Welcome to Practical PhoneBook Help

by Gary Chizhevsky, 1993

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Overview

Practical PhoneBook is ... hm ... a phone book.   The program's purpose is to help you organize and manipulate your telephone directory efficiently.   To fill your phone directory, all you need to do for each entry is add a name and phone#, and specify what kind of phone# it is (work, home, car, etc.).   For any other information, like secondary phone# or address, you can use 'Notes' section.   All phone book entries are listed in alphabetical order, and consequently, are easy to locate by simple browsing.   There are, of course, more sophisticated methods available for searching for entries by name, phone#, or text from notes, should the need arise (see <u>How to</u> and <u>Features</u> sections).

Practical PhoneBook is meant to be very easy and fast to use.   Special care is taken to provide the program with an attractive and polished look.   It strictly follows Windows user interface standards, and thus, should take no time for you to learn if you know anything about Windows.   However, if you are a novice to the Windows environment, extensive on-line help, that you are reading now, will explain to you every detail of the program.   In addition, if you click the right mouse button on almost anything in the program, a context-sensitive <u>info box</u> will pop up and explain what that element of the program does or means.

Keep in mind that **Practical PhoneBook** is distributed as *shareware*.   Thus, you are obligated to register if you decide to keep using the program.   See <u>Registration</u> section for more information.

Features

Practical PhoneBook:

✓**A**llows to store about 1,800 - 2,000 phone book entries with up to 32000-letter notes per each entry.   Names are 35 characters max., phone numbers - 29.

✓**F**eatures array of graphical push buttons along the bottom of the main window. The buttons are customizable and can be associated with any commonly performed functions.

✓**U**ses 3D libarary of controls to give dialog boxes slick 3D look.

✓**P**resents a list of phone book entries that occupies most of the main window.   To the left of a list entry may be an icon whose presence tells that there are notes attached to the entry.   Only name, phone number, and optionally, phone# type are shown in the list.   Notes can be viewed in a separate window.

✓**H**as search box that pops up automatically when a letter is typed and searches for a phone book entry as you type.   Also, has <u>Alphabet box</u>, and <u>Quick List</u> as alternative methods for searching by name.

✓**P**rovides several other search methods, including by phone#, and by text from notes.

✓**A**llows to dial a phone number through a Hayes-compatible modem.   Redial if busy, and automatic addition of "1" in front of area codes options are availalble. Automatically switches to <u>terminal emulation</u> mode if modem response is detected.

✓**P**reserves all settings between sessions.

✓**P**rovides a context-sensitive <u>Info box</u> at the click of right mouse button.

✓**A**llows to drag and drop entries onto buttons and <u>Quick List</u> window.

✓**A**llows viewing notes in a separate <u>Notes window</u>, while browsing through the list of phone book entries.

✓**I**ncludes a <u>dial pad</u> that allows to manually dial a phone#.

✓**S**tores files as text, so they can be edited in any text editor if desired, or imported into other applications as ASCII paragraph-delimited files.

✓**I**mports CardFile files.

✓**M**aintains <u>log</u> of phone calls.

Registration Info

Practical PhoneBook is a shareware product.   That means you are permitted to use it free of charge only for a trial period (about 1 month).   After that, if you like the program and would want to maintain friendly relations with the author, please, send me **$15** to the following address:

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Newark, Ca 94560
USA

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Registration will entitle you to receive future free upgrades, technical support, and my gratitude.   Also, send me any comments about the program, suggestions and criticism.   I am eager to accommodate your reasonable requests and send you improved versions.

Menus

File

New	Create new, empty phone book file.
Open	Open phone book file or import card file.
Save	Save currently open phone book file.
Print All	Print all phone book entries.
Printer Setup	Set default Windows printer.
Exit	End program.

Entry

Add	Add entry.
Edit	Edit currently selected entry.
Delete	Delete currently selected entry.
Print	Print currently selected entry.
Dial	Dial currently selected entry's phone #.
Copy phone#	Copy phone# to the clipboard.
Copy without notes	Place name and phone# on the clipboard.
Copy with notes	Same as above + notes.
Copy notes	Place notes only on the clipboard.
Add to Quick List	Add currently selected entry to the quick list.
Find by Name	Search for entry by a part of name
Find by Phone	Search for entry by beginning part of phone #.
Find by Notes	Search for entry by a piece of text from notes.

View

Alphabet Box	Show or hide Alphabet box.
Quick List	Show or hide Quick List window.
Notes	Show notes for currently selected entry.
Dial Pad	Allow to manualy enter and dial a phone#.
Log	View log saved in the current log file.

Setting

s

Dial Settings	Set dial parameters and phone information.
Display Settings	Set viewing options in <u>Display Settings dialog box</u>.
Print Settings	Set printing options in <u>Print Settings dialog box</u>.
Button Configuration	Associate actions with push buttons and double-click event.
Font	Set font of the phone book list.
Keep Log	Start or stop maintaining a log of calls.
Change Log File	Set current log file.

Help

Contents	Open help and display contents page.
Registration	Display registration information.
About	General program information.

How to ...

The following operations are described in this section:
Add entry, edit entry, delete entry, print one entry or entire list, view notes, dial phone#, find entry by name, find entry by phone#, find entry by piece of text from notes, get help, select phone book entry, perform an operation of a phone book entry, keyboard tip.

Do what?	Here is what you use:
Add entry	Add button, or Entry/Add menu, or <Insert> key. Each phone book entry must have a name; phone# and notes are not required. **Warning:** When entering notes, make sure you do NOT put right square bracket character ']' in the end of line, since square brackets are used internally to identify end of notes.
Edit entry	Edit Button, or Entry/Edit menu.
Delete entry	Delete Button, or Entry/Delete menu, or <Delete> key. Once an entry is deleted, the empty trash can picture on the Delete button changes to full trash can picture. After the file is saved or closed, the trash can looks empty again.
Print one entry or entire list	Use 'Entry/Print' menu to print the currently selected entry. To print the entire list, choose 'File/Print All' menu. Use 'Settings/Print Settings' menu to set priniting options in Print Settings dialog box.
View notes	Notes button, or View/Notes menu, or double-click on the notes icon in the phone book list. If Notes window is already open, it will automatically display notes corresponding to the currently selected phone book entry.
Dial phone number	Dial button, or Entry/Dial menu, or double-click on the entry. You can also dial a phone# stored in notes by opening

the Notes window, selecting the text to be used as a phone#, and pushing Dial button in the dialog box.   In addition, you can manually enter and dial a phone# that is not in the phone book by using Dial pad.

To set dialing prefix, tone or pulse phone type, com port number, and other dialing options, choose 'Settings/Dial Settings' menu.

Find entry by name

Use Alphabet box, or simply start typing the name.   A search box will automatically pop-up and search as you type.   When desired entry is found, press <Esc> or <Enter>, or click outside the search box to close it.   This is the fastest method to find an entry by name.

Another method for searching by name is invoked by choosing 'Entry/Find by Name' menu, or <F5> key.   That opens a dialog box which conducts search for an entry by a part of name.   For example, search string "el" will find the entry whose name includes "el", like "Micha<u>el</u>".   The search begins with the first entry after the one currently selected, and after it reaches the end of the list, continues with the first entry.   If no entry is selected, the search starts with the first item.   The search is case insensitive.

Find entry by phone#

Choose 'Entry/Find by Phone#' menu, or <F6> key.   You may enter a beginning part of a phone# (or the entire phone#). The first phone# that starts with the same characters, will be found.   The search is conducted in the same (circular) fashion as search by name, described above.

Find entry by piece of text from notes

Choose 'Entry/Find by Notes' menu, or <F7> key.   This search is conducted in the same fashion as search by name or phone#.

Get help

Choose 'Help/Contents' menu, or <F1> key for extensive on-line help, or use pop-up Info box for quick help about items on-screen.

Selecting phone book entry.
Whenever an operation is performed on a phone book entry, the entry must first be selected, except when adding an entry.   An entry can be selected by clicking on it with left mouse button, or moving the selection bar to it by <Up> or <Down> arrow keys, or by using any one of the search methods described above.

Performing an operation on the selected entry.
To determine what operation to perform on the selected entry, see the table above. Also, as an alternative to clicking on Edit, Delete, Notes, and Dial buttons, an entry can be dragged onto a button with the left mouse button to achieve the same effect.

Keyboard note.
To use buttons at the bottom of the main window to perform any of the actions described above with the keyboard, press <Left> or <Right> arrow keys, or <Tab> or <Shift><Tab> keys to move bold black border, indicating input focus, from button to button, and <Enter> or <Spacebar> to push a button.   If you press <Right> arrow key when you are on the right-most button, or <Left> arrow key when you are on the left-most button, the input focus will move to the list box containing phone book entries.   The next time you press the arrow key, the bold black border will reappear on a button on the other end.

Display Settings

The following display options can be set:

**Show phone#
type**

X

Uncheck this option to remove phone# type (home, work, etc.) from the phone book
listing.

**Show name & phone# in
columns**

X

Check this option to display names and phone numbers in two fixed-size columns.
The width of the first column is equal to the width of the widest name.   That means
that if all but one names are 10 letters long, and 1 name is 24 letters long, there will
a whole lot of empty space wasted in the list of entries.

Show notes icon

X

Uncheck this option to remove notes icon that is located to the left of each entry in
the phone list.   The icon provides several shortcuts: it shows if there are any notes
attached to the correspondent entry, and double clicking on the notes icon opens
Notes window; but removing it from display may save some space.

Enable horizontal scrolling

X

Check this option to allow the contents of the phone book list to be scrolled
horizontally if they are wider than the list box.

Show call timer

X

Check this option to have the timer displayed during your phone conversations.
This option is automatically enabled if you are keeping log.

Print Settings

The following printing options can be set:

Notes

X

Check this option to print notes along with name, phone#, and phone# type (home, work, etc.).

Font - Push this button to select font used for printer output.

Print Style: at most 1 entry per page

1

Check this option to print 1 entry per page.   If notes option is on and notes take more than 1 page, they will continue to be printed on the next page.   The next entry will start with a new page.

Print Style: continuous

1

Check this option to print one entry after the other, separated by a horizontal line, with as many lines of text as will fit on a page.

Alphabet Box

Alphabet box can be used to find an entry starting with a particular letter.   Choose 'View/Alphabet Box' menu, if Alphabet box is not shown on screen, then press or click on a letter button to find the entry starting with that letter.   If Alphabet box is shown, but not currently active (another window is active), then press <Alt><F6> to switch between the active window and Alphabet box, if you want to use keyboard. To close the Alphabet box, choose 'View/Alphabet Box' menu again, or select Close from the system menu (the usual way) of the Alphabet box, or press <Esc> when the Alphabet box is active.

Example:
Suppose, you have several names starting with 'H' stored in the phone book.   Open the Alphabet box by choosing 'View/Alphabet Box' menu, then click on or press 'H', and the first entry with the name starting with 'H' will be highlighted.

Info Box

Click right mouse button on almost any window, dialog box, or button in Practical PhoneBook to get info about the element of the program you clicked on.   The info box will pop up and explain the function or meaning of that element.   To close the info box, click on it using any mouse button, or press <Enter> or <Esc>.

Notes window

Notes window is used to view notes that correspond to a currently selected phone book entry.   To open it, push *Notes* button in the main window, or double-click on the little notes icon to the left of the entry whose notes you want to see, or choose 'View/Notes' menu item.

Besides viewing notes, you can edit the entry whose notes you are viewing by directly typing the text you want in the Notes window and then pushing *Record* button.   To discard the changes you make, push *Cancel* button.   If you move to another entry while Notes window stays open, the changes will be automatically recorded (you will still need to save the file to make them permanent).

Also, you can dial a phone# stored in notes by first selecting the part of notes text used as a phone# and then pushing *Dial* button.   If the phone# you want to dial is a word consisting of 7 or more consequtive digits, you can directly press Dial button and Practical PhoneBook will automatically offer the number.

Quick List

Quick List allows users to store up to 10 entries (presumably, those referred to most often).   When a name in the quick list is selected, correspondent full list entry is highlighted, and if <u>Notes window</u> is open, the entry's notes are also displayed. Also, entry's phone# can be dialed directly from the quick list window.   As the Notes window, Quick List window is resizable, and its position is remembered between sessions.

To add an entry to the Quick List, drag the entry from the full phone book list (main list) to the quick list window, or select the entry in the main list, and then choose 'Entry/Add To Quick List' menu item.   To remove an entry from the quick list, select it first, then press *Remove* button in the Quick List window.

For those interested in accessing phone book files directly with a text editor, names of entries in the quick list are preceeded with the exclamation sign (!).

Dial Pad

Dial pad allows users to manually dial enter and dial a phone# without adding it to the phone book.   Practically, dial pad would be useful in conjuction with dialing parameters set via Dial Settings dialog box, such as Redial if busy and automatic addition of 1 to area code.   Use of these options makes dialing with the dial pad more convenient than dialing with a telephone.

If you want to use mouse to compose a phone#, expand the dialog box down by pushing *Buttons>>* button.   That will reveal more buttons corresponding (more or less) to those on a real telephone.   Once the phone# is entered, push *Dial* button to start dialing.

Log

The log is used to store information about phone calls you make from Practical PhoneBook.   There are several fields stored about each call: name of the person you called (unless dialed from dial pad), his or her phone#, time when you started the call, date, and duration, in seconds.   The log is sorted chronologically.

To find some text in the log, click *Find* button, type the text, then click OK.

After you have initiated a call, a timer will appear.   When finished talking, click on on the timer to inform the program that the conversation is over.   Instead of clicking on the timer, you can press <Esc> key.

A Log button can be now placed on the button bar at the bottom of the main window, by selecting it in *Button Configuration* dialog box.   Pushing the button opens the log viewer.

When Keep Log option is on (accessible in Settings menu), a timer always appears, whenever you make a call.   However, when you are not keeping log, you can still choose to have timer displayed during your phone conversations by checking *show call timer* box in <u>Display Settings</u> dialog box.

For those who are interested in accessing log files directly, or importing or sorting logs, they are saved as ASCII text with tab delimited fields, and records separated by new lines.   That means that log file can be easily imported to any database or spreadsheet program.

Dial Settings

Dial Settings dialog box allows to set various dialing characteristics.   The ones important for dialing a modem for a voice call are: Comm Port, Dial Type, Baud Rate, Prefix, Modem Init String, Redial if Busy, 1 before are code, and Home Area Code.   The remaining fields are relevant to modem-to-modem calls (if you ever make any with Practical PhoneBook).   Home Area Code field is prepended to all phone numbers that are listed without an area code.   This feature may be useful if you take your file to a zone with a different area code, and try to dial from there.   All your home (7 digit) phone numbers will still be dialed correctly thanks to the home area code.

Windows Telephony support allows Practical PhoneBook to take advantage of advanced telephone services right from your PC.   Telephony has only recently been invented and will be an integral part of Windows 4.0 and Microsofts Windows At Work architecture.   Practical PhoneBook does not come with the complete set of files necessary for the Telephony to run.   In order to use Practical PhoneBooks Telephony support (should you decide to), you will have to obtain Windows Telephony kit from Microsoft.   In order to switch to Telephony support, check *Use Telephony* box.   After switching to Telephony, you will no longer be able to (or have need to) use Practical PhoneBooks standard dialing settings, because Telephony has its own set of settings configured via Control Panel.   You can always go back to Practical PhoneBooks native dialing services (and settings) by unchecking *Use Telephony.*   When using Telephony, Dial Settings dialog box will allow you to select a line and address that your computer system will use for outgoing calls.   Most of you have only one phone line, in which case line and address will never be changed; however, for those of you who have several phone lines (maybe even a modem on a network), these options will give some flexibilty.   In order to fully configure Windows Telephony you will have to do it via Control Panel.

Troubleshooting
Sometimes, Practical PhoneBook cannot dial out.   That may happen for several reasons: you have non-standard modem, you have non-standard Windows communications driver, you have not set all settings correctly in Dial Settings dialog box, and last, the program is not perfect.

Situation 1:
If the program seems to go through the dialing sequence, but the phone# does not actually get dialed, try putting ATDT in the Prefix field.   If that does not work, switch Turbo button OFF (on the front panel of your PC), every time before dialing.   The latter is a temporary solution, of course.

Situation 2:
If the program reports an error trying to initialize the comm port, most likely, you have set your modem init string incorrectly.   Look in another communications package you have on your system (like Windows Terminal) for the init string it uses.

Situation 3:
The program crashes when you push Dial button.   You must have a non-standard communications driver.   Try replacing the name after the equals sign in the entry

comm.drv = ... in the *[Boot]* section of *system.ini* located in Windows directory, with *comm.drv* (the original Windows communications driver).

In any case, please report the problem.   See <u>Registration</u> section for information on how to reach me.

History of changes

In a short period of time that Practical PhoneBook has been out, it has already undergone 5 upgrades.   This is the evidence that I continue working on the program, trying to make it even easier and more convenient to use.   A lot of changes and enhancements made from one version to another are the result of comments and suggestions of users like yourself.   I thank you for your support. Also, I want you to understand that it is impossible for me to test the program's dialing features on all possible modem configurations of all possible types of modems you may have.   So, if you have problems with dialing, please notify me and supply exact information about your particular modem and circumstances in which the problem occurred.   For solutions to some common dialing problems, see Dial Settings section.

Changes from version 1.0 to 1.1

New features

1.   Alphabet box for searching entries by name.

2.   Pop-up info box for quick help about on-screen items.

3.   Dial function was not very smart in reporting results of dial operation (BUSY, NO DIALTONE, etc.). Once the phone# was attempted to be dialed, the user was on his/her own.   There was no redial or time out feature.   Dialing is now improved.   A message box pops up if phone# is busy, or no carrier is   detected, etc.   There is a time-out set up in the modem automatically.   So, after   about a minute, the modem quits and posts "No carrier" message.   Redialing if busy feature can be set in the Dial Settings dialog box to repeat dialing a phone# until it's not busy.

4.   If no file is specified as command line parameter, the file that was used last is automatically loaded upon start-up.

5.   Drag 'n' Drop. Instead of selecting an entry from the phone book list and then clicking on a button to perform an operation on that entry, now user can click on an entry and then drag it onto a button and drop it to perform an operation.

6.   Font and size used to display the phone book list can be changed now.

7.   Display Settings dialog box, where user can set phone book list viewing parameters.

8.   Search by Notes allows to search for an entry by matching the text user enters to entries' notes.   Both search by notes and by phone# have been enhanced to be forward circular searches.   In the original version, search by phone# always resulted in the same entry found, if the user's input remained the same.   Now, the search starts with entry following the one currently selected, and after the last entry, wraps around and continues with the first one.   In addition, if search is successful, the user's input is remembered till the next search.

9.   Print Settings dialog box, where user can set printing parameters.

For additional information on how to use the listed features, see How to section.

Bug fixes

1.   When phone book entries listbox had the input focus and a letter was pressed to invoke pop-up search box, the search always resulted in the second matching entry found, if there were more than one matching entries.   Bug fixed.

2.   Sometimes modem stayed on-line after the conversation.   Bug seems to have

been fixed.

3. F1 - F12 and Ctrl+letter combinations caused search box to pop up.   Bug fixed.

4.   If notes were longer than about 250 characters, the program crashed when the user tried to edit the entry.   Bug fixed.

5.   If no entry had notes attached to it, the file did not load.   Bug fixed.

6.   After load file operation was aborted, certain operations caused the program to crash.   Bug fixed.

Changes from version 1.1 to 1.1a

New features

1. In dialing, modem init string can now be user-defined, which will make dialing more reliable.

2. Only one instance of the program can be run now, with the first instance automatically activated when the second instance is attempted to be run.

3. The user can enter anything in place of phone# type in "Add" or "Edit entry" dialog box.   Previously, only work and home phone# types were allowed.

Bug fixes

1. Find by Phone# and Find by Notes searches crashed if no item was selected. Bug fixed.

2. Find by Notes search showed wrong notes if search was unsuccessful.   Bug fixed.

3. Sometimes modem would not initialize.   Bug fixed.

Changes from version 1.1a to 2.0

New features

1. 3D dialog boxes.

2. Better compatibility with colors selected via Control panel.

3. <u>Notes dialog box</u> can now stay open and display notes for each entry while the user browses through the phone book list.   Notes dialog box is resizable, and position is remembered between sessions.

4. Notes dialog box uses the same font as the phone book list.

5. *Dial* button is added to the Notes dialog box to allow dialing secondary phone#s stored in notes.

6. *Next* button is introduced in Add Entry dialog box.   When pushed, Next button adds the currently edited entry, and then clears the dialog box for the next entry to be added.

7. The number of entries per file is now only limited by the amount of available memory (very large usually) and amount of text a listbox can hold (rather small), as opposed to previous 64K limit.   Total amount of notes per file is also unlimited now; however, there is still 32K (a lot!) limit on notes per entry.   <u>Practically</u>, because of the listbox size limitation and my disinclination to deal with that unless urged otherwise, <u>the maximum number of entries per file will be about 1800-2000</u>.

8. <u>Quick List window</u> is new.   It allows users to store up to 10 entries (presumably, those referred to most often).   When a name in the quick list is selected, correspondent full list entry is highlighted, and if <u>Notes window</u> is open, the entry's notes are also displayed.   Also, phone# can be dialed directly from the quick list window.   As the Notes window, Quick List window is resizable, its position is remembered between sessions, and it uses the same, user-selected font, as the rest of the program.

9. Search by notes is now case insensitive (it was case sensitive before, so that "Clement" did not match "clement") .   When entry's notes are found, the matching text from notes is highlighted (previously, just the Notes window would open, but the matching text was not pinpointed to the user).

10. Find by Name menu option has been changed.   Previously, it simply invoked pop-up search box that would appear anyway when a letter was typed.   Now, 'Entry/Find by Name' opens a dialog box that conducts search for an entry by a part of name.   For example, search string "el" will find the entry whose name includes "el", like "Micha<u>el</u>".

11. Pop-up <u>info box</u> has been extended to work in every window and dialog box of

the program (except where it would be redundant).   Previously, it only worked in the main window.

12. *Show notes icon* option is added to <u>Display Settings dialog box</u>.

13. Printing now works correctly with lines of notes longer than page width, with text automatically wrapped to the next line.   Previously, the text that did not fit page width, was clipped out.

14. *Smart Dialing* checkbox has been added to Dial Settings dialog box to automatically handle addition of "1" to phone#s wiith area codes.

15. *Configure Buttons* dialog box is new.   It allows to reassign actions performed when graphical buttons at the bottom of the main window are pushed, and also the action performed upon a double click on an item in the phone book list.

Changes of existent features

1. Menus have been rearranged to accomodate new features.   View menu has been added.

2. Now, you can run several instances of Practical PhoneBook at once (it was prevented in version 1.1a); however, every time you load another instance, a message is posted to remind you that an instance is already running, and you have a choice of either to reactivate the running instance, or start a new one.

3. *Use prefix* checkbox has been removed from Dial Settings dialog box.

Bug fixes

1. If non-phonebook file was attempted to be loaded, the program was likely to crash.   Bug fixed.

2. If notes with more than about 250 characters per line were loaded, the program might crash or not function correctly.   Bug fixed.

Changes from version 2.0 to 2.1

New features

1. Max number of letters in a name has been increased from 24 to 35, in "other" phone type field - to 15.   Dialing prefix has also been expanded to 5 letters instead of 1.

2. *Font* button was added to <u>Print Settings dialog box</u> to allow to set font of the printed output.   Previously, text was always printed in System font.

3. "Redial until not busy" feature will now work wherever a dialing operation can be started (from <u>Notes window</u>, and <u>Dial Pad</u>), not only from main window.

4. Special characters ***** (star) and **,** (comma) can now be included in a phone#.

5. Progress is now displayed during print operation.

6. <u>Dial Pad</u> is new - allows to manually enter a phone# to dial without entering it in the phone book.

7. Several *Copy* commands have been added to *Entry* menu to allow placing contents of phone book entries (with or without notes) to the clipboard.

8. Dialing now detects a modem response on the other end of the line and in such case, automatically switches to <u>terminal mode</u>, in which you can communicate with another modem using simple TTY (plain text) terminal emulation.   This means that now you can store electronic on-line service numbers in the phone book and dial those services directly from Practical PhoneBook.   The terminal emulation is, of course, very simple and useful only for an occasional communication session; it is not designed to replace a full-blown communications program.

9. Status bar displays explanations as you browse through menus.

10. CardFile files can now be <u>imported</u> in Practical PhoneBook the same way phone book files are loaded: through *File/Open* menu, and then Open dialog box.   In order to be considered a card file, it has to have "crd" extension.

11. When no initial text is selected (highlighted) in the <u>Notes window</u> and you press *Dial* button, Practical PhoneBook will try to make a guess for you by finding and highlighting the first sequence of letters that look like a phone#.

Changes of existent features

1. Notes icon used to be crossed out if no notes existed for a correspondent list entry.   Now, notes icons are placed only next to entries that contain notes.

2. In connection with addition of terminal support to dialing operation (new feature #8), Dial Settings dialog box now contains more controls for setting up

communications parameters (baud rate, parity, etc.).

Bug fixes

1. If right mouse button was clicked in another program's window, while Practical PhoneBook was running, that program was likely to crash.   Bug fixed.

2. Practical PhoneBook produced an unnecessary screen redraw when started, which, reportedly, is some cases, caused Norton Desktop to "lose" desktop icons. Bug fixed.

3. I further worked on dialing operation to eliminate reported problems.

Changes from version 2.1 to 2.2

New features

1. *Enable horizontal scrolling* option was added to <u>Display Settings dialog box</u>.

2. <u>Notes window</u> now allows direct editing instead of going to Edit Entry dialog box.

3. <u>Log</u> of all phone calls you make from Practical PhoneBook can now be maintained.   In order to time calls correctly, you have to stop the timer when you hang up the phone.   The default log file is *phonbook.log*; however, you can write log to another file by changing the log file name in *Settings/Log File* menu.   To view the log, go to *View/Log* menu.   To stop/resume keeping log, select *Settings/Keep Log* menu.   A call timer can be present even if you do not keep the log by checking show call timer option, added to <u>Display Settings dialog box</u>.

4. *Home area code* field has been added to <u>Dial Settings dialog box</u> in order to allow 7-digit (local) phone numbers to be dialed correctly when you travel to zones with other area codes.

5. Support for new Windows Telephony has been added.   Telephony has only recently been invented and will be an integral part of Windows 4.0 and Microsofts Windows At Work architecture.   Telephony provides access to advanced telephone services from your PC.   If you do not know what Telephony means and does, you probably dont need to use it until after Windows 4.0 comes out.   Practical PhoneBook does not come with the complete set of files necessary for the Telephony to run.   In order to use Practical PhoneBooks Telephony support (should you decide to), you will have to obtain Windows Telephony kit from Microsoft.   In order to switch to Telephony support, check *Use Telephony* box in <u>Dial Settings dialog box</u>.   After switching to Telephony, you will no longer be able to (or have need to) use Practical PhoneBooks standard dialing settings, because Telephony has its own set of settings configured via Control Panel.   You can always go back to Practical PhoneBooks native dialing services (and standard settings) by unchecking *Use Telephony* box in Dial Settings dialog box.

Changes of existent features

1. *Add To Quick List* menu item now works even if <u>Quick List window</u> is not displayed, by automatically displaying it.   Previously, you had to open Quick List window manually, first.

2. When you attempt to start a new copy of the program (while another copy is already running), a dialog box appears like before asking if you really want to start a new copy, or just to reactivate the running one.   *Always* checkbox has been added to that dialog box, so that your answer can be made permanent and this dialog box will be skipped whenever you attempt to load another copy of the program in the future.

3. *Smart dialing* check box in <u>Dial Settings dialog box</u> has been renamed to a more appropriate *1 before area code* check box.

Bug fixes

1. If the program was started as an icon and any of the "on-top" windows, like Notes window, or Alphabet box, or Quick List, had been left open the last time the program had terminated, they would open automatically the next time, regardless of the state of the main window.   Now, if the main window starts iconized, all of the other windows are iconized, too.

2. After a new file was saved on exit, it was not automatically loaded the next time the program was started.   Bug fixed.

Terminal emulation

Practical PhoneBook monitors progress of phone calls it makes and if it detects modem-to-modem connection, it automatically launches a terminal emulation window.   This feature is useful if you want to store phone numbers of electronic services, or bulletin board services, or your friends' modems, in your phone book. Terminal emulation is an experimental feature in Practical PhoneBook, and as such is not very powerful.   In supports text only communications (TTY emulation).   Many points to which you might want to connect will support this simple protocol, although a few BBSs will not.   Those BBSs use ANSI protocol which allows to display color block graphics (made of little block characters) along with text.   Those services often give you an option whether you want ANSI graphics or not.   Choose "No" for use with Practical PhoneBook.   The program also does not support any file upload/download protocols.   So, all you can use the terminal emulation window for is to have a quick session with your on-line service to read or create e-mail, check out some news, and that kind of thing.   If I get positive response about the (potential) usefulness of the terminal emulation feature, I will work further on it to make it more like a normal communications program.   However, until that time, see if you find this feature useful.

Importing files from other formats

Practical PhoneBook can currently import only CardFile files. Simply open a CardFile file the same way as you open Practical PhoneBook native files. The file will be automatically converted and treated as a new file, so that you will have to save it in the PhoneBook format when you are done. Since, conversion can only approximately map CardFile's format into Practical PhoneBook's, you will most likely need to edit the imported file.

Conversion note
Keep in mind that CardFile's logical card structure is very different from that of Practical PhoneBook. In CardFile, for each card, you have *index* and notes fields. In Practical PhoneBook, however, you also have *phone#* and *phone# type* fields. When importing from CardFile, Practical PhoneBook tries to make certain guesses about contents of each card's notes section. Specifically, it attempts to extract the first sequence of letters that looks like a phone# into its *phone#* field, and if there is text preceding the "supposed" phone# in the card, Practical PhoneBook assumes that's a *phone# type*. The rest of the card's notes is put into each entry's *notes* section. *Index* field of each card is directly taken to be the *name* field in each phone book entry.