

Brevard Users Group



September 2012

So ... You're going to play the lottery !

Chances of dying from a bee sting: 1 in 6.1 million.
*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

Chance you will be die from being struck by lightning: 1 in 3 million.
*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

The chance of an amateur golfer making a hole in one on a par-3 hole is about 1 in 12,500.
*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

The chance of a golfer hitting a hole in one on consecutive par-3 holes: 1 in about 156 million.
*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

The chance of hitting a deer with a vehicle in Hawaii, is 1 in 6,267.
*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

The chance of being struck by lightning over an 80-year lifetime: 1 in 10,000.

*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

Chance of drowning and other beach-related fatalities: 1 in 2 million.

*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

Chance of being attacked by a shark: 1 in 11.5 million.

*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*

Chance of drowning and other beach-related fatalities: 1 in 2 million.

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1 in 175.7 million.*

Chance of being attacked by a shark: 1 in 11.5 million.

*Chance you will win the Mega Millions jackpot:
1 in 175.7 million.*



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Brevard Users Group

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Jim Townsend 728-5979
E-mail to: newsletter@bugclub.org

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
BREVARD USERS GROUP
WILL BE ON THURSDAY
September , 13th, 2012
At 6:30 pm
In
The Central Baptist Church
2503 Country Club Dr.
Melbourne, FL 32901-5899
Visitors welcome!**

**Visit the BUG CLUB web site
for the latest schedule.
<http://bugclub.org>**

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Attention

Newsletter Editors

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Secretary's Report

By: Gervase Bushe

Minutes of General Meeting August 9th, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 6.30 PM by President Larry French.

There were about 14 members present plus one guest Eric Munzenmayer.

Larry announced that since there was no speaker tonight, there would be a question and answer session. He then asked if anyone had any announcements. There were none. Larry then opened the meeting to computer questions.

As usual Chuck Boring was able to reply to our guest's and any member's questions and he was often able to illustrate the answer on the large display screen.

Larry's brother had recently forgotten his Google password so this led to a discussion on passwords, fingerprint technology and facial recognition.

There was also a question about cutting out all the other email addresses that come along when forwarding a received email. It was explained how after clicking "forward" all these surplus email addresses can be removed using the delete or back space key.

However Chuck also pointed out that if you type all of your recipients addresses in the BCC (blind carbon copy) area instead of after "To", each recipient will receive the forwarded message with only his name, and your (the sender's name) shown.

Other questions and answers that came up were related to our guest's and particular member's concerns.

After all the questions of the members and guest present had been answered, the meeting ended at 8PM.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Gervase Bushe



Treasurer's Report

By: Tom English

July -2012

EXPENSES

Postage	\$ 35.75
Printing	\$ 65.01
Meeting Space Rent	\$180.00 (6 months)
Total	\$280.76

INCOME

Dues	\$25.00
Interest	\$ 0.08
Total	\$25.08

ASSETS

Checking	\$ 982.64
Savings	\$2,023.83
TOTAL	\$3,006.47



State's 1st Microsoft Store opens at Florida Mall

Microsoft's first retail store in the Sunshine State will open at Florida Mall Thursday, Aug. 16.

The 4,470-square-foot outlet will sell hardware and software including PCs, cell phones, Xbox, Kinect and Office.

Read more: <http://bit.ly/OV6ITo>



Clamshell!

The Story of the Greatest Computing Form Factor of All Time

Read more: <http://ti.me/NFWbrJ>



September BUG Meetings 2010

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

Minutes of Officers Meeting

July 26, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 8.000 PM by President Larry French

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

Vice President Henry (Hank) Lauritsen, Treasurer Tom English, Secretary Gervase Bushe and Second member at large Bill Middleton. First member at large Bob Bloch was excused as he was out of town. Newsletter editor Jim Townsend was also present.

The minutes of the prior meeting of the board should have been read and verified next but since no one had brought a copy it was moved by Hank Lauritsen and seconded by Bob Middleton that the reading of these minutes be skipped. The vote in favor was unanimous. French said that this could be dealt with at our next meeting.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Tom English reported that he had sent his Treasurer's report for May and June to Larry and Jim Townsend, and he expected it would be printed in the next newsletter. He said that our membership was declining, but we did get one new member in July. Questioned about our present membership numbers he replied that we had 69 paid members and 84 total. After some discussion it was agreed that the only member who was presently exempt from paying dues who would not be exempt next January would be Eric Arnold our former Webmaster. It was acknowledged that we might still owe Eric some money for expenses he had paid, but so far he had not provided any invoices or documentation.

Hank Lauritsen started to make a motion that no one in the club be exempt from paying dues, but Jim Townsend suggested that before we got in to that, that we should discuss the matter of the expense of printing the newsletter which was the reason that this meeting had been called. Tom English, who had been the one who had asked for a board meeting, said that he had analyzed the check book and concluded that our annual expenses without the newsletter were about \$862.00 per year. He said that when you add the news letter including postage even with the new system that adds another \$1200.00 yearly.

The dues take in \$1725.00 right now. He said based on a system adopted by another club we might consider going to a two tiered system where members who accept an email version of the newsletter pay (\$2.00 per month) \$24.00 annually, and those who insist on receiving the printed version by mail pay (\$3.00 monthly) \$36.00 annually to cover the extra cost. He said it will actually cost us a little more than the extra \$1.00 per month, but (As Larry put it) it would stave off the collapse for a while.

There followed a lot more discussion by board members and Townsend about the pros and cons of this approach, and English suggested that we adopt this approach, and see how it works out. He pointed out that we could not know until we try it how many would go for each option, and therefore if we would need to make any adjustments. Larry asked for the opinion of each board member pointing out that this would only go in to effect next January. Tom said that the reduced dues to \$24 would make it much easier to deal with people who joined in other months, (\$2.00 per mo.) Also this would make it fair for all. All others present basically agreed with Tom's idea. However Hank Lauritsen cautioned that if the extra \$1.00 was not enough it would be better to charge more now, and not have to go back again later. Bill Middleton suggested that it be pointed out in the newsletter that when we started, the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter was only a small fraction of the dues, but that had changed radically now.

It was agreed that there was no need to make a formal motion to adopt this idea at this meeting, as this would only take effect next January. However it should be pointed out in the newsletter that this was the direction in which we were leaning, so that we could give members a chance to understand why this was financially necessary.

It was also suggested that an email be sent to any dues-exempt members asking if they would be willing to pay dues, and Larry undertook to do this.

Larry also questioned Tom about holding an audit which required the services of one non board member before Tom left for his trip up North, and Tom said that he was ready.

There was no more New or old business.
The meeting was finally adjourned at 8.43 PM
Submitted by Secretary Gervase M. Bushe.

☺

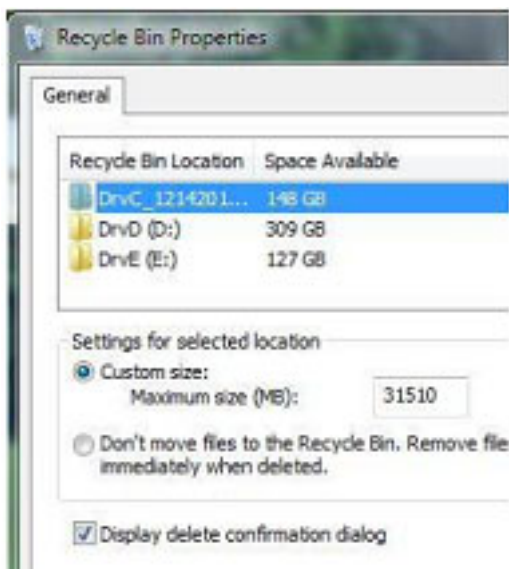
Discovering Windows 7 – Part 20

By Neil Stahfest, Vice President,
Tacoma Area PC User Group, Washington
October 2011 issue, the Data Line
NCStahfest (at) msn.com
www.tapcug.org

In the days before Microsoft Windows, when we deleted a file the file was gone and there was empty space on the disk was increased. Accidental file deletions could be a problem if you didn't have copies. Enter Peter Norton who created a powerful unerase program followed by a number of other similar programs. Norton Utilities was a must have software package for businesses and serious PC users.

With the release of Microsoft Windows, Microsoft introduced the "Recycle Bin". Now when you deleted a file it didn't really disappear off your disk. Windows simply changed the file location address from where ever the file was located (i.e. Pictures) to the Recycle Bin. If you discover that you really need a file you just deleted, all you have to do is double-click on the Recycle Bin, select the file or files you want to restore, click on it to select and then click on the Restore button. This causes Windows to change the file address location back to what it was before you deleted the file.

Figure 1



Of course, you have a limited amount of space on your hard drive. By default 5% of your total hard drive space (i.e. 15 GB on a 300 GB drive) is allocated for the Recycle Bin. If you have more than one partition on your hard drive, each partition will have its own Recycle Bin. You can change the size of your Recycle Bin to make it bigger or smaller by right-clicking on the Recycle Bin and selecting "Properties". In the Recycle Bin Properties window, select the bin location for the partition you want to change and then enter the amount of space you want to reserve for the Recycle Bin (see Figure 1).

Before we move on from the Recycle Bin Properties window, note that there is option that lets you delete files without sending them to the Recycle Bin. This will not delete your Recycle Bin and the amount of disk space it uses. It just allows you to erase files from your disk in one step (with no Recycle Bin safety net). If you are annoyed by Windows asking you if you really want to move a file to the Recycle Bin, you can click to turn off the file delete confirmation dialog.

If you keep deleting files eventually you will fill up your Recycle Bin. At that point Windows will start to delete the oldest files in the Recycle Bin from your hard drive. Files deleted from the Recycle Bin are truly gone, creating empty space on your hard drive. Actually you may still be able to still restore them with third party file un-erase programs but that's beyond the scope of this article.

So how do you create empty space on your hard drive by deleting files you no longer need? Well, start by deleting them (sending the files to the Recycle Bin). Then right click on the Recycle Bin and left click on "Empty Recycle Bin" (Figure 2). The files are now gone and you have more space on your hard drive.

This brings up the question, should I periodically empty my Recycle Bin? That's really an individual choice but my experience has been when I accidentally delete a file I discover the mistake within minutes or at minutes or at most a few days of the deletion. I usually delete everything that has been in my Recycle Bin for more than a week.

Continued on Page 7

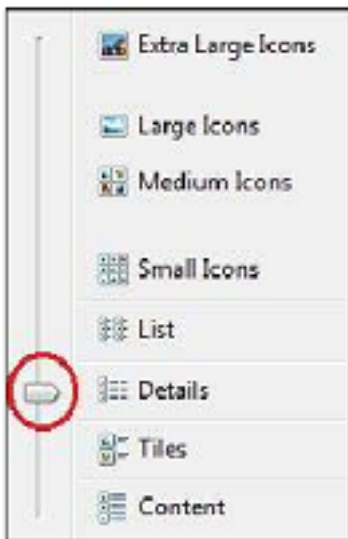
Windows 7 Part 20 ... Continued from Page 6

Figure 2



You may wonder how you know how long a file has been in the Recycle Bin. When you open the Recycle Bin you may or may not see the date the file was deleted. If you do not, click on the small triangle in the upper right corner of the Recycle Bin window as shown in Figure 2 (circled in red).

Figure 3



In the pop-up window that appears (Figure 3), select "Details" (shown circled in red) and now you should see the "Date Deleted" column.

As you can see, the Recycle Bin is a pretty useful tool. You can use it as it comes, out of the box so to speak, or you can alter it to change its size to suite the way you work.

For more information click on the Windows Start button, select "Help and Support" and type "Recycle Bin" in the search box.



Choosing a Mouse

By Sandy Berger, *CompuKISS Newsletter*
www.compukiss.com
sandy (at) compukiss.com

The mouse is a useful computer tool. Here's a little history combined with information on the many different types of mice available today.

Many people seem to be curious how the mouse got its name. In the early 1960's, a man named Douglas Engelbart was fascinated with a theory he called "human augmentation technology," an idea that the computer should be used to enhance human performance. Up to that time, computers were useful only to military and scientific communities. In 1968, Engelbart made an input device to help people interact with the computer. The original mouse was a small rectangular wooden box with a cable running to the computer. Since the cord looked like a tail and mice are known for scurrying along a surface, this new device quickly became known as a mouse. The mouse turned out to be one of Englebart's most ingenious ideas. Yet, Englebart's original ideas were rejected, only to be resurrected later by others who took both the credit and the financial rewards. Because it frees the user from having to exclusively use the keyboard, the mouse is recognized as one of the great breakthroughs in computing.

The basic functionality and size of the mouse that we use today has changed little since 1968, but there have been changes in the technology behind the mouse. Older mice worked by a tracking ball on the bottom of the device. If you are still using this type of roller ball mouse, it is time for an upgrade.

The newer type of mouse is the optical mouse. The optical mouse uses a tiny camera to take thousands of pictures every second. It employs a light-emitting diode (LED) that bounces light off the surface on to a CMOS sensor that is similar to the sensors used in some digital cameras.

Optical mice have several advantages over the traditional roller ball mice:

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Choosing a Mouse ... Continued from Page 7

- They have better tracking and a smoother response.
- There are no moving parts to wear out.
- While dirt gathered inside of the ball and roller bars of traditional mice interfering with the tracking, the optical mouse is sealed and there is no way for dirt to get inside the mouse.
- They can be used on most surfaces without a mouse pad. The only exception is a mirror, glass, or extremely shiny surface.

Most optical mice have a red light that shines through the bottom of the mouse. The light can actually be any color. I have even seen a few that cycle through various colors, although I don't really see the point in that because the bottom of the mouse is usually not seen.

One of the newest types of mice is the laser mouse. This is a type of optical mouse that uses a laser beam instead of an LED light. The laser beam is invisible, or nearly invisible, to the human eye. The laser mouse is more precise and accurate, but also more expensive. It's great for professional graphic designers and some gamers might find them useful, but the average computer user won't see enough difference to warrant the increased cost.

So if you are still using a mouse with a roller ball on the bottom, you might want to upgrade to an optical mouse. Or buy a new computer, most of which now come with optical mice. You will see a difference.

Oh, and when you get to the store, be prepared to spend a little time in making a decision. You will find designer mice in red, green, blue, purple, and other colors. You will also see mice in many different sizes with a large variety of finishes. The most important thing, however, may be for you to choose a mouse that fits your hand and feels comfortable.

Also remember that there are other input devices that can be substituted for a mouse. There are trackballs, joy sticks, and touch pads that can be used if you don't find a mouse comfortable. There are also specialized devices that can be used for people with disabilities. Some of these devices can even adjust for

shaky hands and other dexterity problems. I use a specialized mouse called an Aerobic Mouse (<http://www.aerobicmouse.com>) that is especially designed for people with arthritis and carpal tunnel syndrome. It's a big, ugly mouse, but I love it. It keeps your hand in a hand-shake position that alleviates the twist in your wrist that can cause pain if you use the computer a lot or have carpal tunnel syndrome. It also steadies the hand, making using the mouse easier.

So take your time and find the mouse or input device that is right for you. Today, most mice attach to your computer through the USB port. This is a nice feature since it means that if you and your honey want to use different mice, they can both be plugged in at the same time and each person can have constant access to the mouse of their choice.



Beauty and the Beak

Beauty the Bald Eagle gets a second chance with a little help from technology.

<http://vimeo.com/15184546>



How the Wild West REALLY looked:

<http://tinyurl.com/ctq7534>



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A Few Tips for Customizing Word 2007

By Nancy DeMarte, Columnist, Office Talk, Sarasota PCUG, Inc., Florida

July 2011 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor

www.spcug.org

[ndemarte \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:ndemarte@verizon.net)

When creating Office 2007 programs, Microsoft added new tools and settings designed to save time and simplify tasks for users. Some of us find that while we appreciate most of these features, a few are getting in our way. Fortunately, many of these default settings can be disabled or modified. Here are a few customizations that I have found to be helpful.

Add commands to the Quick Access toolbar: Let us say that you use a certain command often, like the Spelling & Grammar checker, but keep forgetting where it is located in the Word 2007 ribbon. There is an easy solution. You can copy any command to the Quick Access toolbar, which is always visible in the top left corner of the Word window above the Office button. To place a tool button there, first find it on the ribbon, right click it and select *Add to Quick Access toolbar*. If you have several commands you want to move there, start by clicking the arrow to the right of the Quick Access toolbar. Then click a command you want from the list, which puts a checkmark next to it and adds it to the Quick Access toolbar. You may have to click *More commands* to expand the list. In this view, click a command in the left pane, and then click Add to put it on the Quick Access toolbar, shown in the right pane. Repeat for as many commands as you want, then click OK. Tip: Be a bit selective or your Quick Access toolbar may get so long it blocks out the title of your document.

Control the space between lines and paragraphs in your customized Normal template: In August 2010, I wrote a Monitor article about how to customize the Normal Template in Word 2007 on which all new documents are based. Recently, I learned that even making those changes does not rid your documents of the extra space between the lines and paragraphs. Apparently, even Microsoft acknowledges that the Word 2007 line spacing rules are not easy to change.

Word 2003 and earlier versions used single spacing between lines and after paragraphs, which is what many users would like to get back. Word 2007's default setting is 1.15 pts between lines and 1.15 plus a blank line after paragraphs. A fairly easy way to revert your Word 2007 spacing back to the 2003 version is by changing the Style Set. Open a Word 2007 document. Click the Home tab, and then click *Change Styles* in the Styles group. Point to Style Set and click *Word 2003*. To make the new style set become the default in Word 2007, click *Change Styles* again, and then click *Set as Default*. If you prefer not to go through all those steps, Microsoft has created a little fix-it tool which will make these changes for you. You can download it from the Microsoft website at this address:

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/921174>.

Create Custom Page Margins: If the margins in your document are not set the way you want them, you can fairly easily change the margins to your liking. With your document open, click the *Page Layout* tab, and then click *Margins* in the Page Setup group. The Normal setting for Word 2007 is 1 inch on all sides - top, bottom, left and right. Several other choices appear in the drop down gallery. If you like one of these, merely click it and watch your document change to the new margin settings.

If you do not find what you want in the margins gallery, you can create your own customized margins. Open the Margins gallery and click *Custom Margins*, which opens the Page Setup dialog box. On the Margins tab, type your desired settings in the four boxes, leaving Gutter (the area left for binding or hole-punching) at "0" and "left." If you want these new margins in effect for only the current document, click *OK*. If you want to use them for this and future documents, click *Default*, and then *OK*.

Add the Right Kind of Date to Your Document: Many of us like to put dates in our documents to identify when they were written. But when we open some documents, we find the current date rather than the date it was composed. Word allows us to enter two sorts of dates and times: a date which never changes or a date which updates automatically whenever the document is opened. It helps to know how to enter both types since there are occasions when each is appropriate.

Continued on page 10

To enter a static date, just type it somewhere in the document or footer. Another way is to click the Insert tab and, in the Text group, click *Date & Time*. This opens a dialog box where you can choose from several formats for the date and/or time. Be sure to uncheck the box next to *Update automatically* if you want the date to remain static.

To enter a date that updates each time you open the document, click the *Date & Time* button as explained above. This time be sure that *Update automatically* is checked.

A way to add a date with specific properties is to add a date “field.” Click the Insert tab, then *Quick Parts*, then *Field*. In the Field box, select the *Date and Time* category. Here you will find several specialized fields, such as *CreateDate*, *PrintDate*, and *SaveDate*. A quick way to insert a field for a date is to use the key-stroke shortcut, [Shift]+[Alt]+[D].

Get rid of the Mini Toolbar: Whenever you highlight a word or phrase in Word 2007, a mini toolbar of editing commands appears above and almost covering the highlighted text, which can be annoying. The mini toolbar is a new feature of Word 2007/2010. Its purpose is to put the most commonly used editing commands close to where you need them. For some this is a time-saver; for others, it’s a pain. Fortunately, you can turn off if it bothers you. To disable this feature, click the Office button, then *Word Options* (bottom right), and then *Popular*. Remove the checkmark from the box next to *Show mini-bar on selection* and click *OK*.

Do you have problems with Office 2007 that need solving? Let me know, and I’ll try to include them in a future article. Send to ndemarte@verizon.net.



Wise is he who learns from his mistakes, but wiser is he who learns from the mistakes of others.

Discovering Windows 7 – Part 8

*By Neil Stahfest, Vice President, Tacoma Area PC User Group, Washington
September 2010 issue, the Data Line
NCStahfest (at) msn.com
www.tapcug.org*

A “GuestAccount” is a built-in Windows user account that allows limited use of your computer. It’s handy to have if visitors (i.e. grandchildren) want to use your computer. It allows them to easily run the computer but it prevents them from installing new programs, changing computer settings and modifying passwords. By default the GuestAccount is turned off but, as an Administrator, you have the power to turn it on.

There are several ways you can control the Guest Account, here’s one. Left-click on the Start button and then type “guest account” in the search box. In the “Search Results” box you should see “Turn guest account on or off”. Click on this and the manage accounts window will open. It will look similar to the figure below.

You can do a number of things from this window including creating new accounts and setting parental controls but we’ll just deal with the Guest account for now. In our example we see that the Guest account is turned off. If you click on the “Guest” icon a new window will open where you can turn the account on. Now when you turn the computer on your Guest account will be available for login.

Now let’s consider what you can do if someone does use your computer changes your settings that in some way prevents your computer from booting properly or some important function (like email) from working. Of course the best insurance is a full backup of your system. I’m talking about an image backup like the backup program that comes with Windows 7 or something like Acronis True Image that saves everything (including Windows) to a separate hard disk or DVDs. But what if you didn’t do this or you don’t have recent backup?

Continued on page 11

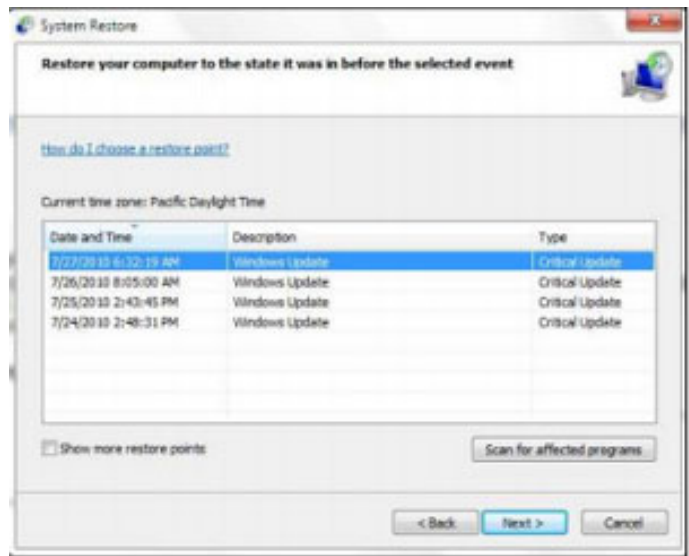
Windows 7 Part 8 ... Continued from Page 10

Sometimes a malfunctioning computer can be fixed by using the Windows System Restore function. System Restore works by creating restore points that will return your system files and settings to an earlier point in time without affecting your personal files. System Restore will not recover deleted files and programs. Windows automatically creates new restore points every week, when you download and install Windows updates and (usually) just before the installation of new programs and device drivers. You can also manually create new restore points.

Using System Restore is pretty easy. Start by saving all open files and close all programs. Left-click on the Start button and then type “system restore” in the search box. Listed in the “Search Results” box you should see “System Restore”. Click on it. If you are prompted for an administrator password or confirmation, type the password or provide confirmation to continue. That will bring you to the System Restore window. In the example shown you’ll notice it shows the date and time when restore points were made, descriptions and the type of update. If you click on one of the restore points to highlight it, you can then click on the button that says “scan for affected programs”. This will show you things like what program updates will be deleted if you use the restore point plus what program version you be reverting to.

Clicking on the “Next” button will bring you to a confirmation screen. It shows you what restore point you have selected and you can then cancel the operation, go back and revise your selection or click on “Finish” to reset your settings and then restart your computer.

A new restore point is created every time you use System Restore. This will allow you to undo the changes if they don’t fix your problem. Every time you use System Restore, a restore point is created before proceeding so you can undo the changes if they don’t fix your problem. You cannot undo System Restore if your computer was in Safe Mode or using System Recovery Options. In that such a case, however, you still have the option of using System Restore and picking a different restore point.



The data stored for each restore point takes space on your hard drive and this space is limited. When the space to save restore points is full, one or more old restore points are deleted to create space for each new restore point. Therefore you may only find restore points for the last 30 days (or less). If you fail to notice a problem in time, it may be too late to fix it with a restore point. That’s why I recommend making a full image backup of your computer saved on a separate hard drive.

For more information about System Restore, left-click on the Start button, select “Help and Support: and then type system restore in the “Search Help” window.



*All of us could take a lesson from the weather.
It pays no attention to criticism.*

PC Repair, software or hardware.

Chuck Boring

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Merritt Island FL 32952
Phone: 321-454-9455
Email: cboring@cfl.rr.com

Power USB

By Clint Tinsley, Editor, Idaho PCUG
December 2011 issue, Bits and Pieces
<http://idahopcug.apcug.org/>
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In a presentation to the IPCUG a couple months back, I touched on some considerations in using the USB (Universal Serial Bus) connectors on your computer. This article will reinforce the points I made in that presentation but will go much further.

First, let's talk about the laptop as the new desktop computer. The laptop offers many things a desktop system doesn't offer out-of-box, such as webcam, built in speakers, touch pad, keyboard, and monitor, all in a package that is powerful, highly useful, and portable. However, one downside is that most all connections to the laptop are made using its USB Ports which are generally few in number, typically 3. I have a new netbook that only has 2 USB ports.

As an example desktop system and how I use USB, my work-at-home desktop computer is a HP ProBook 6455b, a small 14" notebook, standard keyboard without a keypad, and 3 USB ports. I have no less than 6 devices that must connect via USB for work.

- 1) Wireless Full sized Keyboard/Mouse
- 2) 2nd Display Monitor Adapter
- 3) USB Active Key for VPN Network Access
- 4) USB Powered Speakers
- 5) USB Powered Chiller Pad to keep the PC Cool.
- 6) USB Storage device.

With only 3 ports, I have to use 4 port hubs on one of the ports to connect to items 3 through 6. And I am still not done with devices I might need to connect such as a second DVD drive, card reader, or tablet. There are three things that need to be considered in using USB ports, damage control, USB power, and USB port speed, which I will cover in that order.

Damage Control

Shown right are the 2 USB ports on one of my laptops. One is usable, one is obviously not! The left port is still good and normal in appearance. The right port is unusable due to the connector material being busted out and the 4 connectors hanging out in space; I don't know how this happened but I strongly suspect that something plugged into that port was struck hard enough to break it. I really recommend against plugging any large sized devices into the USB ports that could damage the ports if accidentally struck or leaned on, which can also damage the internals of the computer.



The picture below shows a short extension cable that can greatly reduce that kind of damage from occurring.



Continued on Page 13

Power USB ... Continued from Page 12

Power Management

The USB 2.0 specification limits the current available per port to 500 mA, or .5A, which is half an amp of current. This is not enough current to run some USB devices such as USB DVD Drives and External Hard Drives, even the “pocket” sized ones. Vendors of hubs, DVD drives and USB drives get around this power limitation supplying a cable that uses 2 USB Ports on your laptop, one for data/power and second for power in order to provide enough power for the device itself and anything else that might be plugged into it. In well-designed laptops, each USB port is supposed to be limited by a Vbus power controller, isolating the 5V on the USB port from the laptop, providing some protection to the computer, but this may not be the case in all laptops and further damage or overheating can occur. The solution to this problem is the use of an externally powered USB hub that has its own AC power supply. Unfortunately, many USB hubs don't come with a power supply even though they have a jack for which to plug in a power supply. One such 7 port hub I showed at the meeting is the Ativa® Mobil-IT™ 7-Port USB 2.0 Desktop Hub with a 3.5 amp power supply (Seven times .5A!), which I had purchased at Office Depot for \$25.99 (SKU 196179). A search of Amazon reveals a number of 4 to 7 port USB hubs with power supplies from a few dollars on up. It is very important that when buying a USB Hub is to make sure it comes with its own power supply.

USB Speed or the need for Speed!

You may be fortunate enough to get one of the new laptops with a 3.0 USB port. These new ports are capable of speeds up to 5 GB/second! Compare that to 480Mbps for high speed 2.0 ports and down to 12 Mbps for legacy 1.1 ports on older computers. Note that the 480MB/s is a per port specification and when you connect a hub into a USB port and depending on the devices plugged into hub, overall speed through the hub is limited to 480 Mbps, so don't try to play a DVD, use an USB Hard Drive, and a thumb

drive, all at the same time. If you shop around and get one of the new 3.0 hubs with an external power supply, you will be blessed with great speed on all the ports, just make sure you plug it into a 3.0 port on your laptop. My personal laptop has 4 USB ports, the two 3.0 ports which are distinguished by a dark blue colored insulation material on the contacts (such as in the picture below). The 2.0 ports have a black insulation material. One other advantage of using powered hubs is that they can be used to charge up USB devices like MP3 players without having to turn on a computer or leave it on just to charge a device.



StarTech.com 4 Port Black SuperSpeed USB 3.0 Hub \$42 (with Power Supply)



Need to Edit a PDF That Can't Be Edited?

Here's How

By Rick Broida, PCWorld

<http://bit.ly/Mvo58E>



*Adam and Eve had the ideal marriage.
He never had to hear about the men she could
have married and she didn't have to hear about the
way his mother cooked!*

Windows Live Photo Gallery

The Seventh Son of Windows

by Lee Reynolds, Member, Boca Raton Computer Society, FL

October 2011 issue, Boca Bits

www.brcs.org

leetutor (at) exploringwindows.com

Introduction

For Windows 7, Microsoft has stopped furnishing the Windows Photo Gallery that was built into Windows Vista, and instead made a version of the program available from the Windows Live site. Windows Live Photo Gallery can also be installed in Windows Vista and Windows XP. By removing this component from the operating system, it is to be hoped that Microsoft will be able to provide updates and improvements in a much more timely manner.

Download

You can download the latest version of Windows Live Photo Gallery from here:

<http://www.windowslive.com/Desktop/PhotoGallery>

About Windows Live Photo Gallery

With Windows Live Photo Gallery, you can manage all your photos, search for them, import them from a camera or other removable media, order prints online, and publish them (upload to Windows Live Spaces, Flickr).

When you import photos, they are automatically grouped by date and time. You can edit them to fix redden, crop out unwanted sections, correct colors, and adjust the lighting, sharpness, etc. Any edit you make to your photos can be reverted later at any time.

You can stitch several photos together to offer a “panoramic” view. You can also apply a treatment to color photos to convert them to black and white and shades of grey.

The list of capabilities of the program goes on and on. For example, you can send photos by e-mail, burn them to a CD, and print them.

You can add tags, ratings, and captions. Since Live Photo Gallery has the ability to automatically recognize faces, you can tag them with the names of the people in

the photos and therefore be able to search by the people in your photos.

You can resize, rotate, delete and rename the photos.

There is QuickTime movie support if you have QuickTime 7 or later installed.



Save a Web Page as a PDF with Just One Click

By Rick Broida, PCWorld

<http://bit.ly/MwVkOM>



3D-Printed “Magic Arms” Help Little Girl Play and Hug

2-year-old Emma wanted to play with blocks, but a condition called arthrogyrosis meant she couldn’t move her arms. So researchers at a Delaware hospital 3D printed a durable custom device with the tiny, lightweight custom parts she needed.

Emma calls them her “magic arms.”

<http://www.stratasys.com/lp/magicarms/>



PCs are not doing well.

Sales of computers were down in the second quarter and the outlook for the rest of 2012 is gloomy.

Even the upcoming release of Microsoft Windows 8 is unlikely to shift the wheezing PC business back into gear.

Read More: <http://bit.ly/S1hg19>



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 before and 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 the Third Sunday, 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 Second Thursday of the month
After the Monthly Meeting 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:

Membership is \$25 from January, anyone who joins after that month will have the dues prorated.

Membership includes the E-mail newsletter.

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

BUG Officers

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president@bugclub.org

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Open

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Win 9x/XP SIG:

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Chuck Boring 454-9455
Bob Staples 255-2623

Imaging SIG:

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Linux SIG

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