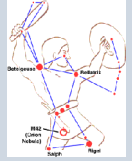




Stellar Times



February 2009 Newsletter for Orion Business & Accounting Solutions

Valentines Day's Facts



Although Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14 every year, it originates from the Roman celebration called Lu-percalia, which was held on February 15, a fertility festival.

Roman armies invaded countries physically as well as socially. When the Romans invaded France, they introduced this festival in which Roman boys drew names of Roman girls out of an urn (to determine their partners) and then the couple exchanged gifts on the festival's day. This was considered a pagan celebration, so in 469 C.E., Pope Gelasius decided to put a Christian spin on this celebration by declaring that it was now to honor St. Valentine (A young Roman who was martyred by Emperor Claudius II who was said to have died on February 14, 270 C.E. for refusing to give up Christianity).

Why was he killed? Rumor has it that St. Valentine was a priest who defied the emperor's ban on marriages by marrying young people in secret. He was discovered, and put to death.

Record Breaking!



Odds and Ends from Orion:

- For the longtime newsletter reader, you'll notice that this month's newsletter is being sent to you in a .PDF format. This is due to a glitch in my HTML mail software, High Impact E-Mail (they will shortly release an update and should fix my problem, until then, just think of it as the newsletter going "old school")
- We've seen a lot of record breaking lately, both in how low the economy can sink, how much profits the oil companies can make, how bad our NFL football team can be and last, but not least, how much snow we can get this year! We are on track to have a record snowfall this season. All I can say is, come on Spring! We need a break!
- For those on Level 4.1, Level 4.2 and Level 4.3. Sage has been consistently releasing a new service update for 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 on a monthly/bi-monthly basis. Level 4.1 is on service update number 21, Level 4.2 is on service update number 22 (both of these are their Microsoft Vista compliant releases) and 4.3 is on service update number 8. These updates are available to you as part of your Client Care subscription with Sage. If you need help installing any of the service updates or have any questions, please give us a call.



Sage Fixed Asset Update

If you own the Sage FAS Fixed Asset Accounting module, there is a 2009 update available to install. Please contact us if you need any help.

The FAS 2009.1 Tax Update contains exciting new features and enhancements to your Sage FAS solution. The 2009.1 Tax Update incorporates the changes of two pieces of legislation passed in 2008:

- The Heartland, Habitat, Harvest, and Horticulture Act of 2008 – Title XV of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (The 2008 Farm Act)
- The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008

For more detailed information please follow this link [2009.1 FAS Tax Update](#)

Did you know?

Orion offers hardware and network services as well as Sage MAS90 products and services.

Call us for a quote on your next hardware or network IT project!

Spot Light on Sage Credit Card Processing



Sage Card Processing is integrated with Sage MAS 90 and Sage MAS 200 ERP to provide a complete credit card processing solution for your business including specialty business types such as mail order, telephone order and Internet businesses that includes corporate and government purchasing cards. The credit card processing module integrates into Sage MAS 90 and 200 allowing you to authorize and process payments directly from within the Sage MAS applications. Sage Credit Card Processing includes a merchant account

CREDIT CARD PROCESSING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that works with either the Sage Gateway or PCCharge to safeguard customer data. Data can also be entered through the Sales Order and Accounts Receivable modules, and the .store and .order e-Business Manager applets. Transactional information, such as authorization codes, dates, and amounts, is captured and stored within the appropriate application database for historical and reconciliation purposes.

Please contact us if you are interested in learning more about Sage's Credit Card Processing module and/or the Sage Payment Solutions service. To make it more valuable, Sage is running a great promotion through the end of March.

Enroll in Sage Payment Solutions and save \$1,435 on the Sage MAS 90 and 200 Cash Flow bundle

In today's economy, it is crucial for businesses to take measures to improve and promote healthy cash flow. For a limited time only, Sage MAS 90 and 200 customers who enroll in Sage Payment Solutions will be eligible to have the cost of the Credit Card Processing module waived - a savings of \$1,100 (excluding subscription cost)! *Note: Valid proof of enrollment in Sage Payment Solutions is required.*

Plus, Sage MAS 90 and 200 customers who participate in this promotion are also eligible to receive the following offers:

- Business Alerts for only \$895 (excluding subscription cost) - a savings of over \$335! To be eligible to receive the promotional pricing on Business Alerts, customers must participate in the full bundle.
- ACH Electronic Payment for Vendors (AP-1063 ACH Electronic Payment for A/P) and Paperless Direct Deposit Stubs for Vendors (AP-1095 Paperless Office: A/P Checks & Direct Deposit Stubs) for only \$1,500 (excluding subscription cost) - a savings \$1090! To be eligible to receive the promotional pricing on Extended Solutions, customers must participate in the full bundle.

More Saving from SAGE! Winter 2009 Promotions



Save big on the Sage MAS 90 and 200 Manufacturing bundle!

Complete your manufacturing solution. For a limited time only, Sage MAS 90 and 200 customers have the option to build their personalized manufacturing solution suite and save big when they purchase more than one of the following modules:

Available Modules	Bundle Pricing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials Requirements Planning • Bill of Materials • Work Order • Purchase Order • Job Cost • Workflow & Reporting by Sage KnowledgeSync 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy 2 modules: \$2,450 • Buy 3 modules: \$3,500 • Buy 4 modules: \$4,300 • Buy 5 modules: \$4,900 • Buy the entire solution for only \$5,250 - over 40% savings!
<p>Note: Standard maintenance not included in the above listed module cost.</p>	

Sage Winter Promotions valid through March 31, 2009. Please contact Jim Steele for more information.

MAS90 Support Tips—Accounts Payable Trial Balance Report Does Not Balance to the GL

We covered this one at our Fall Customer Conference, but bears repeating, as it comes up often.

Step One: Print the AP Aging and the AP Trial Balance reports for the month

-Aging is based on document date

-Trial Balance is based on transaction (GL posting) date

Step Two: Compare the Invoice Balance total on the reports to the Accounts Payable GL account ending balance for the month you are balancing.

-If they all match, you are in balance.

-If the AP Trial Balance report matches the GL, but the aging does not, you are in balance but there is a document date issue on the Aging report.

-If the AP Aging and AP Trial Balance report match but the GL is different, look for Journal Entries in the GL Accounts Payable Account. Print the GL Detail report for the period you are balancing. Select to print only Source Type for GL Journals. If there are Journal Entries, determine if they are correct.

*Note The correct report to use to reconcile to the General Ledger is the Accounts Payable Trial Balance not the Accounts Payable Aging.

Windows Tip

Vista Power Tip—Load up on RAM, RAM and More RAM

By far, the best way to improve performance on your PC is to load it with as much RAM as your computer will allow. (RAM = random-access memory: the most common computer memory which can be used by programs to perform necessary tasks while the computer is on).

This holiday season RAM was super cheap. I purchased 2 GB for a home laptop for about \$30.00. The performance increases on Vista Home Premium were substantial. Applications like Outlook 2007 that used to lag now fly. If your PC has the extra RAM space -- load it up with RAM.



Please call us if you need any help finding out if your PC can be upgraded with more RAM Memory. The recommended minimum amount for a PC running the latest version of MAS90 using XP is 1 GB. The recommended minimum amount for a PC running the latest version of MAS90 on Vista is 2 GB.

We encourage you to provide us with your feedback, comments and suggestions on how we can better serve your business needs. Contact us at **248-893-1060** or email to jimsteele@orionbas.com