

# Include a two column mover in your apps with DUALPICK!

*By Whil Hentzen*

This month, we're doing something never before seen in the Cool Tool column: a tag-team production. Possibly inspired by David T. Anderson and John Alden's Bing Crosby/Bob Hope-like DevCon presentation (or was that Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis?), Jeff Neely and Richard Wainwright have combined forces to produce a pair of variations on a two column "mover" dialog.

DUALPICK was initially inspired by Jeff Neeley, who said, "I keep seeing this type of selection device, and finally one of my customers just "wanted" it." After posting a preliminary version, Richard Wainwright picked up on it and made a number of enhancements, including the choice of two sizes of mover screens and the option of automatically sorting the selected items alphabetically.

Using either version is extremely straightforward. Simply initialize an array named lArray and populate with the values that are to be listed in the Available side of the mover. Then call DUALPICK.PRG. You'll be presented with a mover dialog that allows you to select and deselect one or all of the items in the appropriate column. When you are finished, select the OK pushbutton. You'll have an array called rArray that contains the selected values.

[Figure 1: 950401.PCX:  
Jeff Neeley's DUALPICK allows you to integrate a mover dialog into your applications.]

Placing DUALPICK in your application would look something like this:

```
declare lArray[5]
lArray[1] = "Larry Bird"
lArray[2] = "Kareem Abdul-Jabbar"
lArray[3] = "Michael Jordan"
lArray[4] = "Bob Cousy"
lArray[5] = "Oscar Robertson"

do DUALPICK

* rArray contains the selected values
```

If you choose to use Richard's version of DUALPICK (both Jeff's and Richard's are named the same, so they are supplied in two files as DUALPICK and WINPICK), you can pass four parameters that allow you to control the operation of DUALPICK.

The first parameter, showsort, will allow the display of a "Sort?" checkbox that allows the user whether or not to have the selected items sorted alphabetically. The second parameter, dosort, will automatically sort the selected items alphabetically when showsort is false. The third parameter allows you to pass your own title for the Mover window. The fourth parameter allows you to control which screen, DUALPICK or LITLPICK, will be displayed. The DUALPICK screen allows about 50% more items to be displayed in each listbox.

[Figure 2: 950402.PCX: Richard Wainwright's version of DUALPICK, LITLPICK, provides a user-selected Sorted checkbox and a smaller footprint on the screen.]

Richard's version of DUALPICK uses the following defaults for the parameters if you don't pass any:

ShowSort: True  
DoSort: True  
Title: Choose From Available Items  
Screen: DUALPICK

Richard's version also returns a comma delimited string containing all of the selected items, so you can call DUALPICK as a function and return a single character string, like so:

```
declare lArray[5]
lArray[1] = "Dan Issel"
lArray[2] = "Wilt Chamberlain"
lArray[3] = "Magic Johnson"
lArray[4] = "Meadowlark Lemon"
lArray[5] = "Bob Uecker"

m.cTheGreats = DUALPICK()

? m.cTheGreats && returns "Dan Issel, Magic Johnson, Bob Uecker"
```

Array handling is a messy business and if you can bootstrap your way past this step by using Jeff and Richard's work, you're far better off.

I encourage other FoxTalk readers to collaborate on Cool Tools such as these that they've been working on, and let me know about it. And I'm sure that Jeff (CIS 71700,532) and Richard (CIS 75521,2530) would love to hear from you about additional enhancements or suggestions.

All of the source code for Jeff's version is contained in DUAL1.ZIP; Richard's version is contained in WINPK1.ZIP. Both are included on this month's Companion disk and can also be found on CompuServe's FoxUser Forum in library 9 under those names.