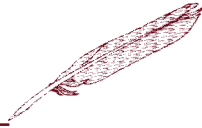## From the Editor:

Sorry, we jumped the gun last month in predicting that the latest free update to DataCAD 11 (11.05) would be out by Labor Day. The Beta testers have found enough bugs to delay the release as they have painstakingly made their way up to Beta version 27. A Release Candidate (the precursor to full release) should be out "shortly" — but we are getting out of the prediction game. Many of you, however, may be more interested in upgrading to DataCAD 11 in general, so for you, we have devoted most of this issue to the major upgrade hurdles you will need to jump over, no matter what version of DataCAD you are starting from.

Our other off-target prediction was that Bassenian-Lagoni Architects' new house design via DataCAD would be the season premiere episode of the television show *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* in September. But if you read this editorial in time, you can catch the date for this showing of the "Garay House" on October 3 at 8 p.m. (7 p.m. Central Time) on ABC.

Those of you who want to attend DBUG's (DataCAD Boston Users Group) 17th Anniversary meeting at *Build Boston* on November 17, 2004 (17 on 17) should remember to register for the Build Boston Trade Show <www.buildboston.com> by October 22nd in order to get free admission. Otherwise, it will cost you $15 just to get in the door. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for 6 pm in the Amphitheater on the 2nd floor as Event B95. Mark Madura and staff have agreed to give us their annual preview of developments for DataCAD in the upcoming year as well as perhaps a special topic presentation on using DataCAD in the "new digital office." It is always a nice gathering in which to put faces to the names of folks that you may only know via the DBUG forum or through *Cheap Tricks.*

Speaking of the DBUG forum, it has been an erratic month as the e-mail traffic has fluctuated wildly up and down. Advertising spam is greatly to blame as *The World* (the DBUG forum's ISP) has had to periodically block whole domains in self-defense against overwhelming spam attacks and thus choke off a lot of legitimate e-mail. If you have had any trouble posting to DBUG or contacting us, feel free to use our "back-channel" e-mail address at <evanshu@comcast.net> to forward a copy of your bounced e-mail for posting to the DBUG forum.

Another 6 months have flown by, which means it's royalty time for our *Cheap Tricks* authors. Over the last 6 months, we sold some 260 items, which resulted in royalties to our 80+ authors of well over $2,600. Granted, the great majority of these royalties went to our top best-sellers, and most authors just received small royalty checks. Still, we hope that such regular and, in some cases, surprisingly big royalties (see *CTW Best Seller* list below) will inspire some of you out there to donate new items for *Cheap Tricks Ware.* If you would like to view the contribution guidelines, you can see them at http://world.std.com/~eshu/ctw/ctwg.htm. We accept new contributions to our listing at any time.

It seems that another year is flying by as well as *Cheap Tricks* closes in on the anniversary of our 14th year of publication. Thank you, our loyal readers, for continuing to support our endeavors as we continue to support yours. ☻

— Evan H. Shu, FAIA

CTW Top Ten Best-Seller List
Sales from March 1, 2004 to August 31, 2004
Order at http://world.std.com/ctw/ctw.htm

1. DataCAD 3D Training by *Matthew Cockroft, PCS* (**M26-AV**). *The runaway best-seller that hit a big chord of interest out there.*

2. StoneCAD Hatches converted by *Roger Donaldson* (**R210**). A simple investment of an hour's worth of conversion time has paid huge dividends for this author.

3. *Cheap Tricks Ware CDs* by *Cheap Tricks Ware* (**CTW CD3 & 4**). *Best deal going.*

4. Spanish Tile Hatches by *Michael Russell* (**P220**). *AutoCAD users keep begging us to make this available to them. Sorry!*

5. RBTools by *People Software* (**M20**). *Still truckin' after all these years.*

6. Roof/Elevation Hatch Collection by *Glass/Gillies/Blasio.*(**P226**). *Great value collection of hatches.*

7. Architectural Textures & Bitmaps Library CD (M27) by *DataCAD Brasil, Miguel Palaoro. Valuable architectural rendering library.*

8. Siding/Shingle/Shake Hatches by *Evan H. Shu* (**R165**). *An oldie but goodie.*

9. DataCAD 3D Training (old version DOC File version)(**M26/B115**). *Even the old DOC files version of these tutorials did okay.*

10. Wiggles, Hatch & Wood Linetypes (a value item) (**R212**). *Another good value.*