

In My Humble Opinion

by

Terry Holcomb

After last month's column on optional mouse hardware, I received a few suggestions from colleagues. Some were even printable! I will add a few of the "bumper sticker" ideas they suggested to the end of this column. For the most part the feedback was positive and members agreed that most of us are not too familiar with new input hardware developments that could ease our way into "Senior Computer User" status. One member directed me to a new IBM developed product that should be added to my ideas for easing computer use for those of us with arthritis or, in this case, tremors.

Brian Osborne contributed this information via GEEK.COM last month. ".Most hand tremors are caused by Essential Tremor (ET), and ET affects nearly 10 million people in the U.S." As you can imagine, those suffering from hand tremors have great difficulty operating a computer mouse. That's why IBM researchers have created a special computer mouse adapter that helps accommodate the shaking movements of an ET-affected hand. The **Assistive Mouse Adapter** can work with any PC and does not require any special software, so it will work with any operating system. It is plugged in between the computer and the mouse, and is convenient to use even if there are other PC users in the house who don't suffer from tremors, because it can be switched on or off. Besides filtering out unintentional hand movements (the filter settings are adjustable), the device can also filter out unintended multiple clicking. IBM's **Assistive Mouse Adapter** is now available, and can be purchased from **Montrose Secam's** website for a total cost of US\$107. Check it out at:

[http://domino.research.ibm.com/comm/pr.nsf/pagesnews.pagesnews.20050314_mouseadapter.html]

Text aids for your mouse problems.

- Bad mouse file or file name! Go stand in therner!
"No mouse hardware found": Check Senile.Com (are you out of memory?)
- 11th commandment - Covet not thy neighbor's expensive mouse.
- Mouse input error: Press any key... no, no, no, NOT THAT ONE!

