

E  
N W  
S  
F B A / A B F

W  
S E  
N

## FBA/ABF NEWS/SWEN

By CYNTHIA KIRK

**N**ow that Yawn2K is over and we can no longer blame disasters—natural and otherwise—on the Millennium, it's back to the business of computing, teaching, writing and publishing.

The kid-centered among you may have noticed the prancing presence of Olive the Reindeer in Nordstrom's windows, in a Fox-TV special and, of course, in an eponymous, best-selling children's book. If the nouveau-retro cartoon style looked familiar, especially beside your current Franklin, Beedle & Associates catalog, it's because J.otto Siebold is the illustrious artist in all cases. This is the second FBA catalog designed by J.otto (the first was in 1994), thanks to an insider connection. The now hot, in-demand artist is a high-school chum of Tom Sumner, FBA's Director of Production and Editorial. Rumor has it that they were in a rock'n'roll band together and that they've jammed with Elvis Costello. Or someone closely associated with him. If all that isn't enough of a thrill, check out [www.jotto.com](http://www.jotto.com) and [www.fbeedle.com](http://www.fbeedle.com), respectively, for ahead-of-the-curve flashes on the j.otto and FBA/ABF news fronts.

Thanks to being one of the few publishers targeted as a beta-tester for Microsoft, FBA will issue Carolyn's Gillay's text for WINDOWS MILLENNIUM in near tandem with the release of the operating system upgrade. Although Carolyn and her Saddleback College colleague and frequent writing partner Pat Sullivan are both on sabbatical this spring, there is no rest for the weary. They'll be hard at work writing FBA's first Linux title, INTRODUCTION TO LINUX, expected in Fall, 2000, and pushing ahead with WINDOWS 2000 (Spring, 2001).

*Thanks to being one of the few publishers targeted as a beta-tester for Microsoft, FBA will issue Carolyn's Gillay's text for WINDOWS MILLENNIUM in near tandem with the release of the operating system upgrade.*

Webmaster Ernie Ackermann (co-author of INTERNET TODAY and several other internet-related FBA titles) plans to spend his Fall, 2000 sabbatical from Mary Washington College working with the Fredericksburg Freelance-Star on automating and enhancing the newspaper's web edition. One of the goals is to make the web version a strong community resource, with online forums on local issues and comprehensive listings of community events. And if Contra Dancing appears to have an unusually strong presence, it can only be because Professor Ernie, along with his wife Lynn, are recent converts, and he makes sure the schedule posts early and often.

*Look for FBA/ABF representatives at the following meetings this spring: TCCTA and ACM, both in Austin; CIA in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and NBEA in Anaheim.*

Look for FBA/ABF representatives at the following meetings this spring: TCCTA and ACM, both in Austin; CIA in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and NBEA in Anaheim. And remember, your queries, comments and suggestions—including book proposals—are always welcomed by FBA/ABF President Jim Leisy. Write him at [jimleisy@fbeddle.com](mailto:jimleisy@fbeddle.com).

And so it goes as FBA/ABF seeks to find readers—and writers—of its books in every appropriate market, North, East, West, South/South, West, East, North.