### WELCOME TO REVEILLE !!!

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### **REVEILLE OVERVIEW**

Welcome to Reveille !!! Reveille is a program that will play musical tunes, either on demand while it is running, or at start-up using command line parameters sent it by a separate timer or scheduler application. If you wish, you may specify a reminder message in the command line that starts the program, and Reveille will display it in the Status Label at the bottom of the Reveille window. The tunes are stored in simple ASCII text files that emulate BASIC "play" strings. You may create and/or edit tune files (in the Reveille ".ply" format) from within Reveille (or using any plain-ASCII text editor), and you may compile and save groups of tunes as compilation files.

The "shareware" version of Reveille is being distributed both on diskette and as a "zipped" file over bulletin board systems. The registered version is available by mail directly from Reveille's author (who will also upload additional Reveille tune files to BBSs, and who hopes other Reveille users will do the same).

Please note: This documentation file is for use with the unregistered version of Reveille, distributed as "shareware", for evaluation purposes only. You are entitled to install

Reveille on one computer, and to "test-drive" the program for a 30-day trial period. If you wish to give Reveille a more permanent home on your computer's hard disk, then you must register your use of Reveille. You would then be entitled to a copy of the latest version of the program (without any "reminder screen"), additional ".ply" files, and more complete documentation. Please see the section on REGISTRATION near the end of this file, as well as the file, register.wri. Thank you for trying out Reveille !!!

## INSTALLATION

Note: Since Reveille is written in Visual Basic V. 3.0, the VB 3.0 dynamic link library file, vbrun300.dll, must be available on your computer for the program to run. If you don't already have vbrun300.dll installed on your machine (for running some other VB 3.0 program), then you will have to obtain a copy of it; you can probably download it from the same BBS from which you obtained rvle-10.zip.

To install Reveille (and Reveille Timer), simply copy all of the files (except vbrun300.dll) over to any directory of your choosing (such as c:\reveille, perhaps). And, unless you have a copy of vbrun300.dll in your Windows System directory (typically c:\windows\ system) already, you should copy it over to there, so that it will be available to any program installed on your computer written in Visual Basic V. 3.0 (although it also may be placed directly in Reveille's directory, if you prefer). Run Reveille from reveille.exe, and Reveille Timer from rvletimr.exe, either from File Manager, or by adding their icons to Program Manager.

## **COMMAND BUTTONS**

The Play command will cause Reveille to play the tune(s) in the Selected Tunes List for the number of times selected in the Play Time(s) box. You may invoke the Play command by clicking on the Play button (or menu item), or by using either the Alt+P or Ctrl+P key combination.

The Stop command will cause Reveille to cease playing the tune(s) in the Selected Tunes List. You may invoke the Stop command by clicking on the Stop button (or menu item), or by using either the Alt+S or Ctrl+S key combination.

The Add File command will add a file selected from the Files List to the end of the Selected Tunes List; note that you must first select the file before clicking on the Add button (or Add File menu item). It is also possible to double-click directly on the chosen file to add it to the Selected Tunes List. You also may invoke the Add File command with the Alt+A key combination.

The Insert File command will insert a file selected from the Files List into the Selected Tunes List; note that you must first select both the file to insert and the insertion point (the file before which it is to be inserted) before clicking on the Insert button (or Insert File menu item). You also may invoke the Insert File command with the Alt+I key combination.

The Edit File command will start up Windows Notepad, loaded with a file selected from the Files List, in order to edit (or merely view) the file; note that you must first select the file before clicking on the Edit button (or Edit File menu item). To test any changes made in the file, it is necessary that the file be saved by Notepad (with a ".ply" extension on the filename) and be present in the Selected Tunes List. Reveille will not open a second tune file while the first file is still open. You also may invoke the Edit File command with the Alt+E key combination.

The Remove File command will remove a selected file from the Selected Tunes List; note that you must first select the file before clicking on the Remove button (or Remove File

menu item). It is also possible to double-click directly on the chosen file to remove it from the Selected Tunes List. You also may invoke the Remove File command with the Alt+R key combination.

The Clear List command will clear (remove) the files present in the Selected Tunes List. Note that you will remove all files currently in the List (whether selected or not) by clicking on the Clear button (or Clear List menu item). You also may invoke the Clear List command with the Alt+C key combination.

The Restore List command will replace the current Selected Tunes List contents with the List that was originally present when Reveille was started. Clicking on the Restore button (or Restore List menu item) will clear (remove) all files in the Selected Tunes List, whether selected or not, before replacing them with the original Selected Tunes List. You also may invoke the Restore List command with the Alt+T key combination.

The Compile List command will combine the tunes present in the Selected Tunes List into one ".ply" tune file (without changing the original tune files). This Reveille feature is most useful for playing more than one tune from the start-up command line. Clicking on the Compile button (or Compile List menu item) will bring up dialog boxes for the entry of both a compilation title and a filename. You also may invoke the Compile List command with the Alt+O key combination.

The Save List command will save the current Selected Tunes List. Clicking on the Save button (or Save List menu item) will cause Reveille to start up the next time with the current List loaded as the Selected Tunes List, unless the Selected Tunes List is overridden with a command line parameter (and the saved List may still be restored with the Restore List command even then). You also may invoke the Save List command with the Alt+V key combination.

The Exit command will cause Reveille to cease playing the tune(s) in the Selected Tunes List, and to then close itself. You may invoke the Exit command by clicking on the Exit button (or menu item), or by using either the Alt+X or Ctrl+X key combination.

### **OTHER WINDOW FEATURES**

The Selected Tunes List will display the names (and DOS paths) of the tunes that are to be played by Reveille. You may add a tune file to the List by first selecting it in the Files List and then clicking on the Add button, or you may add it directly by simply double-clicking on its filename in the Files List. You may remove a tune from the List by first selecting it and then clicking on the Remove button, or you may remove it directly by simply doubleclicking on its filename in the Selected Tunes List. You may empty the List of all tune files by clicking on the Clear button, or you may reinstate the original saved Selected Tunes List at any time by clicking on the Restore button. You may save the Selected Tunes List for the next start-up by clicking on the Save button, or you may compile the List into a single ".ply" file by clicking on the Compile button.

There is practically no limit to the number of tunes that may be added to the Selected Tunes List, but the total length of the combined tune string to be played is 10922 bytes, the size of a buffer into which the tune string is to be loaded. This is a fairly generous limit, however, and will not likely be reached often (as 10922 bytes will contain a lot of music). Furthermore, this limit applies only to the List itself, and does not prevent even a large List from being played multiple times. By the way, the size of a combined tune string is approximately the combined file sizes of the individual ".ply" files in the Selected Tunes List, so that it is possible to roughly estimate the combined tune string's size by adding all the file sizes together (which File Manager will do for you if you temporarily select them as a group from within File Manager). If the total does exceed 10922 bytes, Reveille will not play the List, and will inform you of the total tune string size in the Status Label at the bottom of the Reveille window, so that you can estimate how many files to remove from the List. Since this limit also applies to the size of a compilation file, I suggest that when you are going to either save or compile the files in the Selected Tunes List that you at least briefly attempt to play them first.

The Drive List Box will allow you to select any drive available on your computer, in order to then select a particular directory (in the Directory List Box) from that drive, from which to select a particular tune file. The Files List will display all the ".ply" files available in the directory selected in the Directory List Box. You may update the Files List at any time (in the event that files may have been added to it or deleted from it since Reveille was first started) by clicking once on the current directory in the Directory List Box. Although Reveille is set up at first with all tune files located in the same directory as reveille.exe, it is very possible to create individual, "topical" subdirectories for groups of related ".ply" files using File Manager.

The Status Label at the bottom of the Reveille window will provide feedback from Reveille at various times (though message boxes will also be used at other times), as well as displaying any reminder message entered from the command line. Clicking on the Status Label at any time will display the last Help screen viewed.

The Play Times Box will allow you to select a number of times (one, three, or nine) that you wish to play the Selected Tunes List, or you may choose to play the List for an indefinite time period.

The File Menu allows access to the same commands available in the Reveille window, while the Help Menu allows you to obtain Help on both command functions and command line parameters.

### **MOUSE CLICK FUNCTIONS**

Besides the usual Windows mouse click functions, Reveille will recognize the following additional mouse actions:

1. Double-clicking with the mouse on a file in the Files List will add that file directly to the end of the Selected Tunes List, without actually having to click on the Add File button (or menu item).

2. Double-clicking on a file in the Selected Tunes List will remove that file from the List, without actually having to click on the Remove File button (or menu item).

3. You may update the Files List at any time (in the event that files may have been added to it or deleted from it since Reveille was first started) by clicking once on the current directory in the Directory List Box.

4. Clicking with the right mouse button on any command button will display Help information about that button's function.

5. Clicking on the Status Label at the bottom of the Reveille window will cause the last Help topic viewed to be displayed again.

### COMMAND LINE PARAMETERS

The Reveille command line syntax is as follows:

" reveille <conditions> <filename> <message> " (Do not include the parentheses.)

1. The conditions, filename, and message are all optional, though if you use a filename, then at least one condition must precede it, and if you specify a message, then at least one condition and a filename (or asterisk) must both precede it.

2. Command line entries are not case-sensitive (except that you should type the message exactly the way you want it to appear).

2. Single spaces should be used to separate parts of the command line from each other.

3. You may enter reveille.exe either as "reveille" or as "reveille.exe". Similarly, you may specify a filename either with or without the ".ply" extension.

These optional conditions may be specified in the command line used to start Reveille:

- m = start Reveille as a Minimized icon
- n = play Now, as soon as Reveille starts up
- 1 = play the Selected Tunes List 1 time
- 3 = play the Selected Tunes List 3 times
- 9 = play the Selected Tunes List 9 times
- i = play the Selected Tunes List Indefinitely
- x = eXit Reveille after play has stopped
- r = play "Reveille" as Reveille starts up
- d\_ = play for a Duration of \_ minutes and exit

You may specify multiple conditions in any order, but there should be no spaces between multiple conditions. If you specify the "r" condition, then the "n" condition becomes redundant. If you specify the "d\_" condition, then most other conditions entered (except for the "m" or "r" conditions) will be ignored. The duration condition is limited to 32000 minutes (which is not too limiting, since that is over three weeks in time); if you attempt to enter a longer duration (such as "d123456789", for example, it will be changed to 32000 automatically. By the way, do not use commas when (if?) you enter long (over 999 minutes) durations.

You may specify an optional ".ply" tune filename in the Reveille command line (if at least one condition has been specified before it) and it will then be the tune displayed in the Selected Tunes List as Reveille starts, and it also will be played at start-up if the "n" condition has been specified. The ".ply" extension in the filename is optional. If the filename you specify is not in the same directory as Reveille, then you must state the full path to the file for the filename. If you enter an asterisk for the filename, then the saved Selected Tunes List will be played (assuming that you have also used the "n" condition).

You may specify a reminder message as part of the command line used to start Reveille, and it will then be displayed in the Status Label at the bottom of the Reveille window.

1. In order to display a reminder message, at least one condition parameter and the name of a ".ply" file (or an asterisk) must precede it in the command line (separated from it by a space).

2. If you have specified a message, then the "m" parameter condition (if used) will be ignored, in order that Reveille will display the message in the Status Label when it starts up.

3. You may turn off the message display after Reveille starts up by "unchecking" the Message menu item; you may later turn it on by "checking" the Message menu item once again.

4. Reveille's window title bar will indicate "Reveille Reminder" while a message is being displayed, and will simply show "Reveille" when one is not.

Some examples of Reveille command line usage follow: (Do not include any parentheses.)

1. " reveille " will start up Reveille, without playing any tune or displaying any message.

2. " reveille nm3x wmtell " will start Reveille as a minimized icon, playing the "William Tell Overture" three times before exiting; note that the characters in "nm3x" may be entered in any order.

3. " reveille d2 \* Don't forget your appointment !!! " will start Reveille, playing the Selected Tunes List repeatedly and displaying this reminder message continuously, until exiting at the end of two minutes.

4. " reveille d10r \* Stop at the store on the way home !!! " will start up Reveille, playing the tune "Reveille" repeatedly and displaying this reminder message continuously, until exiting at the end of ten minutes.

# ACCESSING HELP

There are several ways to obtain Help information on Reveille commands and features: You may access Help on any topic through the Help Menu. Press the F1 key while any command button has the focus, or click with the right mouse button on any command button, and you will cause Help information on that button's function to be displayed. If you click on the Status Label at the bottom of the Reveille window, you will cause the last Help topic viewed to be displayed again.

### **FILE FORMAT**

(Please note: It is not necessary to understand the structure of a Reveille ".ply" file in order to use Reveille with the supplied tune files, but if you ever wish to create or modify any ".ply" files, or to import any BASIC "play" files, then you do have to understand the format, in order to provide tune files that are usable by Reveille.)

A Reveille ".ply" file must have three parts: the title of the tune, followed by three asterisks, followed by the actual tune string. The title, which will show up in the Selected Tunes List, must not include either commas or parentheses, but may include most other normal punctuation; you may use brackets in place of parentheses, if desired. Three asterisks (\*\*\*) must be used to separate the title from the tune string in the ".ply" file, and should not be preceded by any spaces after the title. The filename must also be given a ".ply" extension to be recognized by Reveille.

The tune string is an ASCII string of characters that emulates the "play" string format used in DOS BASIC, and for those who are familiar with that, the Reveille tune string format will also seem quite familiar. In fact, it is easy to import a BASIC tune string, converting it to a Reveille ".ply" file, with only minor modifications. A full description of the Reveille tune string format, as well as strategies on creating, editing, and converting tune strings, is included in the registered version of the Reveille documentation.

To help with editing (or debugging) a tune file, pairs of brackets may be used temporarily to select out portions of a tune string for play (or to exclude other portions from play). If this is done, only the tune string segments within pairs of brackets will be played, while segments outside the brackets will be ignored, allowing you to focus on just certain sections of a tune string for editing. (If the beginning of a tune string includes a series of default settings for tempo, octave, duration, and style, such as "T180mnL4o3", then they should also be included in their own pair of brackets, or else they will be ignored.) In each case, a left bracket signals the start of a segment to be played, while a right bracket signals its end. Inserting a pair of brackets into a tune file automatically turns on this editing feature; however, upon the completion of editing, all the brackets should be removed, as Reveille only allows one tune in the Selected Tunes List to be played if any editing brackets are used.

It is quite possible to import BASIC "play" tunes, converting them into Reveille ".ply" format, and several such tunes are available on bulletin board systems. Usually, only a little bit of editing is needed to make the conversion (after the title and three asterisks are added, of course). Conversely, Reveille ".ply" files may be used in DOS BASIC by stripping the title and asterisks, and then possibly doing a little editing of the remaining tune string, although (obviously!) I am hoping that most conversions will be in the direction of DOS BASIC to Windows Reveille.

# SOUND DRIVER CONFLICTS

Reveille uses the Windows sound driver to generate its musical notes (as does the computer's own "beep", as well as any program that plays ".wav" files), and this driver (sound.drv, located in the Windows\System directory) is somewhat "finicky" about two programs trying to access it at one time. Since it is possible that the timer or scheduler that you use may "want" a second copy of Reveille to start while a first copy is still running, a "full" second copy of Reveille will not start up (to avoid sound driver conflicts); instead, a message box will be displayed, displaying the reminder message, so that the second message will still not be lost.

Because of possible sound driver conflicts, I suggest that you do not play any ".wav" file at the same time that Reveille is running, as the results may be unpredictable. However, unless you are using a separate sound card to play the ".wav" files, you may find that the rest of your computer's functions seem to be "frozen" while ".wav" files are being played, so that a timer that is "trying" to start Reveille at a time that a ".wav" file is being played may be forced to wait until just after the ".wav" file is through, thereby avoiding any sound driver conflict.

### REGISTRATION

This documentation file is for use with an unregistered copy of Reveille, distributed as "shareware", for evaluation purposes only. You are entitled to install Reveille on one computer, and to "test-drive" the program for a 30-day trial period. If you wish to give Reveille a more permanent home on your computer's hard disk, then please consider registering your use of Reveille. You would then be provided with a copy of the latest version of the program (without any "reminder screen"), some additional ".ply" files, and more complete documentation.

### INDIVIDUAL USER REGISTRATION

Registration fees for Individual Licenses are as follows: Separately, Reveille may be registered for \$12.95 (plus \$5.00 shipping and handling); Reveille Timer may be registered for \$9.95 (plus \$5.00 s&h). Or, the two programs may be registered together for \$19.95 (plus \$5.00 s&h). You may use the registration form at the end of the register.wri document (or you may simply print out the separate orderfrm.txt document); if you prefer, you may provide all of the registration information in a separate letter.

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Registration fees for Site Licenses are as follows: Separately, Reveille may be registered for \$49.95 (plus \$5.00 shipping and handling); Reveille Timer may be registered for \$29.95 (plus \$5.00 s&h). Or, the two programs may be registered together for \$59.95 (plus \$5.00 s&h). You may use the registration form at the end of this document (or you may simply print out the separate orderfrm.txt document); if you prefer, you may provide all of the registration information in a separate letter or purchase order.

## **PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION**

While registered copies of Reveille and Reveille Timer may NOT be used by any other than the registered individual or institution, any person is permitted (and, in fact, encouraged) to distribute the UNregistered, "shareware" versions of Reveille and Reveille Timer to others, as long as ALL of their files (specifically including the register.wri file) are distributed together (preferably bundled in the rvle-10.zip form).

THANK-YOU FOR TRYING OUT REVEILLE !!!