



# THE BUSSLINE

(BUSSLINE is the term for the complex multi-functional circuitry on a computer motherboard, a PC's heart.)

Vol. 111 No. 7      Newsletter of the Central Florida Computer Society, Inc. [Non-Profit, 501(c)3]      July 2011

## Get to Know your Computer Better with CFCS Presentations

- July 17: Oz Rugless, Computer Guru Secrets
- August 21: Tom Ault and Ken Larrabee - Computerized Entertainment Systems
- Sept. 18: Charles Prince - Avast Anti-virus Software)
- October 16: Sara Brown, Orange Country Library - E-books and the Virtual Library System

**Presentations are subject to change.** The best way to keep up to date is signing up for the CFCS E-Blast e-mail newsletter at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org), or just check out [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org) for updates.

**Sept. 10:** Mark Schulman, local tech guru and sought after speaker, will be presenting another **"Build Your Own Computer"** seminar, where users will be actually building their own computers. A complete technical guide for participants to take home will be supplied. Watch our website at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org) for more details on time and place as they become available.

The cost will be \$10 for members and \$50 for non-members, which will include a membership in the CFCS. The above fee covers instruction and guidance only. The cost of components is extra, and depends on how powerful you want your machine to be. CFCS will arrange special pricing from a local computer store. See our website for more details.

You might find one cheaper, but it won't be as good, and you won't have the pride of building it yourself, nor the ability to fix it if something ever goes bad.



**July 17: The Wonderful Oz Returns for a Reprise of his Always Enthralling Computer Tricks & Tips you can actually use!**



Oz Rugless has provided many fun-filled, informational, and useful presentations to CFCS members before, and he plans on doing that again. He'll pique your interest with a pot-pourri of ideas, one of which is sure to be just what you were looking for, including:

- Freeware and shareware you can use, today, that you never knew existed.

### The Inside Stories:

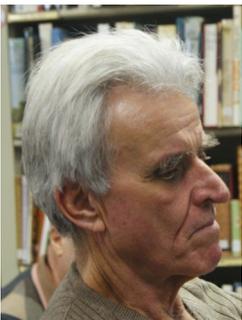
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- Where to find answers when you're stumped with a computing problem.
- How to automate routine computing tasks.
- Programming tips for the experienced programmer and for the newbie.
- Lots more.

Be there. You'll walk away smiling, with a pocketful of new ideas you can use right away. P.S. Oz has flown around the world to do this presentation for Microsoft. It's free on July 17!

### August 21



#### Creating your own Home Theater by Adding a Computer to your Television

This is your chance to learn all about hooking up a computer to your television set, so you can show DVDs, surf the internet, watch You Tube, etc. Presented by Tom Ault, with Ken Larrabee, both of whom have set up such systems in their homes.



They will show you how to connect your computer to your entertainment center, so that you may better enjoy movies, music, internet, pictures and home movies. It will be about the different hardware, software, and controllers that may be used, and their interaction with each other. Depending on what you want to do, it can be very simple or quite confusing. Hopefully we will make it less confusing.

All events are held at 2 pm in the Jackson Hewitt office on Lee Rd. and Turner Rd. See map on pg. 24. Jan. Feb. and Mar. presentations will be at the University Club of Winter Park. For details and maps, consult our website at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**Earlier on the same day of each presentation, the WINDOWS Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is held.** The WinSIG always meets at 12:30 pm, and is hosted by VP Hewie Poplock, just before the CFCS General Meeting. If you use or plan to use Windows, these discussions, demonstrations, and Q&A sessions will be of immense value to you. Geared to intermediate level Windows users. Tips, tricks, and information on all versions of Windows are discussed. An e-newsletter is sent periodically with meeting information and links discussed at the meeting. You need not attend both meetings, but many members do. Non members are always welcome. Sign up for the free e-newsletter at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).

**The ACCESS, MS OFFICE, and SECURITY SIGs** meet conjointly on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the New Horizons Learning Center at 1221 Lee Rd. Arvin Meyer, a Microsoft MVP (Most Valuable Professional), (and current CFCS president), leads the SIG. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cfcs-access> This is a combination of three separate SIGs which now meet alternately for the duration of Arvin's presidency. They will resume separate meetings when he leaves office and/or publishes his upcoming book.

**The GRAPHICS/PHOTO SIG** lead has been assumed by Hewie Poplock and will be presented in an open online forum on an announced schedule. (Sign up for the free e-newsletter at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).) E-mail: [graphic-sig@cfcs.org](mailto:graphic-sig@cfcs.org)

**The TECH DISCUSSION SIG** meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the Casselberry Denny's at 436 and Oxford Rd.

This SIG is a non-structured, open conversational group for CFCS members, that has no specific topic or speaker, but is simply a round table discussion. It is not an advanced group, but a place for people to come and discuss various subjects, such as new products and technologies, hardware, software, web-related, etc. Bring in articles from magazines, newsletters, unusual problems/situations that have arisen, questions, etc. Also, new or ailing devices or note-

**BUY YOUR INK at :**  
**[cfcs.InkRaiser.com](http://cfcs.InkRaiser.com)**

book pc's are welcome, either for "show and tell" or discussion or demo of situations. E-mail: [techsig@cfcs.org](mailto:techsig@cfcs.org)

The iSIG meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at *Denny's on Lee Rd & I-4*. The iSIG meetings cover the products that use the iPhone OS, which includes the iPhone, iPad, and iPod. This is a combined effort of the Central Florida Computer Society <http://www.cfcs.org> and the Florida Macintosh Users Group <http://www.flmug.com>. Other groups are invited to participate. Attendees are consumers, developers, consultants, and publishers, who find common interests and discuss how to handle topics from both the consumer & the developer perspectives. The SIG leader is Sean Kane, Certified Apple Technical Coordinator, long-time Mac and iPhone user, and a technologist and consultant to Walt Disney Feature Animation Florida.

*Please note that the iSIG meets at the Denny's on Lee Rd in Orlando. The Tech-SIG and the Board of Directors meetings continue to meet at Denny's on 436 & Oxford Rd in Casselberry.*

## This 'n That

By Elizabeth B. Wright, Member, Computer Club of Oklahoma City  
CCOKC eMonitor  
[www.ccok.org](http://www.ccok.org)  
[wright599new@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wright599new@sbcglobal.net)

Got'cha! Why are point and shoot digital cameras so mysterious? And why are they now obsolete? They evolved from relatively simple but very expensive little combinations of mechanical and digital components to even more expensive and more complicated versions of the same. But now the trend seems to be backward, including phasing them out altogether. Since no one seemed to ever learn how to effectively use all the combinations available on many of them, the makers seem to have decided to move on to other fields of consumer interest. Much of that translates to anything you can carry in your pocket that serves as a telephone plus camera and is also a mini-computer with Wi-Fi. So, they "gotcha" once again.

However, some of us have enough invested in

the little toys to make it worthwhile to still try to use them. I think I know the answer to why the p&s cameras were developed in such a ridiculous conformation. I suspect that the engineers and programmers, while possibly photographers, were far more into the digital world than the mechanical one of their forefathers/mothers. Diodes and circuitry, bits, bytes and boards, this was their world. The idea of simply turning a dial to change the f/stop or shutter speed just did not translate into their computer world. And heaven forbid there should be such a thing as a focus adjuster. I submit that these ordinary photographic techniques could easily have been incorporated into the dials or menus on point and shoot cameras, but they were not. Instead they kept coming up with "scenes", "modes", "menus", etc., etc. No one could EVER adjust a point and shoot camera fast enough to capture a moment. Using "automatic" or some variation of it could sometimes result in a decent image, but rarely. Most of us ended up being satisfied with mediocre keepsakes of important occasions, but very little that could be considered "well done!!"

Now that the p&s cameras are leaving the market, those of us left with one or more of them might as well continue to use them. With that in mind, I decided to really put some effort into finding how to determine the f/stop, shutter speed and focus on my latest, greatest camera. Naturally these things will be located in different "menus" on cameras other than the brand and model I use, but hopefully they will be there. On mine, I found the "M" (for Manual) setting, but still had no idea how to change anything. Little icons popped up at the bottom of the screen, but even after figuring out that these were for the f/stop and shutter speed, they were not much help. For one thing, the f/stop is limited to f/3.5 or f/8.0. Now how is that for a range? Actually these values change depending on what ISO "film speed" you choose. I'm not sure how this is achieved digitally, but the results are somewhat equivalent to real film in that the higher the speed, the more grainy the image. In "digitese" this is called "noise." But the more interesting of the two was the shutter speed. The choices were extensive, some of which had a symbol noting they would not work well, and none of them translated to anything I have ever seen on a mechanical camera. So once again, trial and error was what I chose to try to figure it out. As for focus, either I haven't found it yet or the camera is limited to whatever automatic focus you might be able to set. Where

are the old Range cameras? Still working on that one. Thank goodness my photo editing software allows me to view the EXIF information for images, the digital repository where all the settings on the camera are stored at the time a digital picture was taken. This information stays with the image as long as you have the original picture saved on your computer. You should always keep the original image and work only on copies when doing any kind of photo manipulation. Sometimes the EXIF info can be lost when saving your work in some formats.

Below are some images using various combinations of the f/stop and shutter speed on my SONY DSC-H55 along with pictures of the EXIF information for each. I used a slight telephoto and the same focus range for each picture. This camera only has three focus choices, so I used the one for “focus on a central point” and aimed at the nose of the small bear on the right. I did not use a flash for any of the pictures. While this information is tedious, those of

Image Attributes

Image Dimensions:	4320 x 3240 (14.0 MP)
Uncompressed Size:	40.0 MB
Bit-Depth:	24-bit color
Pages:	1 page(s)
Pixels Per Inch:	72 PPI
Image Dimensions (in	60.00 x 45.00
Embedded Color Profile:	N/A

EXIF metadata (summary):

Model	DSC-H55
Date/time original	2/4/2011 10:31:27 AM
Exposure time	1.6 s
F-number	f/10
ISO speed ratings	ISO 100
Exposure bias val...	0.00 eV
Metering mode	Spot
Flash	Flash did not fire, compulsory flash mode
Focal length	12.85 mm
White balance	Auto white balance
File	EXIF IPTC Custom



DSC00055.jpg

File:  
DSC00055.JPG  
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DSC00057.jpg

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Accessed: 2/4/2011 12:00:00 AM  
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**THE CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPUTER SOCIETY** is a charitable, scientific and educational, nonprofit organization, founded in 1976 and incorporated in 1982 to encourage interest in the operation and development of computers through meetings with free exchange of information and educational endeavors.

**Newsletter:** The CFCS Newsletter © 2008 is the official newsletter of the Central Florida Computer Society, Inc. It is published every month by CFCS for the purpose of keeping members and others informed of computer-related news and activities of the Society. Circulation: 25,000.

**Mailing Address:**  
 CFCS  
 204 Larkwood Dr., Suite 100  
 Sanford FL 32771

**Membership:** CFCS membership includes participation in the Society's activities and subscription to this Newsletter.

**Annual Dues Schedule:**

Individual .....	\$ 40
Extra family member .....	24
Student (Full time).....	24
Corporate membership.....	132*

\*Includes free business card ad

Members are responsible for sending a change-of-address notification (including e-mail) to: [membership@cfcs.org](mailto:membership@cfcs.org).

Gifts to CFCS are welcome, and because of the Society's nonprofit tax status, are tax deductible.

**Meetings:** CFCS meets each month on the 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at the **Jackson Hewitt Training Center, 2221 Lee Rd. Winter Park, FL**. The Jan. Feb. and Mar. meetings are held at the **University Club of Winter Park**. Guests and the general public are invited to attend. Special Interest Groups (SIGs) within the Society meet regularly. See Special Interest Groups listings on pages 6 & 7.

**CFCS Web site:** [www.cfcs.org](http://www.cfcs.org)

**Editorial:** Articles for publication in the CFCS Newsletter should be *emailed* to the Editor at: [editor@cfcs.org](mailto:editor@cfcs.org). Please use Microsoft Word format, Times New Roman font, 12 point, if possible. The deadline for submitting articles is the first of each month.

Articles by authors other than directors of CFCS and the Newsletter staff do not necessarily reflect the policies or sanction of the Society. Unless otherwise indicated, articles in the CFCS Newsletter may be reprinted in newsletters of other nonprofit organizations, without permission, provided credit is given.

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Computer ready rates, for one time insertion, whether in the Printed or Electronic Edition:

Full Page	\$200.00*	Quarter Page	\$75.00*
Half Page	125.00*	Business Card	25.00*

Advertising deadline: the first day of month of issue. Electronic copy is required.  
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 \*Annual Rates, Paid in Advance, for 12 insertions, with a minimum of 2 Printed Editions:

Full Page	\$1200*	Quarter Page	\$450
Half Page	750	Business Card	150

\*Does not include Back Page; please inquire if interested

**Interested in making a difference?**  
**Then volunteer with CFCS!** The programs and benefits that members receive would not exist without members also volunteering. There are vacancies for a Program Chair/Coordinator, Education Chair and Advertising Chair. Please contact Stan Wallner, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. [president@cfcs.org](mailto:president@cfcs.org)

**CFCS is associated with both International & Florida User Group Associations:**




[www.apcug.net](http://www.apcug.net)

**Image Attributes**

Image Dimensions:	4320 x 3240 (14.0 MP)
Uncompressed Size:	40.0 MB
Bit-Depth:	24-bit color
Pages:	1 page(s)
Pixels Per Inch:	72 PPI
Image Dimensions (in)	60.00 x 45.00
Embedded Color Profile:	
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Focal length	12.85 mm
White balance	Auto white balance
File EXIF IPTC	Custom



DSC00060.jpg

Located in:

[HDCIM101MSDCF](#)

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Accessed: 2/4/2011 12:00:00 AM

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**Image Attributes**

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Uncompressed Size:	40.0 MB
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**EXIF metadata (summary):**

Model	DSC-H55
Date/time original	2/4/2011 10:34:34 AM
Exposure time	1/25 s
F-number	f/10
ISO speed ratings	ISO 3200
Exposure bias val..	0.00 eV
Metering mode	Spot
Flash	Flash did not fire, compulsory flash mode
Focal length	12.85 mm
White balance	Auto white balance
File EXIF IPTC	Custom

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Membership renewal invoices will be e-mailed from [treasurer@cfcs.org](mailto:treasurer@cfcs.org) approximately thirty (30) days prior to your membership expiration. Invoices will be snail mailed to members for whom there is no e-mail address in the membership database and to those members whose e-mail was returned to [treasurer@cfcs.org](mailto:treasurer@cfcs.org) for any reason. Please help us by adding this address to your contacts list and setting your spam filter to let our message get to your inbox. We do not share your e-mail address with others (We hate that too!), but it is necessary for full participation in the Society, including receiving your newsletter.

Members will be requested to renew their membership by paying dues on time. Dues may be paid by cash or check at the meeting, by PayPal at <http://www.cfcs.org/membership/membership.php> or by mailing a check to:

**CFCS**  
**204 Larkwood Drive Ste 100**  
**Sanford, FL 32771-3643**

If you do not receive a renewal invoice, lose it or have questions about your dues and or membership status, please inquire at the sign-in table or send an e-mail to: [treasurer@cfcs.org](mailto:treasurer@cfcs.org).

**Membership Cards:** A new membership postcard with the membership card included for the next year will be distributed at the meeting following your renewal. The Cards will be mailed to those members who request

you who have experience with 35mm cameras (as well as other format cameras) will be able to spot the pertinent information.

I hope this has been informative. I still believe taking a camera to a wonderful location and being able to take time to adjust settings is a luxury. Maybe some of you will want to explore the options available on your own cameras before giving them up entirely.

## **The Recycle Bin**

**by Stan Wallner,  
President Emeritus, CFCS**



This is a MOST important issue regarding our environment; and can't be over-emphasized! It is an area that is changing frequently, so please keep reading this column regularly!

Regarding your bringing items to either the General Meeting or my own SIG - if you have a few items for Orlando Recycles, let me know. If I know well in advance so there aren't too many items on any one day, I'll take them from there. I DO need to know in advance. AND, I do plan to do a lot less of this now that there are more options.

**Category "A" - For Monitors, Printers, Scanners that still work, and PC's that are repairable)**

**# 1 Orlando Recycles, Inc** is now the CFCS PREFERRED and RECOMMENDED Recycler!

WHY? We have worked out what should prove to be a win-win situation for both of us, with absolutely no risk involved for either of us! They are willing to PAY for what we recycle with them! It will be variable, based on what we drop off, but no one else has offered to do this, and the BOD has authorized me to pursue this. AND, they will do the same for items that DO NOT work, so they do truly fit in both **Category "A" AND "B!"**

They are located at 5014 Forsyth Commerce Road, #4, Orlando, FL, 32807, just off Forsyth, about 1/2 mile east of 436 and Colonial. Their hours are from 9:00 to 5:30. You do not need to call them. If you are near them, and want to take things on your own - just go there and ask for Tracy, their

Operations Manager, say you are involved with CFCS, and she will make sure that whatever you drop off gets tagged, and entered towards CFCS's credit into a spreadsheet. Then, whether monthly (or quarterly if amounts are small and take a while to build up), the value they assign to what you dropped off will be mailed to CFCS!! What could be easier!

Why not help CFCS? Yes, Missionary PC's, Goodwill and others are worthwhile, but not very helpful to CFCS, Best Buy, Staples and others will even charge you! Why not use these folks - CFCS will gain!

The other cool thing about this arrangement is that Dave Archard, their Procurement Manager (who decides the value of what is left there and will be sent to us), just happens to live near ME, and does not mind coming to my house to get stuff in his van or pickup truck! So this means you can bring items to one of our meetings (with coordination as mentioned before), we put it MY van, and he'll come get it from me - MUCH easier for everyone! (And, I have frankly gotten tired of doing this on my own.)

**# 2 Missionary Computer Fellowship (MCF)**, 401 S Magnolia Ave, Orlando, FL; Phone: (407) 422- 9265.

This was a major organization doing refurbishing and rebuilding. It was associated with and located in the First United Methodist Church downtown. They were not completely religiously oriented. They used to send reconditioned PCs to missionaries all over the world, as well as poor villages in Africa, etc., but we have just received word that they will soon be closing shop, due to the church's moving to new premises with insufficient room for their work.

**#3 Southeastern Data**, at 142 Park Road, Oviedo, FL 32765 (Off Alafaya Trail, just north of E. McCulloch Road); phone 407-971-4654.

They've been very helpful in allowing CFCS members to drop off most recyclables with no service charge for quite some time; greatly appreciated! (There ARE places that do have fees to recycle all items - I am not going to include them in this column) They offer free recycling to CFCS members with the exception of CRT monitors, terminals, and some TVs. CRTs and terminals are \$3.00 each. TVs need to be evaluated, but most are free. It is best to call before you take items there to be sure you don't arrive at a bad time. Also, do let them know you are

involved with CFCS. Southeastern Data is also a great place to pick up parts and accessories, and they accept trade ins against purchases. In some cases they will even outright purchase your components. Their hours are 8:00 am til 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday, with other hours available by appointment.

**#4 Goodwill.** They have recently changed their policy, and WILL now accept WORKING Monitors including CRT's if not too old, Printers, Scanners, PC's, DVD, CD or Hard Drives at all of their locations, including the manned Trucks around town.

**#5 Salvation Army.** Not sure; contacting them; stay tuned.

**#6 Vietnam Vets.** Not sure; contacting them; stay tuned.

**Category "B" - Scrap - For Monitors, Printers, Scanners that DON'T work, and PC's that are too old, and/or NOT repairable)**

#### #1 Best Buy Stores

New to us! All local stores; no need to contact them first. All items above; all at NO CHARGE, limited to three items per visit. The only exceptions are CRT Monitors or TV's. First, there is a maximum size of 32", and there will be a fee of \$10.00 each. However, they do immediately return the \$10.00 to you in the form of a Cash Card! You can go to [www.bestbuy.com/recycling](http://www.bestbuy.com/recycling) for more info, or CALL - we're available 24/7' at 1-888-BEST BUY (1-888-237-8289)!

#### #2 Recycling Directory:

[http:// earth911.com/](http://earth911.com/)

Earth911 is a directory containing information for recycling over 240 different products that are free for consumers. There are over 127,000 locations and programs that people can search to find local recycling and disposal resources. Thanks to Mike Ungerman and Hewie Poplock for sending this to me - includes County places, and for example - Staples, many others, by ZIP. It is thorough! (What is not mentioned on this site, again, for example, is that Staples CHARGES \$10 EACH for any PC, Printer, CRT or LCD , even Hard Drive! Only small items, such as mice and keyboards are free. So I would say

—caveat emptor — applies! Call or go first, as I did! We will be adding to this list. There are many additional places, and we want as many listed here as is possible for our members' convenience! If you have suggestions or comments, send an email to [presidentemeritus@cfcs.org](mailto:presidentemeritus@cfcs.org).

My suggestion is that you consider the new #1 in Category A, **Orlando Recycles, Inc** and that you work through me as suggested above - that is the ONLY way that CFCS benefits!

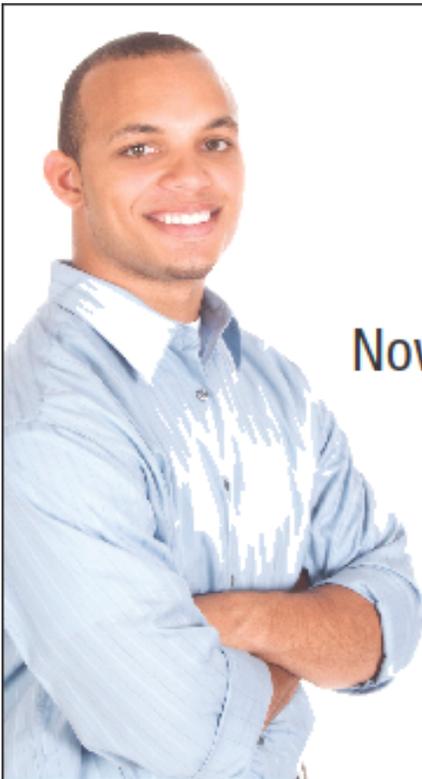
=====  
*Stan, a CFCS member since 1984, has served in many offices over the years, and is now on the BOD as President Emeritus. Separately, he is a local IT consultant, PC Doctors Make House Calls, offering his services on-site, at your office or home - for PC and Laptop Upgrades, WiFi, Networks, Virus & Spyware removal, Troubleshooting both hardware & software, at reasonable rates (discounts for CFCS members!). You can contact him at [smwallner@yahoo.com](mailto:smwallner@yahoo.com) or 407-862-2669.*

## Synchronize Your Bookmarks Between Computers

By Sandy Berger, Compu-KISS  
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In today's world, more and more of us are accessing the Internet from several different devices. We may use a computer at work, a tablet PC at home, and a smart phone or a laptop computer when we are on the go. When we bookmark a website at the home, we might like to bring up that bookmarked webpage when we are at the office or when we visit a relative. If we are using the default settings of an Internet browser, we cannot do this. However there is a way to synchronize bookmarks between devices.

Just about every web browser today offers some way to synchronize bookmarks either through an add-in, a toolbar or a setting. Most of these solutions, however, only work if you use the same web browser on each device. For instance, if you use a Firefox add-in called Sync, you can only access your bookmarks from a device that has Firefox installed. So if you use Firefox at home, but Firefox doesn't



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work on your mobile device or your mother doesn't happen to have Firefox installed on her computer, you can't easily access your bookmarks while at those places. There are several stand-alone programs that solve this problem by allowing you to synchronize bookmarks between browsers, but I have a better answer.

The best and easiest solution for synchronizing bookmarks and favorites is a free service from Google called Google Bookmarks. I have used Google Bookmarks for several years. This service keeps a copy of all your bookmarks securely in the cloud, so you can access them from any Internet-connected computer or tablet and most smart phones.

To use Google Bookmarks, you simply surf over to [www.google.com/bookmarks](http://www.google.com/bookmarks). If you already have a Google account from using Gmail, Google Calendar or another Google service, you can just sign in and add Bookmarks to your account. If you don't have a Google account, you can sign up for the free Google account and activate Google Bookmarks right from this page.

When you add the Google Bookmarks to your Google Account you will be asked if you want to copy your current bookmarks or favorites from your web browser. You will want to do this, unless your

bookmarks or favorites have become so unruly that you would like to start with a clean slate.

Once you have the Google Bookmarks set up, the easiest way to access your new bookmarks is to install the Google Toolbar, which is a free download available at [www.google.com/toolbar](http://www.google.com/toolbar). You should install this toolbar on the computer that you use most often in the web browser that you usually use. For instance, if you use Internet Explorer on your home computer, installing the Google Toolbar there will give you quick access to your Google Bookmarks as well as some additional features.

If you are using another computer that has the Google Toolbar installed, you can simply log into your Google account to access your bookmarks on that computer. On computers and mobile devices that don't have the Google Toolbar, you can log into your Google account and access your bookmarks at [www.google.com/bookmarks](http://www.google.com/bookmarks). Google also has a small icon that you can drag to the links bar of any browser to access your Google bookmarks. It is available on the same page. Just click "Add Bookmark" at your Google Bookmarks page and you will see a blue box marked "Google Bookmark" that can be added to your web browser toolbar.

The only difficult part about this whole process

is remembering to use the Google toolbar or icon to create your bookmarks rather than using your browser bookmark icon. Once you get in the habit of doing that, you are good to go.

Using the Google Bookmarks offers two additional perks. First, their bookmark page is extremely well organized. If you have ever tried to delete, rename, or rearrange your bookmarks or favorites in Internet Explorer, Firefox, or any other web browser, you know that this can be a trying task. Google Bookmarks, however, makes it easy. Just surf over to the Google Bookmarks page. As long as you are logged in to Google, you will see all of your bookmarks and find that it is easy to work with them.

The second perk is that Google has recently introduced a feature called "Lists" to their bookmarks. This feature lets you create a list of websites that revolve around one topic. It is a great way to research a topic, plan a trip, or organize an event. You can share your lists with selected people if you need to collaborate on any project. Google will also give you suggestions that pertain to the items in your list and sometimes these are very useful. So if you decide to try Google Bookmarks, you may also want to try the list feature.

If you use multiple devices, Google Bookmarks will keep your bookmarks in sync. Although this may only be a small step in keeping your world organized, being in sync can give you a very good feeling.

# The Tip Corner

By Bill Sheff, Novice SIG Coordinator,  
Lehigh Valley Computer Group, PA  
The LVCG Journal  
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## Google Chrome Home Button

If you look at the interface of Google Chrome, as compared to other browsers like Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer, you will notice that there is no "home" button. You know, the little house icon on the toolbar? The other browsers have it, but not Chrome? It's ridiculously easy to fix.

Open Chrome, click on the Wrench icon in the

upper right-hand corner and select Options. Under Home Page, put a check next to Show Home button on the toolbar.

The effect is instantaneous! Click Close and you now have a home button in Google Chrome!

## PowerPoint does not open?

If you can't open PowerPoint presentations that come in your e-mails you are not alone. This can happen even with the Power Point Viewer. Try some of these tips:

1. *How are you checking your e-mail?* The very first thing to look at is the way in which you are checking your e-mail. If you check e-mail via a dedicated e-mail client such as Outlook, Outlook Express, Windows Mail, Eudora, etc., instead of double clicking on and trying to open the PowerPoint file from within the e-mail program, export the PowerPoint file from your e-mail into a folder on your desktop (typically done by dragging and dropping the file from your e-mail message into your desktop folder) then double click to open it. The reason for doing this is that some e-mail clients will try to open a file using its own program features and/or incorrect associations, instead of using the correct program to open the file. As such, you will typically see an error message, or no response. If you are not using an e-mail client, but a web mail interface (such as Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo, AOL, etc.) to check your e-mail, you will want to download the PowerPoint file from your e-mail to your desktop, then attempt to open the file on your computer instead of in your e-mail. Again, doing so eliminates one more possible misconfigured program (in this case your Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, or other web browser) from attempting to open your PowerPoint file by downloading or moving the file to your computer and trying to open it there.

If either of these steps opens your PowerPoint file, you have just found a solution to your problem. You may still want to look at configuring your e-mail client and/or web browser to associate PowerPoint files with your PowerPoint reader program.

2. *Check your file type*. Believe it or not, PowerPoint itself can be the problem. There are currently four distinct types of files commonly output by PowerPoint, each of which have restrictions on how the

different versions of PowerPoint can read them. These file types are:

PPS - Used to contain a “viewable” PowerPoint presentation. This PowerPoint file will normally open in the PowerPoint Viewer or the full version of PowerPoint without issue.

PPT - Used to contain an “editable” PowerPoint presentation. This can sometimes be viewed in the PowerPoint Viewer but will only be editable in the full version of the PowerPoint software.

PPSX/.PPTX - The same as .PPS and .PPT, respectively, but saved in a newer Open XML format introduced in PowerPoint 2007.

Typically, you will not be able to view PowerPoint files of these types without a recent version of the PowerPoint Viewer or PowerPoint 2007 or higher. If you are unsure of which file type you are having trouble opening, right click on the file and select Properties from the menu.

3. *Get with the program.* With the above in mind you will want to confirm that you do (or do not) have the correct programs installed on your computer to read them. The quickest way to do so is to update your PowerPoint Viewer to the most current version. After installing the latest PowerPoint Viewer, just about any PowerPoint file should open right up for you to view; simply click on and open the file on your desktop in the PowerPoint viewer. If it does not open, download and install the latest version of OpenOffice, which includes Impress, which is a part of the OpenOffice suite of programs. Impress has many of the same features and editing capabilities of the full version of Microsoft Office PowerPoint, but at a very hard to beat price: FREE!

4. *Check your source.* If the file still fails to open, you either have a damaged or corrupt PowerPoint file, or a password protected PowerPoint file. In either case, you will want to contact the sender and have them resend the file and/or give you a password to open it.

I hope all your PowerPoint files can now open without any problem.

### **Clear Your Firefox Downloads List**

Do you have quite a lot of files you've downloaded via Firefox?. Not sure? Open up Firefox and click

Tools>Downloads and a window pops up. Is it pretty cluttered and in need of a good clean out? To delete single downloads from your Firefox queue, simply right-click the download you'd like to delete from the list and select Remove From List. You can clear the entire list by clicking the Clear List button at the bottom of the download window.

Note: This doesn't delete the physical file from your computer; just the listing in the Firefox downloads window.

### **Copy and Paste a Web Page into E-mail**

While copy and paste can get info from a web page into your email, it loses most formatting and colors, etc. So if you want the formatting or artwork or video to be seen here is how to link a web page: Click once in your browser's address bar to highlight the Web address (this works in both Firefox and Internet Explorer), then press Ctrl-C to copy that address to the Windows clipboard. Now create a new e-mail message in whatever program or Web service you use, then press Ctrl-V to paste the address into the body of the e-mail. In Internet Explorer 8, it is even easier. Click Page, then select Send Link by E-mail. In Firefox, select File, Send Link.

If you want to send a hyperlinked text, but not the text just right click the link in IE and then choose Copy Shortcut. In Firefox, you right-click the link and then choose Copy Link Location. (Same deal for Chrome, Opera, and Safari, though the "copy link" wording might be slightly different.) Then head to your e-mail, word processor, or wherever and press Ctrl-V to paste in the link. You get the URL and not the hyperlinked text.

If your IE opens in a small window and you want it to open in a large window, here is what you do to make any program start maximized:

Right-click the program's shortcut, and then click Properties. If you're a Windows 7 user and the shortcut resides on your taskbar, there's an extra step. After you right-click the Taskbar icon, look for the program name in the pop-up menu that appears, and then right-click that. Then you'll see the Properties option, which you can left- or right-click.

You'll see the Properties window with the Shortcut tab already selected. Click the pull-down menu next to Run and choose Maximized.



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Click OK, and you're done!

Just to clarify, the "program shortcut" is the icon you click (or double-click) to run the program in question. This icon might be on your desktop, in the Start menu, or on the Windows taskbar.

It's good to know what kind of operating system (OS) you have on your computer, that way you'll be able to download the appropriate kinds of drivers and programs that work best with your configuration. So, here is a tip within a tip. Not only are you going to find out which type of operating system you currently have, but I will even show you a quick way to get there!

For Windows XP users - Hold the Windows Key, and then press the Pause Key, which is located two keys to the right of the Print Screen key. The system properties window springs to life. This window shows all of the basic info about your computer like how much RAM you have and what-not, but it also can tell you what OS you're running. In XP if it doesn't specifically say Windows XP x64 Edition, then you're running a 32 bit operating system. Vista and Win7 users will see a specific field that says

"System Type", which has your OS type listed after it. Vista will actually tell you 32 bit or 64 bit.

Recently, Google has allowed users to sign in with multiple Gmail accounts. This is good since it can allow you to have one email address for personal use, and another which can be used when you register for a website. This keeps your personal account basically spam free. To enable multiple account sign-in, log in at <http://google.com/accounts> and under "profile" select "Multiple sign-in". At the moment, this feature is only available for desktop browsers and not all Google Services currently support multiple account sign-in.

Creating bookmarks in Firefox is easy, and can be rearranged just about any way you want them. We all have a lot of favorites which means a lot of bookmark. In Firefox you can add a folder for each of your favorites and group them all together.

Open Firefox if you don't have it open and click on Bookmarks then Organize bookmarks. Choose where you want to add the folder. If you want to see the folder when you click Bookmarks in Firefox click once on Bookmark Menu. Right-click

and select New Folder. Name the folder and give it a description if you want, then click Add. The description is only for you to see and is good to use when you have a lot of sites and can't remember exactly what you liked about it.

The folder you created is now listed under Bookmarks. To add a new bookmark to your newly created folder right click on the folder and choose New Bookmark. Put the name of the website in the Name field. Type the web address in the Location field. In the Keyword you could put "ws" for example for Worldstart. In the address bar in Firefox you can just put "ws" (without the quotes) and press enter and it will take you to that site. Just a little shortcut if you want to save a few keystrokes. Add a description of the bookmark if you want and click Add. If you check the box, Load this bookmark in the sidebar that means if you click on View – Sidebar – Bookmarks this folder will be listed.

Now to add bookmarks to the folder for sites you already bookmarked. Click Bookmarks and Organize Bookmarks. Click on the correct folder on the left holds your bookmarks. Simply drag and drop the bookmark into the new folder. To drag and drop, click once on the bookmark with the left mouse button and hold it down. Drag it to the folder and then let the button go. The new bookmark will be in the folder you created. If you want to add more than one bookmark at a time, you can hold down the CTRL key and click on each bookmark then drag them to the new folder.

## Registry First Aid

**Reviewed by Herb Goldstein, Editor,  
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The Monitor  
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### Solving the Registry Cleaning Dilemma

Nothing much happens in Windows without control by that mysterious architecture known as the Registry. It is a humongous database repository of instructions, commands and framework for the software, hardware and just about every other kind of ware that functions in Windows. You can also think of it as the Windows brain, and fooling with it is about as welcome as brain surgery self-taught.

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Unfortunately and as unwelcome as it may be, the Registry does require some basic manipulation by users from time to time. Add or remove software or change the locations of its components, make routine changes in Windows, and a whole host of other functions in everyday computer usage result in changes in the Registry. In time it can easily become bogged down with errors that can dramatically hinder the normal or optimal functioning of your computer. It's little wonder why keeping the registry clean and error free is so important, yet so avoided. It's even less wonder why the average computer user either shuns necessary Registry housekeeping altogether or winds up employing tools that do considerably more harm than good.

A clean, error-free Registry is vital in keeping your computer working properly, but finding and fixing Registry errors indeed poses a dilemma. There is no shortage of utilities that promise to make your computer function like new by taking out your Registry garbage. Unfortunately, you are most often better off living with an error-laden Registry than one whose key functions have been impaired by incompetent fixers.

With all these caveats in mind, I spent considerable effort, investigation and experimentation years ago to find the Registry cleaning utility that would do an honest, safe and effective job. Through several versions of Windows and most recently with Windows 7, I have been using Registry First Aid (RFA). It is a well-known, popular, easy to use and remarkably competent Registry utility that will find, fix, and prevent Registry errors and malfunctions safely and effectively. It is the only one I trust to do the job! Here's what it will do:

1. RFA will search the Registry for errors. Your first search will undoubtedly come up with an amazing number of errors. It will present a color coded list of them. *Those in green can be safely eliminated or fixed.* For each error, you will be provided with a reason for its problem and an indication of what is needed to either delete or fix it. If, for example, a software reference is not valid because it is sitting in the wrong place, RFA will discover where it rightfully belongs and offers to put it there. If no fix is possible, it offers to delete

it.

Those errors that require caution in fixing are listed in yellow, along with reasons and recommendations. The choice will be yours. Those listed in red are also explained and high caution warned.

In any event, each and every error will be explained, recommendation made, and the choice for action will be up to you. No changes are automatic. You are in complete control!

2. Registry backup and restore. Before making any changes, you might want to back up your current Registry configuration. RFA stores the backup and you can at any later time restore the Registry to exactly the way it was before you modified it. Great safety feature!
3. Registry search. If you need to find anything in the Registry, RFA will do a lightning fast keyword search for you. A great feature in finding and eliminating references to software you have gotten rid of.
4. Registry management. Set up the Registry in your own parameters to function according to your preferences..
5. Defragment and compress the Registry.

While most Registry utilities offer to make your computer work faster and better by cleaning the Registry, they offer no information as to what they or doing or why. It's a blind faith and trust scenario. On the other hand, RFA bends over backwards in every step along the way to keep you safe and informed.

RFA is the recipient of numerous awards as the safest and most effective Registry cleaner available. They are well deserved. It has long ago solved the Registry cleaning dilemma for me. It is compatible with all current versions of Windows including XP, Vista and Windows 7. RFA is published by and available from Rose City Software ([rosecitysoftware.com](http://rosecitysoftware.com)) for \$27.95.

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# Linux Software of the Month

By Geof Goodrum, President, Washington Area Computer User Group, VA  
The Cursor

<http://www.wacug.org/linux@wacug.org>

The software described below can be downloaded at the links provided or copied onto a USB flash drive at the WAC meeting. However, please check the online package management tool included with your GNU/Linux distribution first, as installation is often just a click away.

Free Pascal – v2.4.2. <http://www.freepascal.org/>. Modified GNU Library General Public License source code and packages for Debian and RPM-based GNU/Linux distributions by the Free Pascal Development Team. Originally named FPK-Pascal, Free Pascal is a 32 and 64 bit Turbo Pascal and Delphi compatible Pascal programming language compiler for DOS, Linux, Win32, OS/2, FreeBSD, AmigaOS, Mac OS X, Mac OS classic and several other platforms (the number of supported targets grows all the time, although not all of them are on the same level as the main ones). The Free Pascal compiler is available for several architec-

tures, x86, Sparc (v8,v9), ARM, x86\_64 (AMD64/Opteron) and Powerpc. An older version (the 1.0 series) also supports m68k.

The compiler is itself written in Pascal and is able to compile its own sources.

Hedgewars – v0.9.15. <http://www.hedgewars.org/>. Free GNU General Public License source code and executable packages for Debian, Ubuntu, Fedora, ArchLinux, and openSuSE Linux by Andrey Korotaev et al. Hedgewars is a turn-based strategy, artillery, action and comedy game, featuring the antics of pink hedgehogs with attitude as they battle from the depths of hell to the depths of space. As commander, it's your job to assemble your crack team of hedgehog soldiers and bring the war to your enemy.

Features: Hilarious and devastating turn based combat for up to 6 players; Both local and network multiplayer, with optional AI opponents; Battle on an infinite number of randomly generated maps, with over 20 environments; Utilize 47 (and counting) devastating weapons including the piano strike and explosive robotic cake; Play the game your way, with 18 different game modifiers, tweak almost every aspect of the match; Customize your team, with over 120 costumes, 30 graves, 12 forts, 100s of flags and unique voice packs; Huge battles with up to 48 hogs; Play both singleplayer and multiplayer minigames; plugin your own custom maps, costumes, and other artwork.

Requires Qt >= 4.5, FreePascal >= 2.2.4, SDL >= 1.2.5, SDL\_net >= 1.2.5, SDL\_mixer >= 1.2, SDL\_image >= 1.2, SDL\_ttf >= 2.0, CMake >= 2.6.0, lua = 5.1.

Linphone – v3.4.3. <http://www.linphone.org/>. Free GNU General Public License source code and executable packages for Debian and Ubuntu Linux by Simon Morlat. Linphone is an audio and video Internet phone with GTK+ and console interfaces. It uses the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and is compatible with most SIP clients and gateways.

It can use various audio and video codecs such as Speex, GSM, G711, ilbc, amr, Theora, H263-1998, MPEG4,



Members sit enthralled at a recent CFCS Windows SIG meeting.

H264, and snow. This version improves Mac OS X integration with desktop menus, better sound system handling, and binary bundle generation for ease of installation. It also improves memory usage and fixes a few SIP bugs.

WordPress – v3.1. <http://wordpress.org/>. Free GNU General Public License scripts by the WordPress Development Team. WordPress is a software script that, together with PHP v4.3 or greater, MySQL v4.1.2 or greater, and a web server (e.g. Apache; Nginx), provides a point and click menu-driven framework for a standards-compliant, professional looking web site that is easy to maintain with no knowledge of web programming required. WordPress is the most widely used framework for self-hosted blogging web sites, and is highly customizable with thousands of widgets, themes and plug-ins, both free and commercial. New features include the admin bar, which provides easy access to common administrative tasks from the front-end for logged in users; internal linking, which lets you easily search for and link to existing content within your site from within the WYSIWYG editor; a standard set of post formats, enabling the creation of tumblelog-type sites; archive pages for custom post types; advanced taxonomy; and custom field queries.

Kernel Source - v2.6.38. <http://www.kernel.org/>. Free GNU Public License source code for all platforms by the Linux community.

## Windows Lab Use Windows 7 Backup?

By Barney Babin, Cajun Clickers Computer Club (LA) member and instructor for XP, Vista Workshop and Windows 7

Cajun Clickers Computer News  
[www.clickers.org](http://www.clickers.org)  
[ccnewsletter@cox.net](mailto:ccnewsletter@cox.net)

As those of you that have taken my classes know, I am paranoid when it comes to the subject of backup. Windows 7 includes a good backup program that can either take an image of your hard drive or backup selections made by you. I'm assuming here that you understand that you NEVER

backup either your image or your individual files and folders to the same hard drive that your Windows operating system is installed upon, which is normally drive of concern during backup. I'm also assuming that all of your programs and data reside in the same partition, normally C Drive.

So, what is an image? An image is an exact copy, think of it as a camera snapshot, of the hard drive, which includes all the programs, the operating system and all your data that you have generated and saved on your hard drive. If your computer ever stops working you can use this system image, which does not allow you to select individual items, to completely restore your system to the state it was in when the image was made, including your programs, operating system, and your created data.

If you're into video tutorials go to the below URLs to view a tutorial on how to create a system image or to view a tutorial on how to backup files and folders of your choice.

<http://tinyurl.com/4w94999>

<http://tinyurl.com/4gjlouq>

If you want a step-by-step procedure for a system image, go to the below URLs for the files step-by-step procedure.

<http://tinyurl.com/ybfgx7o>

<http://tinyurl.com/yg46n9u>

I strongly recommend, that no matter which procedure you choose, try to save more than one backup. This procedure is normally called generational backups. What this means is that you always have the option of retrieving information from more than one backup. There are times that you do not recognize that your "masterpiece" item, be it document, image, graphic, etc., was modified incorrectly and you do not have the original item saved on your hard drive, only the modified version. That is when a gen-

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erational backup becomes just as precious as gold. You can browse the backup in the backup and restore window to navigate to the item in question, and retrieve it in its original state, provided that you have retained enough generational backups to be able to do so.

By now you should be asking the question, how often and where? The “how often” depends totally upon your usage patterns, the importance of your documents, such as sentimental value, business associated irreplaceable, etc. which may be daily, biweekly, weekly, etc., but don't extend the time too long because if your system “dies” you only have data from your last backup period and anything from that date to the present instant will be lost, thus frequency of backups can become extremely important.

In my case I backup files and folders as they're

created, via a mirroring program, to other hard drives at my house and offsite on the web. I also just copy and paste some items onto flash drives for convenience, fast simple transport, etc. I perform a full image of my drive at least once a day, but remember, I do more things on a computer than you do in my volunteer positions, so your pattern will be totally different than mine.

If you're performing full images, I recommend using external drives, additional internal hard drives, network drives, etc. that will have ample room for multiple backups. If you are backing up certain items only, the Documents folder is usually where everything is saved and will normally be able to be conveniently saved to flash drives, DVD, offsite on the web, or if your total backup size is small a CD.

Never keep these backup devices in close proximity to your computer that generated the back-

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up. Remove them from your house, if possible, store them in a bank vault, store them at work, or store them offsite on the web.

If you are going to use one of the procedures described above, I also recommend that you create a system repair disk, as described at <http://tinyurl.com/2c4o4qo>. As part of the repair procedure your backups will be recognized on external drives, other hard drives in your computer etc., and will illicit questions on whether you want to restore from these items or not.

Want to know more? Do a Google search on Windows 7 backup tutorials or attend any of my classes where I address the subject of backup in week four of my sessions.

## Outlook Express to Outlook Tip

By Gordon Giles, a member of the Perth PC Users Group Inc.

Western Australia

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[gorgil51@perthpcug.org.au](mailto:gorgil51@perthpcug.org.au)

Just a small, tip for those people having problems migrating from Outlook Express to Outlook:

1. Open Outlook express on the desktop
2. Drag the left edge to the right about ½ of the screen.
3. Right click on the clear area on the screen and create a new Folder. Call it "My mail files".
4. In the "My mail files" folder, create a matching folder name for the each one in OE Look at all the folder names in OE.
5. When you have completed this go back to OE and start at the top of the folders list and open the first one, click on just one email.
6. Hold down the "CTRL" key and press the letter "A" on the keyboard. This will highlight all the emails in this folder.
7. Using the left mouse button drag the blue highlighted files all together and place your mouse pointer over the corresponding folder on the left and let go.
8. After a few seconds open the new file and all the emails from the OE folder will be in the new folder Do this for all your OE folders including your address box. Save it to a thumb drive and when ready

to run Outlook do the same in reverse if you have personal folders in OE you will need to make the new folder in Outlook. You can only drag and drop the emails themselves you can't copy and paste.

I have never managed to master Import and Export from Outlook Express to Outlook but have used this method so later I can open the file and know I have an exact copy of all my emails. It will work when going from Outlook Express to Outlook and the other way.

### Mac Software Review

## Bean, a simple, streamlined writing app

By Lee Maxwell, co-facilitator, MacWaves workgroup -

[www.gladmax.com](http://www.gladmax.com)

BCUG Bytes, Brookdale Computer Users Group, NJ

[www.bcug.com](http://www.bcug.com)

[leemaxwell@gladmax.com](mailto:leemaxwell@gladmax.com)

It is rare when writing a software review that you use the product you are reviewing. But here I am, writing a review of Bean, an optimized word processor software for Mac OS X that does it's job well without frills. Actually, this isn't a word processor; my mistaken assumption. Let the text about Bean from its own website set us all straight: "Bean is a small, easy-to-use word processor (or more precisely, a rich text editor), designed to make writing convenient, efficient and comfortable. Bean is available free of charge.

MS Word, OpenOffice, etc. try to be all things to all people. But sometimes you just want the right tool for the job. That is Bean's niche. "Bean is lean, fast, and uncluttered.

- If you get depressed at the thought of firing up MS Word or OpenOffice, try Bean.
- If you use Text Edit but have to jump through hoops just to get a word count, try Bean.
- If you desire a simple, beautiful writing environ-

ment, try Bean.”

I couldn't have stated it plainer myself. Thanks to Bean's creator and maintainer, James Hoover, for letting me use his own promotional text. I do get depressed just thinking about firing up Word, so I've always looked for worthy alternatives.

I've used previous Apple alternatives to Word, ClarisWorks and AppleWorks, but found their interfaces unpolished and frustrating. Pages, Apple's combination word processor and page layout software and until recently only available as part of iWork, is a better page layout program than word processor.

My favorite for years has been NeoOffice, a Mac version of the OpenOffice suite, which is free, open source and has lots of useful features, but is as big and almost as bloated as Microsoft Office. It can be very slow even on newer, faster Macs, because it's underpinning is Java, an operating system within Mac OS X that just runs slow.

I had hope for the Mac version of the Linux-based word processor AbiWord, which also is free and open source, but I was turned off by numerous unfixed and unacknowledged software bugs in the Mac version. And there are and were good shareware word processors like MarinerWrite and NisusWriter, but they never appealed to me.

Then MacWaves member Jim McKeown told me about Bean. And my life changed forever. [Well, not really, but it felt like it, the first time I used Bean.]

Why do I like Bean? Let me bullet the reasons:

- It's free.
- It's open source, meaning no company owns any intellectual property rights to the code. It also means it is continuously undergoing fixing and improvement by its volunteer developers.
- It's a "Cocoa" application, meaning its written in the same computer language as Mac OS X and other software by Apple, which gives it greater stability and feature set. Many of the features listed here are provided by Cocoa. Unfortunately, it also inherits some bugs and limitations in the Cocoa framework, but blame Apple for that.
- It reads and writes many word processor documents formats, including vital ones like Microsoft Word [.doc and .docx], the OpenDocument [.odt] format used by OpenOffice, LibreOffice and NeoOffice, the common Rich Text Format [.rtf] and rich text with graphics [.rtfd] formats, text files, Hyper-

Text Markup Language [.html] files and eXtensible Markup Language [.xml] files, Apple's [.webarchive] format and its own [.bean] format, and can export files as Portable Document Format [.pdf] files.

- It offers an Inspector panel with just the right controls for character and paragraph settings, which I think is almost as good as having these items listed at the top of the window under the button bar [how about making that an option, huh?].
- It also uses Apple sheets, pop-down dialog boxes linked to the button bar, to display indepth statistics and information about the document and information about the author, which the author can fill in.
- It includes a dictionary to which custom words can be added, interactive misspelling indicators, powerful word or expression search and replace features.
- It has many other great features like a live word and character count about each document in the sta-



Mike Ungerman fills in for Hewie Poplock at a recent meeting, giving us plenty tips and tricks.

tus bar, an interactive zoom slider to easily magnify or demagnify the page size, a full-screen mode, a page layout mode, autosaving, alternative colors [white text on a blue background rather than black text on white; definitely easier to read].

Did I mention it's free? Sure it doesn't allow for floating images, only in-line [embedded in text] images.

Sure it doesn't do footnotes, or allow for text styles. And, as Mr. Hoover warns, "Bean should not be considered a replacement for Word, or any other word processor designed for complex documents involving, for example, citations." So what? There is always Word or one of its freeware clones.

Bean is exactly the simple writing tool I've always looked for, a sports car with only the parts it needs to be a sports car. It is a freeware gem, a shining example of what good software can be. Get it; you won't regret it.

## My iPad

**By Terry Currier, President of the WINNERS WINDows usERS group, CA  
June 2011 issue, Winners Notepad  
[www.windowsusers.org](http://www.windowsusers.org)  
[winnersug@aol.com](mailto:winnersug@aol.com)**

Yes, I brought an iPad. But there is a reason or rational behind it. While at CES I won an Apple iPhone 4. As it turned out though they sent me an Apple Store card worth \$199 which would purchase the iPhone 4, but was good for anything. I did think about selling it, but I started to see the iPad as something the grandkids could use to play educational programs.

This is kind of like when my son some years back bought us a good set of speakers for \$200 for our TV. My wife went out and brought a \$450 hutch to hold them. Not quite equaling out. So I'm getting \$199 off, but still have to spend about \$350 to get the iPad.

After hearing about the iPad 2 coming out I was really interested. Like many others I was disappointed to see it did not come out with the predicted USB port or media reader. Some were even saying wait for the iPad 3, but I decided to go ahead and get the iPad 2.

There was a four week wait for it at the Apple Online store so I put the order in and got \$199 taken

off. After it arrived I had to set up an iTunes account. My first impression was -- looks cool, but not really ergonomic. The top is very smooth like glass. At least in my personal opinion I would like something like a rubberized strip. I want something to stop it from slipping out of my hands. This is especially true when the grandson starts playing with it. I did buy a case to hold it.

So far I've installed a number of educational apps (programs) and a few games. I have bought about \$50 worth of apps. I'm also trying many of the free educational apps. They are lite versions; that is, they show you a small portion of what it will look like to get you to buy the full version. My grandson is four so most of them are ones that help kids learn the alphabet, or how to count.

The one game that is addicting to all of us is Angry Birds. Even my non-computing wife likes playing it. With my grandson I have to set a limit with him so he also plays the educational games.

One I thought would be really cool is the Time Warner app. If you have them as a TV and Internet provider you can download the app for free. With it you can watch a number of their channels on the iPad. Only problem is Wi-Fi connection is poor for the iPad. I can be sitting in my living room and not get a connection and it is especially evident with the Time Warner app. I can catch the Wi-Fi signal very easily with my notebook. I have sat right in front of the router and it still has to buffer the video to the iPad or it simply loses it.

While fun I do still consider it to be a luxury item, but grandparents have been know to spend lots of money on their grandkids.



President Emeritus Stan Wallner reminds us of something important.

# Seniors Now Volunteer Coaches Still Needed!

Coach 2 or 3 others while an instructor explains on the big screen. Piece of cake, but much appreciated. Go to: <http://www.seniorsnoworlando.org/> or talk to Sheila Bigel, Gary Bigel, John Braun, or Bob Black at a CFCS meeting. Get free classes and trips as a reward!

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Prominent President, Author, Tech Connoisseur, MVP, and iPad Aficionado, Arvin Meyer

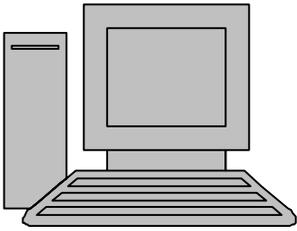


Hewie interviews Marie Vesta earlier this year via Skype.

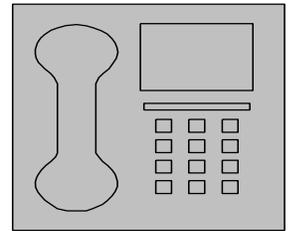


## Hewie Rejuvenates Photo SIG with Cloud Coverage

Fresh from his success with a Skype presentation, Hewie has launched a new Cloud initiative for reinventing the long running Photo SIG, placing it online with an interactive interface allowing participants to ask questions and make comments during virtual meetings. The trial meeting drew 30+ viewers from across the U.S. Watch the E-Blast (Sign up at [cfcs.org](http://cfcs.org).) for details of further virtual Photo SIG meetings.



# HelpLine



**HelpLine** is a **free** service to members of CFCS only. The following volunteers have offered to field questions by **phone or via e-mail** with software and hardware problems listed below. Please be considerate of the volunteer you are calling.

As a **free** service, you should not be asked to pay for help or be solicited for products or services. If anything to the contrary occurs, please contact the HelpLine coordinator immediately. Their names will be removed from the list.

Additional volunteers are needed in some existing categories and for new categories. If you are interested, please contact the HelpLine coordinator at e-mail: [helpline@cfcs.org](mailto:helpline@cfcs.org)

Please Note - This is a service for CFCS MEMBERS ONLY

## HelpLine Listings

### Digital Photography & Video

Ken Larrabee 407 365-2660 anytime  
[KLarrabee@cfl.rr.com](mailto:KLarrabee@cfl.rr.com)

### DOS

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm  
[smwallner@yahoo.com](mailto:smwallner@yahoo.com)

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755  
[kris.hestad@surfdogs.com](mailto:kris.hestad@surfdogs.com)

### Hardware

Ken Larrabee 407-365-2660 anytime

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm  
[smwallner@yahoo.com](mailto:smwallner@yahoo.com)

### MS ACCESS

Arvin Meyer, MVP 407-327-3810 7 pm - 9 pm  
[Access-sig@cfcs.org](mailto:Access-sig@cfcs.org)

### MS Office Products:

MS Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook and Access  
Doug Gabbard (e-mail only)  
[Dougga@gmail.com](mailto:Dougga@gmail.com)

### Security

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810  
[vp-adm@cfcs.org](mailto:vp-adm@cfcs.org)

### Networking - Home or Office

Doug Gabbard e-mail only  
[Dougga@gmail.com](mailto:Dougga@gmail.com)

### SQL-Server

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810  
[vp-adm@cfcs.org](mailto:vp-adm@cfcs.org)

### Windows

Hewie Poplock 407-362-7824 5 pm-7 pm  
[hewie@hewie.net](mailto:hewie@hewie.net)

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755  
[kris.hestad@surfdogs.com](mailto:kris.hestad@surfdogs.com)

### WinZip

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810  
[vp-adm@cfcs.org](mailto:vp-adm@cfcs.org)

### Wireless Routers

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755  
[kris.hestad@surfdogs.com](mailto:kris.hestad@surfdogs.com)

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◀ Jun 2011	~ July 2011 ~						Aug 2011 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1 Newspaper Copy deadline	2	
3	4	5	6 CFCS BoD Denny's Casselberry 7 pm	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13 Access, Office, Security SIGs: New Horizons, Lee Rd. 7 pm	14	15	16	
17 12:30 pm Windows SIG 2pm General Meeting	18 iPhone SIG, Lee Rd. Denny's, 7 pm	19	20 Photo/Video SIG Moved to Cloud. Ck. E-Blast for date/time.	21	22	23	
24	25	26 Tech SIG Denny's, Casselberry 7 pm	27	28	29	30	
31	Notes:						
◀ Jul 2011	~ August 2011 ~						Sep 2011 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 Newspaper Copy deadline	2	3 CFCS BoD Denny's Casselberry 7 pm	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10 Access, Office, Security SIGs: New Horizons, Lee Rd. 7 pm	11	12	13	
14	15 iPhone SIG, Lee Rd. Denny's, 7 pm	16	17 Photo/Video SIG Moved to Cloud. Ck. E-Blast for date/time.	18	19	20	
21 12:30 pm Windows SIG 2pm General Meeting	22	23 Tech SIG Denny's, Casselberry 7 pm	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31	Notes:			

**DIRECTIONS TO MONTHLY MEETING**

Our meeting building is at the intersection of Lee Road and Turner Rd. The meeting is in the building behind the one on the corner of Lee and Turner. Turn North on Turner, left into the parking lot, and drive behind the office building in the rear of the parking lot. You will see a sign: **Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance**. Plenty of parking is nearby, and the meeting room is just inside, making it accessible for those with special mobility equipment.

**SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS based on your starting point.**

**From I-4, exit at lee Rd.,** drive East 1/2 mile to Turner Rd. and turn left onto Turner and left again into the first parking lot. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.

**From Apopka/436 area,** go south on 441 to

**Lee Rd., Go about 2 miles, past I-4, then turn left onto Turner and left again into the first parking lot. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.**

**From the SouthWest,** take John Young to Lee Rd. as above, turn left on Turner and left again into the first parking lot. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.

**From Hwy 17-92,** drive to Lee Rd, turn West, then go 8/10ths of a mile to Turner Rd. and turn right. Drive to the rear of the rearmost building and look for the Jackson Hewitt delivery entrance.

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