
Subject: Chance for a Million! Was: Penis Enlargement
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 04:29:14 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi Folks,

It is a well-known fact that independent IDL consultants don't eat all that well at *any* time of the year, but they pretty much starve for the two weeks around Christmas as their faithful customers abandon them to head off to climates warmer or colder than here for some well-deserved time off.

Normally, it's not a problem. I'm only too happy to join them somewhere warm where we can play tennis, or somewhere cold where we can ski, but this year... well, let's just say even the spiked eggnog didn't offer much holiday cheer. :-(

So I worked. I guess that is the good news. I've spent the past several days writing articles for my web page. If you haven't checked there for awhile, there are 25 or so new articles, a couple of new programs, etc. I was going to clean things up a bit, get rid of old articles, etc., but then someone asked the ol' "Device, Decomposed" question today, so you never know. I left all the old ones there. *Somebody* might need them.

<http://www.dfanning.com/>

The bad news is that I have a depository of ideas that I draw from when I get an itch to write an article and there are about 250 files in this directory! (From about 287 when I started the other day.) It occurred to me that even if I did an article a day, it would take me at least a year to get caught up!

It takes roughly an hour to write each article, what with the research, the editing, and, finally, testing of the code. Some articles take considerably longer, a few don't take that long. But it's pretty much an hour every time I sit down to write one.

Then I realized that most of the articles I write these days aren't my ideas at all. They are YOUR ideas! I steal them all from here. :-)

So I sorta put two and two together and I wondered if you wouldn't want to write your own damn articles. :-)

Here is my idea. If each of you volunteered to write 2-3

articles this year, we could probably make considerable headway on the backlog. I'd give you all the raw material, an HTML template, everything you need to get started. (Some of you have already written articles, and I have to tell you, they are some of the best on the site! I appreciate your effort.)

Here is what you would have to bring to the table.

1. A philanthropic spirit and willingness to pay (in some way) for what you ordinarily get for free. Think NPR radio. In this case, time is money.
2. A sense of humor. Otherwise, what's the point?
3. A willingness to work with a crabby, egocentric, and anal editor. (I've suggested to the Chairman that he might think about retirement, but he won't hear of it.)

I'm not going to beat you around the ears to make you do it. I enjoy it, and I'll slog along at my own pace. But I wanted to give everyone the opportunity. You will learn a LOT about IDL by doing it. You will make a contribution to the newsgroup. You might even get some well-deserved recognition. I guarantee you won't make any money.

You probably know how to find me. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155
