

## Private Member Functions

Private member functions are sometimes called *helper functions*. These functions are not available to the client program, only to the member functions of the class. These private functions are used to help manipulate or maintain the state of the class. For example:

```
class Date
{
    public:
        Date();
        Date(int m, int d, int y);
        void ShowDate();
        void ChangeDate(int m, int d, int y);
    private:
        bool Validate();
        int myDay;
        int myMonth;
        int myYear;
};
```

The private member function *Validate* can only be used by the member function *ShowDate*, *ChangeDate*, and the two constructors. The client has no need for the function, and the class only uses internally.