



# What's in store for 2012!

## Special Interest Articles:

- MARGE UPGRADE!
- Meet Programmer Bob!
- Training Coming in 2012!
- Year-End Instructions & What's in Store for 2012
- Tax Information
- Company News

Hayward, Wisconsin ~ December 2011

## MAJOR MARGE UPGRADE IN 2012!

We have been working hard at the TownHall Office! We know it's been a rough year with Payroll updates and fixes, support changes and overall growing pains.

### WE HEARD YOU!

So – what will change?

MARGE Municipal Accounting is undergoing a major overhaul. Easier to use, cleaner look, easier to maintain and correct errors, plus even more reports!

### Among some of the changes:

- Void Payroll Checks easily!
- New Form C/CT! Will print entire booklet!
- Automatic backups (and emails from the program!)
- Reprint & view checks without hassle!
- Less small windows; more to view from the main screen of each module!

We are so excited! The new program is being developed right now – and we are testing General Ledger and Checkbook (now called "Register") and Payroll is being built now.

Worried about the transition? Don't be! Same data and same programming language will make it seem very familiar – but much easier.

**We will be posting details and screenshots on our website soon.**

## SCREENS FROM NEW PROGRAM:

The screenshot displays the 'List of Sources' window in the Marge Municipal Accounting Program. The window title is 'List of Sources' and it shows a table with 26 sources. The table columns are: Source Name, Number, Account, Description, Status, and Updated On. The sources listed include: Farmland Preservation Cert., Fines, Fire Dues - State, Fire Payments, Fond Du Lac Co., Insurance Refund, Interest, Liquor, Public Records, Real Estate Taxes, Roads, School Aid Tax Credit, State Df Wl - FEMA, State Df Wl First Dollar Credit, State Df Wl Lottery Credit, State Df Wl Shared Revenue, State Transportation Aids, Taxes, VOID, Waste Permit, and Zoning Requests.

Source Name	Number	Account	Description	Status	Updated On
Farmland Preservation Cert.	9	46100		Active	
Fines	17	46300		Active	
Fire Dues - State	20	52200		Active	
Fire Payments	12	52200		Active	
Fond Du Lac Co.	14			Active	
Insurance Refund	15	46100		Active	
Interest	16	48110		Active	
Liquor	2	44110		Active	
Public Records	3	48900		Active	
Real Estate Taxes	5	26101		Active	
Roads	21	48900		Active	
School Aid Tax Credit	22	43690		Active	
State Df Wl - FEMA	27	43690		Active	
State Df Wl First Dollar Credit	28	41114		Active	
State Df Wl Lottery Credit	13	44115		Active	
State Df Wl Shared Revenue	23	43410		Active	
State Transportation Aids	8	43531		Active	
Taxes	4	41111		Active	
VOID	24	48900		Active	
Waste Permit	25	44900		Active	
Zoning Requests	11	44400		Active	

The background window shows the main menu of the Marge Municipal Accounting Program. The menu items are: General Ledger, Disbursements, Receipts, Payroll, Register, System Utilities, Chart of Accounts, Settings, etc., System Information, List of Accounts, List of Budget, List of Batches, List of WI Form, and Fiscal Year: 2011. The user name is hogg and the PC clock is 10:56 PM.



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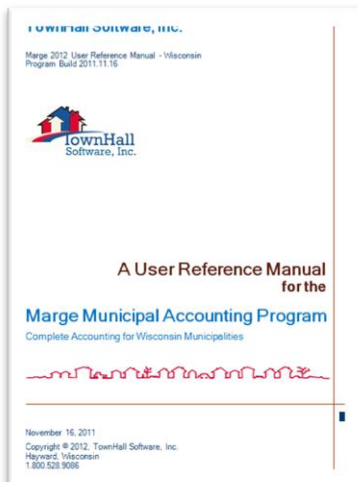
***He's hoping that clerks who use the new programs will actually have fun using them.***

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*"...the software has a friendly look and feel."*

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***Bob is visiting TownHall Software in January – and is also planning on attending the 2012 WMCA convention with us in August!***



## **Welcome BOB! Our New Programmer for TownHall...**

In July 2011, Mr. Bob Campbell joined TownHall Software to carry on the development of the accounting programs for Wisconsin town clerks that were developed by Dave Westerhoff who passed away in 2010. Some people have said that Dave left big shoes to fill.

Do you know what they say about people with big feet? Big shoes. Okay, we won't go there.

Mr. Campbell has developed numerous accounting programs as well as other database applications for AT&T, American Express, Computer Sciences Corporation, Equitable Life Leasing, Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies, Wackenhut Services, the National Historical Society, the U.S. Department of Energy and the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Mr. Campbell has been developing applications using Clarion since 1988. He is currently developing new applications using SoftVelocity's new release, Clarion 8, which has an improved integrated development environment (IDE), in particular for developing large applications.

Mr. Campbell's top priority in software development is to create programs that are professionally written, yet are easy to learn and use. By this, he means the software has a friendly look and feel. There is an intentional "fit and finish" and consistency on every window and report. To make it easy to learn and use, there are no single-character abbreviations or codes for anything. As he points out, this is not done very often in accounting programs. He's hoping that

clerks who use the new programs will actually have fun using them.

Mr. Campbell grew up on a dairy farm in western New York. He attended the State University of New York at Buffalo where he earned Bachelor's and Masters degrees in Mathematics. He currently lives in Las Vegas with his wife who is also a programmer. Actually it was his wife who got him started in programming.

Like many people who live in Las Vegas, even though he lives there, he doesn't gamble. He explains: "It's not near as much fun as developing software". Besides, the weather in Las Vegas is much better than the weather in Buffalo in the winter, or for that matter, the winters in Wisconsin. He has a point.

## **Training coming for 2012**

Because of the new development of the software programs, we have postponed training in 2011.

"We didn't feel it was ethical or the best use of your time to train you on the old program when we have a new program coming right around the corner." says Meagan Quaderer.

A new manual will accompany the new MARGE program – and will be the basis for the training manual used in the upcoming classes.

Classes will include training in accounting (with tips from Carol Doran), as well as in the program itself.

Training is two days. Day 1 will include accounting practices in triple-entry accounting and basic MARGE processing. Day 2 will include Payroll and more details in doing journal entries, corrections and more. Please drop us a line and let us know you are interested in attending.

# Year-End Instructions & What is in Store for YOU in 2012!

It's that time of year again! But don't fear... we are here to help.

As of December 20<sup>th</sup>, please go to our website:

<http://www.townhallinc.com>

and click on the top right corner link "Current Customer Access" then the MARGE button.

You will find:

-Year End Instructions

-A copy of this newsletter (if you need to reprint)

-W-2 Information

-Latest withholding information

Once you have paid your 2012 maintenance, you will receive the download code for the 2012 tax update, as well as instructions on the new Form C.

Your 2012 maintenance includes:

- New Marge 2012 upgrade
- Full Marge 2012 user manual
- 2012 tax table updates
- Latest updates throughout the year
- Free offsite backup (and restore)
- Customer support & maintenance
- Newsletters & Reminders (new in 2012)

We are really excited to bring you all of these and enjoy a new frontier in the mean time. We have been working many hours to bring you an even BETTER program which will be much easier to use, have a friendlier interface and allow you so many more options. (TUBS rehaul is coming in 2012 as well!)

If you are (or know of) a former customer – please note that you are always a member of the TownHall Software family. If you would like to start up again, just simply contact us and we'll get you up and running again for the cost of maintenance fees (or if it has been some time – a portion thereof).

If you know a fellow clerk who wants to purchase the program – we suggest getting it now. The cost for the new program will be going up and they can purchase now prior to the price increase.

We anticipate the new program to be available late Spring 2012. We want to test it heavily before its release. We cannot wait!

## Tax Information & Update availability

We are anxiously awaiting news on the payroll tax (FICA/Social Security) legislature for 2012.

From the Washington Post, as of Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – the House has passed the extension.

The article states, "Approved on a vote of 234 to 193, the Republican tax bill would extend a one-year break in the payroll tax that is due to expire at the end of the month, setting the

rate at 4.2 percent for the year instead of allowing it to revert to 6.2 percent."

However, this is still a long way from being resolved. Senate wants to block the vote because of the additional provisions in the bill.

One thing we know...TownHall Software is ready for either situation!

Additionally, we are awaiting confirmation on the federal and state tax tables for 2012 and will provide you with the

update you need – as well as supporting documentation.

To be sure you receive the latest information – please remain current on your maintenance fees, and also send us an email with the latest email address and clerk information. (This is especially true if there has been a new clerk for your municipality in 2011.)

Email:  
**support@townhallinc.com**



*Whatever happens, TownHall Software is ready! And we will be sure you have the correct settings to process your 2012 payroll.*



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**Updates and Information  
on the Web!**

*See us at:*

**www.townhallinc.com**

## **Company News from 2011**

Wow – what a year!

While some items have been painful (payroll fixes, customer service protocol, and some changes with clerks), we have welcomed a 10% growth in business, a new dedicated programmer and new protocols, computers, knowledge and overall strength-building within our little company.

We often wish for a quick visit from Dave (our founder who passed away in 2010) to show him all of the positive things that have happened in under 2

years. New program, new logo, new website, new booth, and overall happy clerks (which would be, by far, the most important thing to him.)

Dave provided us with a great foundation to build from and we hope to serve you more closely, faster and better in 2012. We work every day to make it better! We know he is helping us and things are happening because of him.

One of the biggest concerns in 2011 is customer support hours. Although we monitor and

make appointments during all days, nights and weekends – we are watching the email 24/7 (and have put it all on our cell phones). We are answering more calls “live” than we have over the last 2 years! And in 2012, we won’t have any more payroll “fixes” from the FICA distributions to tie up our time.

In our November meeting of the company, we discussed at length the best way to take care of you – because you are the most important part of this company!

## ***Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!***

We appreciate you all so much. We know all of your names and enjoy meeting you at the conventions.

We are excited for training sessions next year so we can meet even more of you!

We hope you take time to enjoy your families and friends during this holiday season. Take a lot of pictures and make loads of memories – because that is what it is all about!

**ENJOY!**



**TOWNHALL SOFTWARE, INC**  
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