OBJECT ORIENTED PROGRAMMING

- Chapter Objectives
 - Assigning objects
 - Passing objects to functions
 - Returning objects from functions
 - An Introduction to friend functions

- Assigning Objects
 - One object can be assigned to another object that both objects are of the same class type.
 - By default, when one object is assigned to another, a bitwise copy of all the data members is made.

- Passing objects to functions
 - Objects can be passed to functions as arguments in just the same way that other types of data are passed.
 - Simply declare the function's parameter as a class type and then use an object of that class as an argument when calling the function.
 - As with other types of data, by default all objects are passed by value to a function.

- Passing objects to functions
 - When a copy of an object is made when being passed to a function, it means that a new object comes into existence.
 - When a copy of an object is made to be used in a function call, the constructor function is not called.
 - Also, when the function that the object was passed to terminates, the copy of the argument is destroyed, and the destructor function is called.

- Returning objects from functions
 - Functions can return objects by declaring object's class type for the function's returning type.
 - And return an object of that class type using the normal return statement.
 - The key point is that when an object is returned from a function, the temporary object used to effect the return will have its destructor function called.
 - Thus, you should <u>avoid returning objects</u> in which this situation is harmful.

- An Introduction to friend functions
 - A friend is not a member of a class but still has access to its private elements.
 - Two reasons that friend functions are useful have to do with operator overloading and the creation of certain types of I/O functions.
 - A third reason for friend functions is that there will be times when you want one function to have access to the private members of two or more different classes.