

As you know, the World Percussion Network is an example of something called a "Bulletin Board". The comparison between a computer bulletin board and a "real" bulletin board you might find in a local grocery store is actually quite good. Since the WPN is such a vast system of information (you might imagine that the WPN is a *giant* bulletin board—about size of a very large wall), trying to find information about certain topics might be a little difficult. That's where "Subboards" come in—making information easier to find on the WPN.

Subboards are actually smaller divisions inside the larger bulletin board that are dedicated to specific topics. When you finish reading your mail, the WPN system takes you to the "GENERAL" subboard. The GENERAL subboard contains information on a wide variety of topics—from people trying to find recordings of obscure percussion music, to people offering information on the latest concert tours. Other subboards are special interest groups. They are meeting places within the World Percussion Network where members with similar interests can meet, exchange ideas, and discuss topics that are of interest to them.

Here is a list of the current Subboards on the World Percussion Network:

GENERAL	Public Message Base
COMEDY	WPN Comedy Club
DRUMSET	Drumset Information Exchange
ENSEMBLE	Percussion Ensemble News
FOR SALE	Classified Ad Listings
GP	GP Percussion Info. & Support
GROVER	Grover Pro Percussion Products
JOBS	Jobs- HELP WANTED
MARIMBA	Marimba Topics
METHODS	Info. Exchange for Perc. Methods
MIDI	MIDI Information and Support
PAN	Steel Drum Topics
PROJECTS	Professional Projects Exchange
TIMPANI	Timpani Forum

One of the great things about the World Percussion Network is the flexibility offered to PAS members. The WPN can have as many subboards as our membership demands. In other words, if you would like to see a special subboard devoted to "tabla drums", "castanet repertoire", or "Bartok", the WPN can easily accommodate your needs.

For this part of the Guide, we'll cover the most common commands for the subboards.

Jump—The "Jump" command is used to move between the various message subboards available on the WPN. To access a particular message area, type "J" to activate the Jump command and then specify the subboard name when you see the prompt. If you don't remember the names of the subboards, use the LIST command.

List—The "List" command provides a list of the message subboards available on the WPN. The listing shows the subboard name, the number of available messages, and WPN member who is in charge of running the subboard. To move to a particular subboard, enter the subboard's name

in response to the prompt that follows the listing. You only need to type the first few letters of the subboard's name. Once you've actually entered the subboard of your choice, you'll want to see a description of the messages. To do this, type "S" and use the SCAN command.

Scan—Use the "Scan" command to get a quick summary of the messages on the subboard. The scan shows the message number, the date the message was posted, the name of the sender, and the title or topic of the message. You may scan messages in forward or reverse order by replying to the Scan prompt by typing "F" for Forward or "R" for Reverse. You may also scan for specific text in the message with the SEARCH option. When the WPN finds matching text, the system will allow you to read the corresponding messages. The PERSONAL scan option lets you search for messages that are addressed to you. After you've scanned the message titles and found a few messages that seem interesting, you'll want to type "R" to READ them.

Read—The "Read" command lets you read messages in the subboard. You simply enter the number of the first message you want to read. After reading a message, you'll be presented with several options. Use the NEXT or PREVIOUS commands to read messages sequentially. To reply to a message publicly, select the REPLY function. If you wish to send a private reply to the person who posted the message, use the MAIL option. The current message can be re-read by selecting AGAIN from the menu prompt. GO TO allows you to jump directly to any other message on the subboard. The message forwarding option can be invoked via the FORWARD option. This facility allows you to send a copy of the message you've just read to another place on the WPN; the destination can be a user's mailbox or another subboard. The THREAD command activates the WPN's message threading feature, and allows you to follow a "conversation" of message replies from the current message. After you've read some interesting messages, you may want to post your own message on the subboard. Just type "P" for POST.

Post—"Post" is the command you use to post a public message on the subboard. Fill in the "To:" field (press the Return key for "All"), then enter a 1 to 40 character title for the message. Upon completion, your message is saved as the highest-numbered message on the subboard.

New—The "New" command lets you find and read new messages that have been posted since your last login, or since the last message you've read on a particular subboard. Your options are: ALL - Find all new messages on all subboards. This includes subboards you may not have joined; however, all messages on such subboards will always appear "new", unless you join the subboard. JOINED - Takes you to new messages only on those subboards in which you are a member (i.e. subboards you have joined) and ignores others. SUBBOARD - Scans new messages on the current subboard. PERSONAL - Searches for new messages that are addressed to you, either on the current subboard or all subboards.

1-Member—The "1-Member" command (type "1" to call up this command) lets you list and search the member list for the current subboard, join or unjoin the subboard, or adjust your high message pointer for the subboard. Subcommands include: HIGH MSG - Use this command to examine and/or set your high message (highest message read, used for New message scans) for the subboard. This command is valid only if you are a subboard member. SEARCH - Searches for subboard members by name, and displays information about their membership record. LIST - This command lists the subboard members. JOIN - If you are not a member of the current subboard, use this command to make yourself a member. Joining the subboard lets you use New message scans with that subboard. UNJOIN - The opposite of Join; this command removes your member record from the current subboard.

For a quick review:

1-Member

H)ighMsg, S)earch, L)ist, J)oin, U)nJoin, Q)uit

HighMsg	Set highest message read
Search	Search for names in member file
List	List names of other members
Join	Add name to member file
UnJoin	Remove name from member file
Quit	Exit the Member command

Scan

F)orward, R)everse, S)earch, P)ersonal, Q)uit

Forward	List messages in ascending order
Reverse	List messages in descending order
Search	Search message headers or texts
Personal	List messages addressed to you
Quit	Exit the Scan command

New

A)ll, J)oined, S)ubboard, P)ersonal, Q)uit

All	Scan all subboards
Joined	Read new on all joined subboards
Subboard	Read new on this subboard
Personal	Find new addressed to you
Quit	Exit Command

(After reading a subboard message)

A)gain, R)eply, M)ail, F)orward, P)rev, N)ext, G)oto, O)ther, Q)uit

Again	Display the message again
Reply	Reply to this message
Mail	Send a private reply
Forward	Copy the message to another place
Prev	Read the previous message
Next	Read the next message
Goto	Goto specific message number
Other	Edit or kill this message
Quit	Exit command

Next time, this guide will discuss uploading and downloading files. The files area of the WPN has loads of great information just for the taking. How about a listing of all the articles that have appeared in the *Percussive Notes Journal*? This information is now on the WPN. Catch a glimpse of the future and connect with PAS and the WPN!