



The Aftermath of the Year 2000 Computer Glitch (Y2K)

John J. Schultz -- June 21, 2000

"The Sky Is Super-glued" - *Chicken Little, the day after*

Well, the Y2K roll-over has come and gone with barely a hiccup--or was there even any? Despite the loud, camera-grabbing doomsday advocates who tried to tell the world that life would end as we know--life does, in fact, go on as usual.

I find it quite amusing that CNN tried to sell all 18 hours of it's Y2K roll-over coverage. It might have some entertainment value--depending on how many fireworks shows are on it.

Still, I had to deal with several Y2K glitches during January, and some in February. All of them were minor: one amuzing instance was a call from a client when their database wouldn't take 2/29/2000 for a date. "What do we do", they asked.

I decided to keep is simple, so I told them they had the following options:

- Hire me for my time to modify the software to allow the 29th to be entered properly.
- Reschedule everything on that day for the 28th, or March 1st, and take the 29th off.

Needless to say, the choice was obvious.

The biggest let-down suffered during all of this was the New Year's Eve party. We intentionally brought in a 1986-circa PC to watch it screw up at midnight. And wouldn't you know it: the clock rolled over perfectly to 2000. DRAT!!!!

All in all, a pretty uneventful roll-over to 2000.

Thank God for that.