



Brevard Users Group



October 2011

From the Editor

Our President, Larry French, will be E-mailing the newsletter in PDF format to all members, for the rest of this year.

Hopefully this will entice more members to receive the newsletter in this way.

The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter is a major expense of the club.

The printed version will also be mailed to members for the remainder of this year. We will then take a poll to see if the E-mail version is agreeable to all members.

Please be sure Larry has your correct E-mail address.

There are a few advantages to this, one is the type size can be increased to suit each person, another is that the web links can just be clicked to go to that web site, without having to type the address in your browser. If necessary you can print only the articles that interest you. The newsletters can be saved to your computer, and there will always be the archives on the BUG web page.



Paragon Drive Copy 11 Professional

*Reviewed by Terry Currier, President of the WINNERS WINDOWS usERS group, Fountain Valley, CA
June 2011 issue, The Notepad
www.windowsusers.org
winnersug (at) aol.com*

Paragon Drive Copy 11 Professional is sort of a do-all utility for anyone wanting to copy a hard drive. What I used it for was to clone my hard drive to an external drive connected via USB. I have a 1.5TB drive in my computer and right now I'm using about 450GB of that space. There are other programs that will clone the drive, but you have to have the same size drive to copy it to. The Paragon Drive Copy did great copying it to the 500GB drive with no problem.

I set it up to Migrate Hard Disk. I started it before going to bed and expected the process to still need some time in the morning. But, it was done when I checked it in the morning. When I first backed up the drive with Rebit it took much longer. To be fair, though, Rebit creates a database and saves the files in a special way.

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Secretary's Report

By: Gervase Bushe

I really don't have anything to report. We only had specific member questions and answers. No motions, or discussions of general interest to the members who were not there. Hence no minutes.



Web Links

New Ransomware

The malware is currently spreading over links distributed over social networks.

<http://tinyurl.com/3b4wcys>



The MakerBot 3-D Printer

For the hard core Do-It-Yourself person.

<http://tinyurl.com/3mnwvzq>

Pages of things to make with your 3D printer

<http://www.thingiverse.com/>



Windows 8 Sneak Peek

"If you get the sense that Windows 8 is designed to compete on traditional PCs as well as slate-type tablets, you'd be right. Windows 8 will support standard personal computers and laptops, as well as tablets that run on ARM processors."

<http://tinyurl.com/3l7az7p>



"TRADITIONALLY, MOST OF AUSTRALIA'S IMPORTS COME FROM OVERSEAS."

** Former Australian cabinet minister Keppel Enderbery*

Treasurer's Report

By: Tom English

By now the majority of our members have paid dues of \$25 or less for 2011. The varying amounts have been caused by the process we have followed to change over to have all dues payable in January of each year. As we near the completion of this process, notices that will be sent for November and December will request payment of \$29 or \$27 (depending on the month) which will cover the balance of 2011 and all of 2012. This step is being taken to both reduce the work required to issue bills for a relatively small amount and enable the members affected to be able to write one check covering the balance of this and all of next year. Notices for October will request payment of \$6.00 but members will be offered the option of also including next years dues at this time.

EXPENSES

Postage	\$ 48.00
Web Page Expense	\$ 26.98
Printing (2 months)	\$163.56
Total	\$238.54

INCOME

Dues	\$ 90.00
Member Gift	\$ 50.00
Interest	.09
Total	\$140.09

ASSETS

Checking	\$1,004.91
Savings	\$2,022.91
Total	\$3,027.82

Renewals

Comstock	1303
Flowers	1271
Lopez	1250
Moody	1301
Moore	1296
Pofandt	1188
Standiford	1026

Welcome a New Member

Cupidon	1335
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October

BUG Meetings

2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Tinkers SIG Call 952-0199 to verify meeting	3 Daytime SIG & Investment SIG One Senior Place 8085 Spyglass Hill Rd	4	5	6	7	8
9 Tinkers SIG Call 952-0199 to verify meeting	10	11	12	13 Monthly Meeting Central Baptist Church 2303 Country Club Dr. Melbourne, FL	14	15
16 Tinkers SIG Call 952-0199 to verify meeting	17	18	19	20	21	22 Newsletter SIG Call 728-5979 for information
23 Tinkers SIG Call 952-0199 to verify meeting	24	25	26	27 Windows, Imaging, & Linux SIG Central Baptist Church 2303 Country Club Dr.	28	29
30 Tinkers SIG Call 952-0199 to verify meeting	31					

Is There a Tablet PC in Your Future?

By Sandy Berger, Compu-KISS
www.compukiss.com / sandy (at) compukiss.com

Apple's iPad tablets are flying off the shelves and many competitors are introducing similar tablets. Here's a brief synopsis of the tablet situation and what it means to you.

In just nine months in 2010, Apple sold more than 15 million iPads. In the first month of sales, the iPad 2 sold millions more. According to some industry experts the iPad is the fastest growing new product in history. Perhaps, though, the most important thing about the iPad is that it has ushered in a new era in computing. Steve Jobs calls it the Post PC age. Although I agree that this is a new era in computing, there is nothing Post PC about it. The iPods, iPhones, and iPads that Mr. Jobs is talking about, all run on computer processor chips. They all perform functions that are similar to those performed by computers. No, this is not the Post PC era. Rather, it is the era of ubiquitous computing. If you look up the word "ubiquitous," you will find that it means omnipresent, pervasive, permeating, universal, and ever-present. This is what mobile devices like the iPhone and especially the iPad bring to us.

I expect that tablet PCs like the iPad will continue to grow in popularity. Although as of this moment, no other manufacturer has yet been able to equal the design, implementation, and price point that Apple has set, the march of the tablets has only just begun. There is plenty of competition in the making. Apple boasted 9.5 billion in revenue from the iPad in the last nine months of 2010, so everyone else is hurrying to get their version of the tablet PC to market.

Motorola recently released the Xoom, an Android tablet that is a competitive but pricey alternative to the iPad. Research In Motion, the creators of the BlackBerry, released their tablet called the Playbook in April. This will, of course, be based on their own BlackBerry operating system. Asus, Dell and LG Electronics will be introducing new tablets based on the Android operating system in the next few months. Samsung has announced that they will revamp their

Android Galaxy Tab tablet and introduce two updated versions soon. HP is scheduled to roll out its first tablet based on the webOS operating system sometime in June. So within the next few months, we will have at least eight tablets from major manufacturers running four different operating systems.

If you are wondering why you should care about this, here's the scoop. Tablets are an entirely new category of computers. In most cases, they will not replace personal computers, but will augment them. There will still be computers running infrastructure, businesses, and hospitals, but both professionals and home users will find tablets extremely useful for their day-to-day living.

Since tablets have touch screens. You don't need a keyboard, mouse, or stylus. This makes them extremely portable. Also most tablets have very long battery lives, so you aren't tethered to the wall by a cable. Because tablets use apps rather than traditional software programs, they are much easier to use and more stress-free than computers.

App stores like Apple's iTunes store and Android's Marketplace have hundreds of thousands of apps available, so a tablet PC can be quickly and easily personalized to perform only the functions that the user needs or wants. This gives users a more intimate relationship with their devices.

In fact, this relationship is not only revolutionary, it is often somewhat magical. I recently watched my three-year-old granddaughter play with a Disney fairy app on an iPad. She gently moved the iPad to and fro to make Tinkerbell and her friends fly over the breathtaking scenery sprinkling fairy dust over the land. She was thoroughly enchanted. I also watched a 70-year-old man who was equally mesmerized by the interactive audio and video of a magazine site that he was viewing on his iPad. These devices are engaging for everyone. People from three to 103 can use and enjoy them.

Tablets are so empowering that I predict that they will become indispensable to everyday living. Who wants to walk into another room to get over to the computer when they need a recipe or want to look up a word.

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Tablet PC ... Continued from Page 5

It is much easier to just grab a tablet PC off the coffee table. You can use it to watch television when you are on the go, to check the weather in the morning, or to read a book or listen to music as you endure the wait in the doctor's office.

Teachers are using tablets with great success because they are enthralling to children. Doctors are using them as a point-of-care device that can not only document the patient's progress, but can also help doctors explain procedures to patients. Artists are using them to create new masterpieces.

More and more applications are being found for tablets every day. With the new tablets that will be appearing in the next few months, this will be a very interesting category of devices to watch. Keep your eyes open, there may be a tablet PC in your future.



Good Fences Make Good Desktops

(Apologies to Robert Frost)

By Joe Asling, Columnist, Monterey Bay Users Group – PC, California

June 2011 issue, mbug-pc newsletter

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I like a neat desktop. In XP, I would right-click on the desktop to get a context menu, then click New/ Folder and name it "Internet" or "Utilities" or whatever. I would open it and fill it with shortcuts to all the applicable programs. This way, any program (or other file) I needed was two double-clicks away. But in Windows 7, when you create a new folder, it is a nasty double-columned Windows Explorer folder, and if you accidentally click in the left column, you lose all your nice shortcuts (you can get them back with the left arrow in the upper corner, but...). So I needed another way to organize icons.

Now, the Start Menu in W7 is an improvement. You can right-click on any program icon and select "pin to Start Menu" or "pin to toolbar."

The programs you use all the time (Internet browser, mail client) can sit on the toolbar and be up in one click, and programs you use frequently are a click of the Start button (the circle with the windows flag in the lower left-hand corner) away. You can customize how the Start menu and the toolbar look by right clicking on the toolbar or Start button and clicking on "Properties."

The best thing about the W7 Start Menu is that each program you have used has a little right-pointing arrow at the right side; hover the mouse arrow over it and you will see, and can open, the files you have recently opened with that program—admirable!

OK, now to the fences. There are files I don't use all the time (backup program, scanner software, manuals for hardware I haven't played with a lot yet) but don't want to go digging for in Windows Explorer. Stardock makes a free program called "Fences"

<http://www.stardock.com/products/fences/>.

Essentially, it creates shaded areas on the desktop into which you can drag shortcuts, just like with XP's folders. When you first install it, there are some wizards you can use to configure your fenced areas, or you can just go freeform. You can name them, resize them, and move them. You cannot minimize them as you could folders in XP, but—almost as good—just double-click on the desktop, and voilà, they disappear. Double-click again and, voilà, they come back. (Curiously, other desktop icons, such as the Recycle Bin, disappear also, but you can right-click on the icon and select "Exclude this Item from Fences' quick-hide.") You can do a lot of other stuff, like resize icons, from the context menu when you right-click on the desktop. So, happy fencing in Windows 7!



I have always wished for my computer to be as easy to use as my telephone; my wish has come true because I can no longer figure out how to use my telephone."

—
Danish computer scientist Bjarne Stroustrup



The Killer App of the 21st Century

By Vinny LaBash, Contributing Columnist, Sarasota PCUG, Florida

June 2011 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor

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Over the years, and more than once, my wife has said “Until computers work the way they do on Star Trek, they are not ready for prime time”. She has a point. While computers, smart phones, laptops, tablets, and other close relatives of PCs have certainly become ubiquitous in our society, they are among the most complex devices ever developed by human beings. Their internal complexity rivals that of the most advanced F-22 fighter planes. No one expects grandma to climb into the cockpit of one of these things and be an expert after a few lessons because no one expects an F-22 fighter to be easy to use.

Despite what you have been hearing for years, computers are not easy to use, and they are anything but intuitive. If Isaac Newton were suddenly transported from the 17th century to the present and handed a smart phone, he would have no idea what to do with it. The ability to make a computer do something useful has nothing to do with intelligence and everything to do with familiarity. Twelve year olds have no problems with smart phones or other devices controlled by microchips because these objects have always been a part of their young lives. Most adults have not enjoyed a similar advantage, and many feel that technology often works against them.

The problem is that people have had to adjust to the needs of technology rather than the other way around. That is the basis of my wife’s complaint about computers. She thinks they should adjust to her, and I believe she is right. In the 1982 movie “Firefox”, Clint Eastwood played a character sent on a covert mission to the Soviet Union to steal an advanced aircraft that could be controlled by the pilot’s thoughts through a neural link. This was and still is science fiction, but it’s also a good example of digital technology adjusting to the needs of analog beings like us.

The “KillerApp” of the 21st century will be a tool that makes computers and other complex devices adapt to us. It already exists, but it’s still in its infancy or perhaps even its embryonic stage. Wherever it is on the evolutionary scale, it has not yet moved much beyond the multi-cellular level. We’re talking about present day speech recognition, a considerable distance from Star Trek where machines understand natural language and react to it as another person would.

Windows 7 has speech recognition built-in. You don’t have to pay extra for it. Using it can be quite entertaining as well as educational. Set it up on your computer with a three step process accessed within Windows Control Panel. You will need either a stand-alone microphone or one attached to a headset. The headset-microphone combination is the better option. It’s comfortable, and the headset filters out extraneous noise better than most standalone mikes.

It’s tempting to get started quickly, but to get the best results you need to setup your microphone properly. Access the **Configure Your Speech Recognition** dialog box, and select **Set up Microphone**. Tell Windows what kind of microphone you’re using and the **Setup Wizard** will tell you how to position your equipment and set your audio level.

Now comes the hard part. Bring up the **Configure Your Speech Recognition** dialog box again and select **Train Your Computer to Understand You**. The Wizard will now guide you through some phrases which give Windows the information it needs to understand how to interpret and execute your commands. Training the computer may be annoying, but it is nowhere near as irritating as trying to get your dog to fetch, heel, roll over, and play dead.

Microsoft has thoughtfully provided a reference card which explains how you tell Windows to handle common speech recognition commands, keyboard shortcuts, punctuation marks, and other special characters. You can print it out from the **Control Panel’s Speech Recognition** dialog box. Windows will not respond to “Go jump in the Lake”, nor will it attempt to perform any anatomically impossible acts. Keep your requests reasonable, and Windows will get along with you just fine.

Continued on Page 8

The Killer App ...Continued from Page 7

Smart phones are also getting into the voice activation business. Newer Android models have a neat application that does some very useful things. Google Voice Search is nothing short of amazing. I spoke into my recently purchased Android driven HTC Thunderbolt "Pictures of Ringling Causeway Bridge" and the result was four pictures of the bridge, including a map of how to get there from my Sarasota location.

I then tried "How far from the earth is the Moon?" This brought up a selection of web sites, one informing me of the distance in miles, and a second of the distance in kilometers. There were loads of additional astronomical information about our nearest planetary neighbor, far too much to explore in one session, but lots of reasons for a return visit for the curious.

Next was "Directions to Starbucks". I instantly knew the location of all the Starbucks in Sarasota, and I had my choice of getting directions by public or private transportation. The application even offered directions by bicycle or foot.

In an effort to stump it I asked "How can we get rid of Khadafi?" Incredibly, the thing gave me an answer that might actually work. The Pentagon should be informed.

It effortlessly translated units of measurement from one system to another such as miles to kilometers, and yards to centimeters. It told me a gallon of water weighs approximately 8.35 pounds, and on and on. I finally stopped it cold when I asked it to change miles per hour into furlongs per fortnight, but that was probably unfair.

Google is doing a great job with getting technology to adapt to us. There is still a long way to go, but the future looks promising which brings us back to Star Trek. Whenever Captain Picard wants tea, he always asks for it the same way. He says "Tea, Earl, Grey, hot." Why can't he say something like "Tea, my usual?" I suspect the computer is smart enough, and the fault lies in the scriptwriter's lack of imagination.



It's not hard to meet expenses...they're everywhere.

Changing Settings in Your Browser

*By Gini Pedersen, Instructor, FREE Internet and Computer Classes, San Diego Continuing Education; Honorary Lifetime Member; Seniors Computer Group, for her outstanding work in the community
<http://www.iteachyou.com>
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Every software application comes with preset options that work most of the time for most folks. However, occasionally you will want to change these default settings.

Following are approximate steps for changing settings in most versions of Internet Explorer and Firefox:

Internet Explorer

1. Click TOOLS (or VIEW) - INTERNET OPTIONS
2. Make desired changes
3. Click Apply (if available) and click OK when done

Firefox

1. Click TOOLS - OPTIONS
2. Make desired changes
3. Click OK when done

Adjusting Starting Page in your Browser

Every browser is preset to open a specific starting webpage when you open the browser. If you'd prefer to have your browser open to a specific starting webpage, you can make this change within the settings of your browser. The following steps should work exactly (or similarly) for many versions of Internet Explorer and Firefox:

Internet Explorer

1. Click TOOLS (or VIEW) - INTERNET OPTIONS
2. Click General tab
3. Highlight Web address listed in Home Page Address box
4. Type in new Web address, including the http:// portion
5. Click Apply (if available); click OK when done

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Changing Settings ... Continued from Page 8

Firefox

1. Click TOOLS - OPTIONS
2. Make desired changes
3. Click General
4. Click OK when done

Changing the Size of your Browser's Display Font

If you're having trouble reading the text displayed on webpages, you might find it helpful to change the default font display. When you do, the new setting may remain active each time you open your browser.

To do this, go to <http://www.iteachyou.com> and do the following:

Internet Explorer

1. Click VIEW-TEXT SIZE
2. Make your choice

Firefox

1. Click VIEW-TEXT SIZE
2. Make your choice

Note that changing text size may not work on some Webpages.



This and That or Things That May Interest You

By Lynn Page, Editor, Crystal River Users Group, Florida

February 2011 issue, CRUG newsletter

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Excel

Copy with No Formatting

To copy the contents of a cell and not the underlying formula on the Home tab, in the Clipboard group, click Copy. Move to the cell to paste into and on the Home tab, in the Clipboard group, click Paste, and then click Paste Values.

Move or Copy a Formula

Cell references are important and it is important to be aware of what can happen to these references,

whether absolute or relative, when moving a formula by cutting and pasting it, or by copying and pasting the formula into a new location.

When moving a formula, the cell references within the formula do not change regardless of the type of cell reference used.

When copying a formula, the cell references may change based on the type of cell reference used. Verify that the cell references in the formula produced the desired result. If not, switch the type of reference.

Windows 7

Run Multiple Copies of Applications from the Taskbar

Many times I like to have two Word documents open side by side. To open multiple copies of an application so that different files are shown in separate windows, shift click the icon on the Task Bar to open an additional application window.

Pin a Folder to the Windows Explorer Jump List

To have a folder quickly available in Windows Explorer pin it to the Explorer Jump List. Find and select the folder, then drag and drop it to the Windows Explorer icon on the Task bar. To quickly open the folder right click the Windows Explorer icon and select the folder from the jump list.

USB Security and Protection

USB flash drives are wonderful for transporting files between computers. Just remember that if one computer is infected with a virus or malware can come along on the flash drive. So for security before transferring files scan the flash drive with up to date virus and antimalware before copying files.



PC Repair, software or hardware.



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Word 2007 – A few useful tips

By Lynn Page, Editor,
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The Ribbon

With Office 2007 Microsoft introduced a totally new interface that has carried forward into Office 2010. The new Ribbon interface provides access to program features organized into logical groups on tabs relating to a type of activity. Some tabs appear only when needed like the Picture Tools tab, shown when a picture is selected.

When a tab is selected the Ribbon becomes a graphical presentation of the program commands in that group. So commands are readily available and noticeable making it easy to see things you may not have known existed or were too much trouble to find.

Office Button

One problem with the Ribbon interface was finding the old File drop down menu commands. The Office Button replaced the File drop down menu and Options dialog box. Clicking the Office button at the top left of the application window opens a drop down menu. From the menu you can create a new document, open an existing document and save or print the current document. It also provides a list of recently accessed documents. The Word Options dialog box is also accessed from the menu.

Quick Preview

A really great feature is quick preview. It lets you see formatting changes before applying them. With the movement of the mouse over the proposed formatting, you see how the document looks with that formatting.

Mini Toolbar

When working within a Tab, the Commands available on others are not visible. However some formatting commands are so important they are available all the time through the Mini toolbar. With text selected point at the selection and the Mini toolbar appears near the selected text in a faded fashion. Pointing to the Mini toolbar makes it become solid. Click a formatting option on the toolbar to apply the format.

Quick Access Toolbar

The Mini toolbar is great for formatting options, but doesn't offer other commands. For these the Quick

Access Toolbar is a solution makes frequently used commands available for easy access, regardless of which tab of the Ribbon is active. It is the row of buttons next to the Microsoft Office Button above the Ribbon. By default, the QuickAccess Toolbar contains buttons for Save, Undo, and Repeat (Redo). In addition, the toolbar can be customized to contain personal favorites.

Click the down arrow beside the toolbar to open the Customize Quick Access Toolbar drop down menu. In the drop down menu, click a command to select it for inclusion in the toolbar. For more versatility, add commands directly from the Ribbon. Find the command on the Ribbon, right click it and click Add to Quick Access Toolbar.

A Few Useful Commands

Paste Special

The Paste Special command controls the format of pasted text. This is good when copying text or a graphic from another document or a web page to paste into a Word document. The Paste Special dialog box gives options for the format of text or graphic being pasted. The "Unformatted text" option cleans up pasted text. It pastes bare, unformatted text only. All other formatting information is stripped out, including bold, underlining, italics, indents, bullets etc.

Character Spacing

Character spacing found on the font dialog box is useful in final editing to eliminate orphans and widows.

Change Case

Change Case is accessed from the Home Tab in the Font Group. It is not in the Font dialog box. Select the text and Click the Change Case icon in the Font group on the Home tab. Select Sentence case, lowercase, UPPERCASE, Capitalize Each Word and TOGGLE cASE in the drop down menu.

Text Wrapping Break

Text Wrapping breaks along with text wrapping control how text is placed with respect to graphics. Add a Text Wrapping Break to start the next line of text below the graphic. Any type of break is added from the Page Layout tab. In the Page Setup group click Breaks. From the drop down menu select the appropriate break. Page, Column and Text Wrapping breaks are in the Page Breaks section. The different types of Section breaks are available in the Section Breaks section. They include next Page, Continuous, Even Page and Odd Page.



Paragon Drive Copy ... Continued from Page 1

Using Paragon Drive Copy is the ideal way to migrate to a larger drive, or to an SSD drive. Another use is, as they call it, migrate hard drive to container. It creates an image file of your drive making it so you can create a copy onto another computer. This is what many companies will do in setting up new computers so they all match.

One thing we should all have is a recovery disc. Their Recovery Media Builder can help you:

- Prepare the Linux/DOS recovery environment (included in the installation package) on external media (CD, DVD, or flash memory) to boot and run utilities under Linux or PTS DOS, and that way to get access to your hard disk for maintenance or recovery purposes.
- Create from the master CD the Linux/DOS or WinPE (Windows Pre-installation Environment) recovery environment on a CD/DVD disc, or flash memory.
- Prepare a bootable recovery environment from any ISO image, including their WinPE 3.0 image

Paragon Drive Copy Key benefits:

- Ultra high-capacity HD support (>2.2TB) migrates existing system from Master Boot Record (MBR) to modern Retained GPT (GUID Partition Table also known as Hybrid GPT) HDD and gain access to complete HDD capacity
- All partitioning (resize, move, creation) and copy with resize operations now take partition alignment problems into account with all volumes being automatically aligned by sector
- Dissimilar hardware support allows migration of existing system and makes it bootable in a new environment
- Copy features – copy a full hard disk or a separate partition, and resize a partition while copying
- Supports all major virtual machines: MS Virtual PC, VMware Workstation, Oracle Virtual Box, VMware Fusion;
- Basic partitioning features
- Refined User Interface – improved two-level user interface (Easy/Advanced) to satisfy needs of every customer
- Boot Corrector

- Empowered data safety and disaster recovery tools for both physical and virtual Windows environments.
- Updated wiping technologies can efficiently dispose of data on any HDD, SSD, flash-drives and laptops.
- USB 3.0 ready: New USB 3.0 port grants the possibility to access to external HDD and Flash drives on the new high-speed version of the traditional serial port

Drive Copy 11's interface is good and easy-to-understand. The help that comes with it is very good with illustrated instructions to help the user.

Paragon Drive Copy 11 Professional is available for \$39.95 via download from <http://www.paragon-software.com/home/dc-professional/>

System Requirements

- Operating systems: Windows XP/Vista/7 and XP SP2/Vista/7 64-bit
- Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher
- Intel Pentium CPU or its equivalent, with 300 MHz processor clock speed
- 128 MB of RAM (256+ recommended)
- Hard disk drive with 100 MB of available space
- SVGA video adapter and monitor
- Keyboard
- Mouse
-

Additional requirements

- External USB hard drive to store data



No matter what time of day or night, when I call a company, they are always having a high volume of calls and I must wait for the next available operator.

What's a man's idea of helping with the housework? Lifting his legs so she can vacuum.

'The man who complains about the way the ball bounces is likely to be the one who dropped it.'
- Lou Holtz

Keep iPads and Tablets Clean With SideKick™ from LensPen®

By Terry Currier,
President of the WINNERS WINDOWS usERS group, CA
June 2011 issue, Winners Notepad
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I saw this company at CES and was impressed with their product. iPads and tablets are great, stylish products. But the touch-screen action leaves a trail of oily fingerprints that soon cover the whole surface. A cloth isn't effective and some sprays and tissues can make the fingerprint mess even worse. In reality you should not use a glass cleaner on you monitor or tablets, because they have a special coating on them. While I did find a wet paper towel works pretty good on the iPad the SideKick works the best.

SideKick's carbon compound is similar to the one found in printer's ink; why newspapers have been an effective way to clean windows for generations.

The cost for SideKick is \$19.95. A package of two replacement cleaning pads is \$14.95. Each pad gives 150 cleanings. <http://www.lenspen.com>



"My wife drives like lighting!"

"You mean fast?"

"No, she always hits the trees!"



Small Business & Home
Support Specialists

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Minutes of Officers Meeting

August 25, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 8.10 PM by President Larry French.

Present were the members of the board of directors as follows:

President Larry French, Vice President Henry (Hank) Lauritsen, Treasurer Tom English, Secretary Gervase Bushe, and First member at large Bob Bloch and Second member at large Bill Middleton. Also guest News Letter Editor Jim Townsend was present.

The minutes of the prior meeting of April 28, 2011 were read. It was moved by Bob Bloch and seconded by Hank Lauritsen that these minutes be approved as read. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Tom English mentioned that after he sent out an email showing estimated annual expenses he heard from Eric Arnold (webmaster) saying that there were some other expenses which he had missed.

These were some expenses relating to our website, some for 2010, and some coming up in 2011 amounting to around \$200. Jim Townsend recalled that at one time we had paid for 5 years in advance to make sure that we did not lose that particular website name. He felt that we should do that again. Tom said that there were three parts to it. The website, the domain name and a third thing he couldn't remember. However we would have to get in touch with Eric to find out exactly what we owed. He thought it was in the area of \$220. Jim Townsend suggested we should find out when our Domain Name expires and make sure that it is extended for a good period of time so that we don't lose it.

Tom also said he would try to get out a corrected membership list to all officers every month. He found that items such as email addresses changed frequently, and even what he thought was an up-to-date list today required some changes. He asked that everyone send him any required changes ASAP.

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He suggested that when a member's prorated dues came down to \$6.00 in October that they send out a note saying if they would care to send in \$31.00 that would take care of next year's dues as well. He thought that in November and December they should be asked to send in \$29, and \$27 respectively.

Larry French said that whichever way was the least complicated for the guys who were doing it, was the way he would like to see it done.

Tom said if there was no objection from the board that was the way he and Bob Bloch would do it.

Jim Townsend suggested that Tom write it up this way and send it to him for inclusion in the newsletter. This way everyone would understand what was expected.

President's Report: President Larry French reported that again we were going to face a club presidential crisis as he was not prepared to continue in this position for another year. He wanted the board to think about possible solutions.

Jim Townsend said that he did not think that we had a club treasury dilemma, we had an officer's dilemma because if we didn't have officers we didn't have a club, and there would be no treasury dilemma.

Secretary Bushe asked when the deadline for new officers would be. Pres. French said that the election was in January.

Tom English said that he did not want to collect people's dues for next year if we were going under.

Jim Townsend said that we could produce a news letter for the next year with the present treasury with no problem.

President French asked "Could I let some one else take care of this stuff so that I don't have to come to every single meeting?" (referring to the projector and PC equipment which he presently brings in and sets up.) He felt that this was the primary reason why he does not want to continue in this position. V.P.Hank Lauritsen said that he could haul the equipment if this was what it took

to keep the club going. Jim Townsend also suggested that we could cut back on the meetings and only have one a month instead of two.

Bob Bloch stated that there was another way we could handle part of this. He asked if Dave (Riches) went to every meeting at One Senior Place? Larry said that yes, if he was in town he did. Bob's idea was duplication of equipment. One for up there which would stay with Dave. (The other would remain for meetings at the church here). Larry said that a projector would not be required for One Senior place, as there was one available there. Only a laptop was required. Hank asked Larry, "So why would you need to go there?" It turned out that Larry presently goes to set up the first (beginner's) meeting and then Dave only comes in at 3Pm for the investment section.

Larry did not know whether Dave would be willing to get there for 1.30 to set up for the first meeting.

It was established that it would not be possible to leave equipment there as they would not allow it. Larry said that this was something to think about.

Regarding the newsletter: Jim Townsend said that he was already sending a past issue which Eric was posting on the website so he would like to send the current issue to the web at the same time as he sent it to the printer. He felt that this way members might get used to reading it electronically, and perhaps would be more inclined to accept getting it that way (by email) in the future. Secretary Bushe said that he thought it was a bit of a misconception that members would not accept the newsletter by email. Jim and someone else present indicated that the club had been surveyed about this 4 or 5 years ago and the majority wanted to keep the printed Newsletter. Bushe said that another organization that he belongs to was having the same problem about a printed newsletter, and they just switched over to email, which everybody quickly became used to.

He said "Well we are a computer club, so every member has a computer at least. The other group I belong to the big sticking point was that some of the members didn't have a computer. They still went ahead and a few extra copies are printed and available at

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meetings for those members to pick up. He said I even prefer it now, as I can print only the items I'm interested in." Jim Townsend also pointed out another advantage is that in PDF format the size of type can easily be increased to the size desired by the reader.

Hank Lauritsen suggested that we just start sending them out by email.

Larry French queried whether we shouldn't ask them first. Hank thought not, since this would just open the possibility of a negative response.

Townsend voiced the opinion that this was the member's money in the treasury, and if we closed the club down we were obligated by law to donate the proceeds to another non profit organization.

This was questioned by Hank Lauritsen who had dissolved an investment club, and Larry French who pointed out that we were a non profit organization, but not a charitable one. He conceded that he would have to look into this further,

Townsend went on to talk about the question of stopping the (printed) news letter. He said that there were members who had never come to a meeting since he was a member in '94 or '95. He questioned if we were going to reduce the dues, since the newsletter was all they received from the club. Treasurer English responded no. But we would have to increase the dues if we were to continue printing.

Bob Bloch suggested that maybe we should offer classes on how to print the newsletter. He felt maybe we could get some of these people out to a meeting.

Hank Lauritsen stated that he had been one of those that had wanted the printed copy, but now that he got it on his computer it was right where he wanted it and he only printed selected pages.

Larry pointed out that the reason a lot of people didn't come to meetings was that they could not drive at night. And Viera was "too far".

Bob said he didn't want to change the meetings only to offer the instruction at both places. He said that this could be presented as an alternative to increasing the dues "and that if you come to a meeting we will show you how to do it."

Larry said we could advertise a class in this, and see how many people we might get. He thought it was a good idea, which he liked.

Jim Townsend said before he forgot, he wanted to get the board's approval for him to put the current newsletter on the website. The question came up as to what would be the downside of doing this? The answer was that unless it was password protected we might lose some dues paying members who only pay the dues for the newsletter now. Jim felt that setting up a password protected system would be a big pain for the web master and Eric might not want to do it.

Larry French said "If you want to keep it private, I could email it. I email about 30 people now." He went on to say it was not a big deal for him. He said to do the whole club he would have to send two emails. To do it on one email it would be too big for Road Runner. He said he didn't have a problem with this. Once a month to send out two emails to cover everybody was fine with him. It would be a PDF sent as an attachment.

Bob Bloch said "as long as Larry is willing, why don't we go to this. If for some reason this doesn't work we could still go to your (Townsend's) plan."

There followed a lot more discussion about the possibility of cutting down to one monthly (nighttime) meeting instead of the present two, the availability of speakers, how to lighten the presidents obligation to attend all meetings, and lug the equipment around. Etc. Nothing firm about this was decided.

Larry sending the newsletter out by email to all members, and continuing the printed copy at least for the remainder of the year, was agreed by all present. This was so moved by Bill Middleton and seconded by Bob Bloch. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was a motion to adjourn by secretary Gervase Bushe seconded by Bill Middleton, and the meeting was finally adjourned at 9.15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Gervase M. Bushe.

☺

Brevard Users Group Membership Application

First Name _____ Last Name _____
Address _____ City _____
Home Phone _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____
Family Membership \$25.00 E-mail Address _____

Special Interest Groups

Afternoon Meeting

An afternoon meeting is held on the first Monday of the month at 2pm, in One Senior Place, 8085 Spyglass Hill Rd, Viera.

WINDOWS SIG Meets 7:00 PM

On the second and fourth Thursdays at the Central Baptist Church
2503 Country Club Rd Melbourne

BEGINNERS SIG (Newbies)

Meets at 6:30 pm. The 4th Thursdays, at the Central Baptist Church

IMAGING SIG

Meets at 7:00 PM the fourth Thursday, at the Central Baptist Church

NEWSLETTER SIG

Meets on the second Saturday after the BUG monthly meeting.
Place is Jim Townsend's home.
Call 728-5979 for directions.

LINUX SIG

Meets on the Fourth and Fifth Thursday at the Central Baptist Church

TINKERS SIG

Meets on most Sundays at Bob Schmidt's house.
Call 952-0199 to verify meeting and directions.
E-mail: rschmidt@cfl.rr.com

BUG Club Information

BUG E-MAIL LIST

To be included in the BUG E-Mail roster, send an E-Mail to Larry French at:
president@bugclub.org.

We will need your full name, E-Mail address and your BUG membership number. You will then receive notices and updates on BUG activities, special events, changes to schedules, etc.

BUG Officers

Meet on the Forth Thursday of the month at the Central Baptist Church

Advertising Rates

	4 Months	8 Months	12 Months
Full Page	\$160.00	\$305.00	\$440.00
Half Page	\$85.00	\$162.00	\$232.00
Qtr Page	\$45.00	\$86.00	\$123.00
Bus Card	\$25.00	\$48.00	\$68.00

Moving ?

Don't miss out on any issues of the BUG Newsletter
Send your new address to:
Brevard Users Group Att: Treasurer
PO Box 2456
Melbourne, FL 32902-2456
And e-mail to the Newsletter and Treasurer at:
newsletter@bugclub.org
treasurer@bugclub.org

**Brevard Users Group
Incorporated
P. O. Box 2456
Melbourne, FL 32902-2456**

Monthly Meetings:

Are held at the second Thursday of the month at Central Baptist Church 2503 Country Club Rd Melbourne at 6:30 PM.

Membership:

Is by application and payment of \$25.00 annual dues. Membership is for 12 months from receipt of dues and includes a year's subscription to the newsletter.

Your membership expires on the date indicated in the upper left of your address label (YYYYMM). Please allow six weeks for processing the renewal.

BUG Officers

President:

Larry French 837-0962
president@bugclub.org

Vice President

Hank Lauritsen 254-8550
vicepresident@bugclub.org

Treasurer:

Tom English 684-8440
treasurer@bugclub.org

Secretary:

Gervase Bushe 952-7385
secretary@bugclub.org

1st Member at Large:

Bob Bloch 733-4431

2nd Member at Large

Gervase Bushe

Committee Chairperson

Beginners Help:

Tom Butler 242-9869
geotbutler@juno.com

FACUG Representative:

Open

Program Director:

Hank Lauritsen

Webmaster:

Eric Arnold
webmaster@bugclub.org

BUG Web Page:

<http://bugclub.org>

Special Interest Groups

Beginners' SIG:

Larry French 837-0962
beginners@bugclub.org

Hardware (Tinkers) SIG:

Bob Schmidt 952-0199
hardware@bugclub.org

Newsletter Publishing SIG:

Jim Townsend 728-5979
newsletter@bugclub.org

Win 9x/XP SIG:

George Rymer 724-6715
Chuck Boring 454-9455
Bob Staples 255-2623

Imaging SIG:

Ed McEwen imaging@bugclub.org

Linux SIG

Chris Crisafulli
linux-sig@bugclub.org