Conversation between Ken Fackler and Tim Garner, 12/19/2024 - 12/21/2024, via LinkedIn.com

Thursday Tim Garner sent the following message at 5:47 PM

FACMAC for WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS

Hello Mr. Fackler,

Would you happen to be the gentleman who designed and sold the FACMAC system back in the early 1990s? If so, I wonder if you'd be willing to donate the system so that the thriving (yes, believe it or not!) community of WPDOS individuals would be able to use it.

If you're interested, check out this site to see what I mean (https://mendelson.org/wpdos).

In any event, thanks in advance for your time and consideration.

Happy Holidays!
Tim Garner
San Diego, CA

Ken Fackler - Certified Instructional Technologist sent the following message at 8:33 PM

Howdy, Tim!

Yes, I'm the culprit. We had a fun, little group once upon a time. This was in the days of fido net mind you. It led to some of the experimentation and friendly competition that wound up as FACMAC. Remind me sometime to tell you my tale of woe about the List Files (F5) key.

I was also one of the 10 winners in the First WordPerfect World Contest sponsored by Corel shortly after they purchased the software from those dastardly folks at Novell. Turned out to also be the last! But it was fun and the prizes were pretty sweet.

Anyway, to answer your question...

I'd be willing to consider donating FACMAC to a 'worthy' endeavor. But I'd need to know if you're planning on monetizing it?

-Ken

Today Tim Garner sent the following messages at 10:11 AM

Hi Ken,

Thanks for replying. No, the package will not be monetized at all. Prof. Edward Mendelson (Columbia University) has a web site (see my previous message) in which he posts and shares third party software that supports WPDOS versions 5.1-6.x. I would simply pass along yours so that he can post it for use by others. Thanks again!

Oh, and thanks for the info about the old days. Always very interesting. I was a big WPDOS user when I worked at a law office in the 80s and 90s. Then we switched to Windows and that was that. But I loved (and still love) WP! Cheers!

Ken Fackler - Certified Instructional Technologist sent the following message at 1:33 PM

Yeah, me too. I resisted for a long time at the company I was at then. But when I changed jobs the new place was (gag, choke) a Microsoft place. I wept.

Given that FACMAC will be offered gratis to enthusiasts such as our noble selves, I'm good with doing that. What sort of documentation or steps do we need to take to make that happen?

Tim Garner sent the following messages at 2:11 PM

Well, if it's okay with you, I will make a PDF of our conversation and send it, along with the FACMAC package, to Prof. Mendelson, who will post it to his site, likely in early. Let me know if that works for you. And again, thanks. You might be surprised to know that there's quite a good sized group of WPDOS users still out there.

Ken Fackler - Certified Instructional Technologist 3:33 PM

Okay, that sounds like it will work.

My name is Ken Fackler and I'm the author of the FACMAC collection of macros for WPDOS. With this message I authorize Professor Edward Mendelson to host and distribute the package at no charge to users of WordPerfect. I make no warranties as to the suitability of FACMAC for your use, nor do I provide support. I do, however, wish you luck and much pleasure in your use and learning of WordPerfect.