can do for your database application or Website. Each click on the sample link displays a different sample. Please take a look.

A Message from the Editor

“Presentations and Presenters”

Do you follow events or news that is relevant to Microsoft Access users and developers? If so, email Communications@daaug.org with information regarding the topic. A member of the DAAUG Board of Directors will review the information and, if it is determined to be of value to the group your information may show up in the newsletter or we will make an announcement at the main meeting.

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, Danny Lesandrini (vicepresident@daaug.org) or President, Sco Scofield (president@daaug.org). You may also email one of them with "**DAAUG Speaker**" or "**DAAUG Topic**" in the subject line of your message.

This is your group and we need your support. You don't have to be a professional speaker to give a presentation. Your presentation can be about anything that's Microsoft Access related.

We are always looking for articles for our monthly newsletter. Send your articles or article ideas to Communications@daaug.org with "DAAUG Article" in the subject line.

Please visit www.DAAUG.org for the latest news, consultant lists, officer email addresses and more.

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 with "REMOVE" in the subject line.