



THE BUSSLINE

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

Vol. 111 No. 6 Newsletter of the Central Florida Computer Society, Inc. [Non-Profit, 501(c)3] June 2011

Speaker Lineup for Next 5 Months

June 19: Mark Schulman, Why Build your Own Computer?

July 17: Oz Rugless, Computer Guru Secrets

August 21: Tom Ault and Ken Larabee - 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

All speakers are subject to change. The best way to keep up to date is signing up for the CFCS E-Blast email newsletter at cfc.org

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 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.

Not sure if you want to do this? Attend Mark's talk on June 19 to find out **WHY YOU SHOULD**

(Continued on page 2)



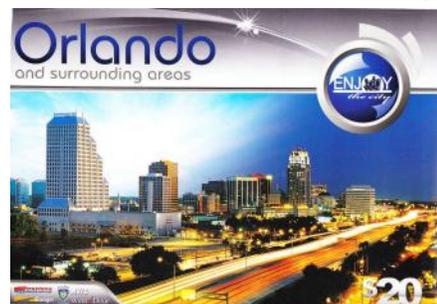
Persons of Interest at a recent CFCS WinSIG Meeting

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SECOND CHANCE, page 17



BUILD YOUR NEXT COMPUTER.**June 19**

Mark Shulman, one of our favorite presenters, returns to CFCS to give us his reasons **WHY YOU SHOULD BUILD YOUR NEXT COMPUTER.**

Mark was the leader of our BYOC (Build Your Own Computer) workshop last year, and will also be returning in that capacity later in the year. Mark is a local technical expert and computer consultant who has a definite knack for explaining technical topics without the usual geek jargon that so infuriates newbies trying to learn for themselves. He will also talk about **HOW** you do the deed, an advance look at the upcoming BYOC workshop. This is a not-to-be-missed meeting where you will be amazed at what you learn. See our website at CFCS.org for further info. Note: Mark was originally scheduled to speak in May, but a mix-up prevented this.

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 potpourri of ideas, one of which is sure to be just what you were looking for, including:

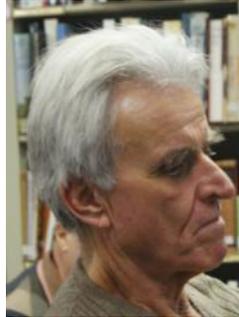
- * Freeware and shareware you can use, today, that you never knew existed.
- * Shortcut techniques for making your computing easier and breezier.
- * Where to find answers when you're stumped with a computing problem.
- * How to automate routine computing tasks.
- * Programming tips for the experienced program-

mer 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 Larabee, 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, soft ware, and controllers that may be used, and their interaction with each other. De-

pending 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 previous page or on pg. 24 of the online edition at cfc.org. Jan. Feb. and Mar. presentations will be at the University Club of Winter Park. For details and maps, consult our website at cfc.org.

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY E-MAIL!

All meetings and speakers are subject to change, and late alterations are always possible. To keep completely on top of events, log on to CFCS.org and subscribe to our weekly e-mail update.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Earlier on the same day of each presentation, the **WINDOWS SIG* meeting is held.** (*Special Interest Group) 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.

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 used to meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the New Horizons Learning Center at 1221 Lee Rd. But the SIG is in hiatus until someone volunteers to host it. E-mail: 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 notebook pc's are welcome, either for "show and tell" or discussion or demo of situations. E-mail: tech-sig@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 iPhoneOS, 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. The Tech-SIG and the Board of Directors meetings continue to meet at Denny's on 436 & Oxford Rd in Casselberry.

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 co-ordination 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 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/>

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

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.

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

Editorial: Articles for publication in the CFCS Newsletter should be *emailed* to the Editor at: 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.

This issue was created using Microsoft Office 2003 and MS Publisher 2003 Edition. ☐

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

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Newsletter Editor	Robert Black	407-421-4213	editor@cfcs.org
President Emeritus	Stan Wallner	407-862-2669	presidentemeritus@cfcs.org
SIG Chair	Ken Larabee	407-365-2660	sigs@cfcs.org

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Special Interest Groups	Ken Larabee	407-365-2660	sigs@cfcs.org
APCUG	Hewie Poplock		apcug@cfcs.org
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Photographer	Robert Black	407-421-4213	photographer@cfcs.org
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Reviews (S/W & Books)	Mike Ungerman	(e-mail only)	reviews@cfcs.org
Webmaster	Cheryl Wilson	(e-mail only)	webmaster@cfcs.org

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Proofreader: Ted Goodwin	
Distrib: Stephen Constant	Advertising: (Needed)

CFCS Newsletter Advertising

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.
 All ad copy and correspondence should be sent by email to: advertising@cfcs.org

*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

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



www.apcug.net



- 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.

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal e-mail letters will be mailed from: membership@cfcs.org to members at their e-mail address of record the month before their membership expires. Then, letters will be snail mailed to members for whom no e-mail address is in the membership database and those members whose e-mail was returned to membership@cfcs.org for any of many possible reasons: no account, account inactive, mail box over limit, spam filter intervention, etc. 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.

If you do not receive a renewal letter, 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: membership@cfcs.org.

Membership Cards: A new membership card with an expiration date for the next year will be distributed at the meeting following your renewal. The cards will be laminated and include a bar code which represents the member ID number. Members are requested to present their membership card for bar code scanning at the membership table to reduce the check-in time and make recording of attendance data easier. Cards will be mailed to those members who request same by e-mail to: membership@cfcs.org

New Member & Visitor Orientation: Please listen for an announcement, at the beginning of the meeting for a time and location. 

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 or 407-862-2669.



Stan Wallner does his imitation of the Prima Porta statue of the Roman Emperor Augustus. (Cf. Wikipedia)

A Letter from Ted to the FCC

There is nothing new to report on Ted's famous letter to the FCC. Please let him know that you appreciate his civic mindedness and urge him to follow up by bugging the appropriate government agency. You might also remind him that there are other important national issues, such as encouraging Sarah Palin to enlighten us further on the nuances of American history, or monitoring Mark Weiner's Twitter escapades.



Your Computer's Health:

Comprehensive Computer Maintenance

By Greg Skalka, President, UCHUG (Under the Computer Hood User Group), CA

March 2011 issue, Drive Light

www.uchug.org

president@uchug.org

People need computers. Computers need maintenance. Unless you want to gamble with your email, continued access to the Internet, your finances and the other things we have come to depend on from our personal computers, you should consider some preventative maintenance. Even if you are unconcerned about a temporary loss of computer use, if you use it to access your financial accounts, you could be risking those assets and your financial reputation by failing to maintain your computer's resistance to viruses and malware.

Just as a car requires maintenance to provide reliable transportation, a computer needs regular care to insure it can safely and reliably negotiate the Information Superhighway. The concern is not only for making sure the computer works when you need it to and does not lose valuable information, but it also must protect you from attacks by information thieves. Neglecting basic computer maintenance can increase the risk of problems resulting from hardware and software failures, and can leave you open to theft of your identity and finances.

Since I must provide the maintenance and IT support for all the computers and users in my household, I've developed a basic process for computer care that provides a lot of protection for minimal cost and effort. It has evolved over the years, as computers and the threats to their well-being have changed, and has allowed me to prevent any serious computer problems from occurring. There is nothing you can do to completely prevent problems like hard drive failures, but you can take steps that will insure against the loss of data and allow you to be computing again soon.

My computer maintenance philosophy involves three basic computer maintenance principles I call the three up's: setup, backup and cleanup. Setup requires that each computer be configured as much as possible to make maintenance easier and operations safer. This can involve not only your computer's hardware and software, but your home network's hardware and configuration as well. Backup provides

a reliable way to safeguard your computer's data and configuration, allowing you to recover easily from most any problem with minimal data loss. It can not only prevent information loss resulting from hardware failures, but can also protect your computer's configuration from alteration during the installation of questionable software. Cleanup involves regular maintenance activities performed to prevent hardware problems, keep your software running smoothly and repel cyber attacks. Implemented appropriately, these three aspects of computer maintenance can keep bad things from happening to your computers and the information they contain.

Setup

A thoughtfully conceived computer setup is the foundation on which the other two maintenance activities are based. For best effect, it should be implemented on your computers when they are first put into service. To make the backup and cleanup operations easier, I always - Partition the main physical hard drive into separate partitions for each "Function" - Provide a second physical hard drive for each computer for backup storage I typically create 7 to 8 partitions on the primary hard drive, each allocated to a particular function. One will contain only the operating system, another only data and others programs of different types. For best results, this must be done before any applications are installed, so that the OS can remain separate in its own partition.

These partitions can be created by Windows in most cases, but I prefer the versatility of a partition management program such as Acronis Disk Director. The OS partition is the only primary partition, with the remaining partitions consisting of logical drives in a secondary partition. A typical partition set for a Windows 7 computer with a 1 TB hard drive might be:

- 120 GB - OS (operating system and drivers only; no programs installed here if possible)
- 50 GB - APPS1 (utility and system programs, like firewalls, anti-virus, anti-malware and browsers)
- 22 GB - GAMES (games)
- 50 GB - APPS2 (office and productivity applications, including email clients and financial apps)
- 100 GB - DATA (user data, such as documents, email, photos, source audio / video files and config files)
- 50 GB - APPS3 (mapping and misc. applications)
- 50 GB - APPS4 (multimedia applications, like pho-

to / audio / video editors, scanning and VoIP software)
477 GB - LOCAL (scratch or working partition, for work in progress or temporary backup storage)

I never store anything in the My Documents folder created by Windows, as it is on the OS partition. I instead create folders in each partition to help organize files and programs, so I can avoid having to resort to using search to find things. If a desktop computer can accommodate it, I always install a second physical hard drive in the case for low-cost backup storage. For laptops and small desktops, I provide a dedicated external hard drive (eSATA or USB 3.0 preferred) for backup files. To protect my most sensitive personal and financial files, I never store them on a computer, but instead keep them on a hardware-encrypted external USB hard drive.

I also configure my computer and home network for maximum security. All security functions available in your router should be enabled. I configure my network's router for strong wireless security, and prefer to use a wired connection when possible. I don't allow sharing of drives or resources on my computers, but instead use stand-alone network drives to share files and network printers to share printing capabilities. Each computer runs a software firewall (I like ZoneAlarm), an antivirus and several anti-malware programs. I try to keep the cabling between my computer and network devices neat and labeled. It is often good to add an additional fan to some computers for improved cooling. I've found placing a laptop on a laptop cooler allows better airflow to the bottom and keeps it cooler (even without running the extra fans). I run my primary desktop computer on a low-cost UPS (uninterruptable power supply), so if the power goes out while computing, I have extra time to shut down properly and avoid data loss.

Backup

If you use computers long enough, you will have a hardware failure, the most common and devastating of which is a hard drive failure. To avoid the loss of my data, I make reliable backups of my computers as often as is reasonable.

Only you can decide how often your backups should be made, based on how much data you want to gamble with. Backing up more often puts less of your recent data at risk, but is less convenient and takes time. It is easier to strike a reasonable balance

between risk and time with your hard drive partitioned and segregated.

You can back up the more critical user data partition more often than the others, and with only user data in it, the backup file is created much faster. All partitions should be backed up periodically, and it often helps to label the backup files you make with source and date in the file name, and to maintain a backup log (text file).

If a computer hard drive fails, I want to be able to put in a new drive and be running again as soon as possible, with minimal data loss. To do that, I make image backups of each hard drive partition, rather than simply copy the files. There are several backup applications that can do this; the one I prefer is Acronis True Image. I make my partition image backups on the second internal hard drive or the external hard drive, so a hard drive failure does not result in the loss of my backups along with the primary data. I only make my backups while running the bootable CD version of True Image, so that I am familiar with the program when tragedy strikes. If a primary hard drive fails, I can replace the drive in my computer, boot from the Acronis True Image CD and restore all primary drive partitions from the backup files on the secondary or external drive to the new drive. I might have lost a few of my most recent files (created since the last backup was made), but I can be running again the same day.

I also like to make backups of the OS and application partitions right before installing new programs. If I don't like a program soon after installing, I'll simply restore the OS and application partition with the last backup files made, sending my computer back in time to a point before the installation. I like this better than using any of the uninstall methods, which often leave behind files and registry entries to clutter my drives and slow performance.

It is a good idea to periodically transfer backup files to external drives or other removable media, in case a computer power supply failure takes out both internal physical drives. Transferring these backups to another physical location (perhaps at least once a year) provides cheap protection for your data should your computer be stolen or you lose your home from fire or other disaster.

For protection of my most sensitive financial files stored on a small external hard drive, I maintain another two identical drives as backups. I copy the new files to these backup drives weekly, and store



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them in a fire safe or off site. To insure adequate backups, it is best to develop a schedule for making each of your backup types and stick with it.

Cleanup

The final piece of the computer maintenance puzzle is cleanup. This involves the periodic maintenance required to insure your computer continues to run safely and efficiently. Just as with backups, you should establish a schedule to follow to insure the proper maintenance is performed. Most of the required maintenance is done to the computer software, but there are also a few hardware maintenance items that should not be neglected.

To protect your computer from the external threats of viruses, spyware and other malware, the installation of good antivirus and anti-malware software is required. Although it seems the risk from viruses has diminished, running antivirus software and keeping its virus signatures updated is still important. Only one antivirus program should be installed on a PC, as conflicts can result from multiple programs. There are many good programs to choose from, some of which are free. I presently use the one that comes with ZoneAlarm Internet Security Suite.

There are also plenty of choices available for

anti-malware software, with many excellent ones available for free non-commercial use. More is better with anti-malware software. Since they typically don't run in the background, many different programs can be installed and used separately without conflicts. Since some work better on different threats than others, having a variety of anti-malware programs in your arsenal will provide the best detection and elimination of these threats. It is best to update your threat definitions and run your antivirus and anti-malware software at least once a week, preferably on a set schedule. I presently run Webroot Spy Sweeper, Safer Networking Spybot - Search & Destroy, Lavasoft Ad-Aware, Malwarebytes Anti-Malware and Microsoft Windows Defender.

Your computer is like a living organism that starts out quick and vibrant, but becomes slow and develops ailments with age and use. The OS, applications and hard drive storage combine to form something like a nervous system. To detect and prevent the equivalent of computer headaches, nervous breakdowns and Alzheimer, some basic system maintenance should be performed regularly. Your hard drives should be scanned for bad sectors and other drive errors and defragmented periodically. Operating system updates should be applied as they

become available, to improve operation and close security holes. As your computer gets older and slower, running a registry cleaner or PC tune-up suite can clean out your OS and improve performance.

Ultimately, however, your computer may reach the point after a few years where "the body is willing but the mind is weak." If your hardware is too good to replace but performance has been greatly diminished, a computer reincarnation may be appropriate. If you partitioned your hard drive as I described and have kept your early backup files, you can restore your computer's performance to its early days with no more effort than would be required to set up a new computer.

To give your computer a second life, simply restore your OS and all application (non-data) partitions, using backup files created soon after you got the PC. Having a backup log to refer to will help you pick a point in time that will minimize the reinstallation of applications. Your data should remain on its partition unaltered.

After restoring, you will need to apply all OS updates since that backup time and reinstall applications added since, but you will soon be running again with a computer that feels much younger. You can also use this opportunity to upgrade to a larger hard drive with little extra effort.

The final cleanup item to remember is your computer hardware. All computers should be opened up periodically so that dust can be vacuumed out or blown out with canned air. This also applies to laptops, though you may want to avoid disassembly, and only blow air into ventilation inlets and outlets. This will help your computer keep its cool and last much longer.

By following the three "ups" of computer maintenance, setup, backup and cleanup, you can keep your computer's performance at maximum with a minimum of effort, while protecting your data, finances and identity. By using a regular schedule of maintenance, little bits of time over its useful life spent taking care of your computer can keep it out of intensive care. Better Ups than OOPS.

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Registry First Aid

Reviewed by Herb Goldstein, Editor,
Sarasota PCUG, Florida

The Monitor

www.spcug.org

pcugedit@verizon.net

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.

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 remarka-

bly 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) for \$27.95.

SuperTooth Buddy - Can it be too good?

By Terry Currier, President, WINNERS
(WINdows usERS Group), CA
www.windowsusers.org
winnersug@aol.com

The SuperTooth Buddy is a hands free Bluetooth speakerphone (bar) for your car. On the back is a strong round magnet, and it comes with a metal clip you put over your sun visor. You simply "attach" the unit to the metal clip. Pairing it to my phone was very easy. It can be paired with two mobile phones simultaneously, if both want to use it at the same time it will default to the last one paired. In fact it will remember and pair up to eight phones.

While driving you are facing the microphone so it picks up your speaking very well. In testing it my wife said I sounded very clear. The microphone is designed to absorb noise and vibrations to enhance outgoing voice quality. It has full duplex audio with echo canceling and a double noise canceller. The speaker produced good sound with plenty of volume. If your phone supports it you can also use call waiting, and voice dialing.

Voice Dialing

I tested it with a Samsung phone. It uses Bluetooth version 2.1; they say it is compatible with all Bluetooth phones, including the iPhone, Blackberry and Smart Phones (Android O.S., Windows Mobile).

You may be tempted to turn it off when not in use, but the SuperTooth Buddy has a standby charge of 40 days (1,000 hours.) Talk time is up to 20 hours.

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It was easy to just leave it on all the time and have it automatically reconnect with my cell phone when I got into the car. Note: it did take a couple of minutes for the reconnect, it was not instant. When the charge is low it gives a steady red light behind the multi-function button. With the adapter they supply you plug it into the cigarette lighter socket and it will charge in three hours. It can also be charged from a PC via USB Cable.

I really did like the SuperTooth Buddy for its clarity,

So why did I ask can it be too good? Well the strength of the connection is actually too strong. It says it will connect up to 30 feet away from the unit, and it's true. I can have the car parked on my driveway walk in, and in the back of the house hear the

phone

and read the message on the phone saying Bluetooth was disconnected. That would not be so bad, but I can actually walk to the front of the house and have my cell phone reconnect to the unit on the driveway. And of course the microphone and sound functions are transferred to the SuperTooth Buddy – in the car. I have parked the car and in a straight line get about 50 feet away before it finally disconnects.



[www.hypercel.com/
Z004088E](http://www.hypercel.com/Z004088E)

Company Website:
www.supertooth.net

Dial2Do
www.dial2do.com

While not exclusive to SuperTooth Buddy a new service was listed on their website since I started

this review. Dial2Do allows the subscriber to create reminders, send texts, listen to and send email, and access favorite 3rd party services - all while keeping your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road. They say it will work with any phone, but have extra features on Smartphones.

When you subscribe to the service you are given a number to call. When you call a voice will ask you what you want to do. Some of the other things you can do is check your calendar, Toodledo task list, post to your blog on WordPress, weather, news, and yes you can even use Twitter. You can try a free 30-day trial of their basic service – create and listen to reminders, voice to text transcription, and Smartphone applications. The Basic will cost you \$2.49/month or \$24.99/year. With the pro version you can do all the other neat things at a cost of \$5.99/month or \$59.99/year.

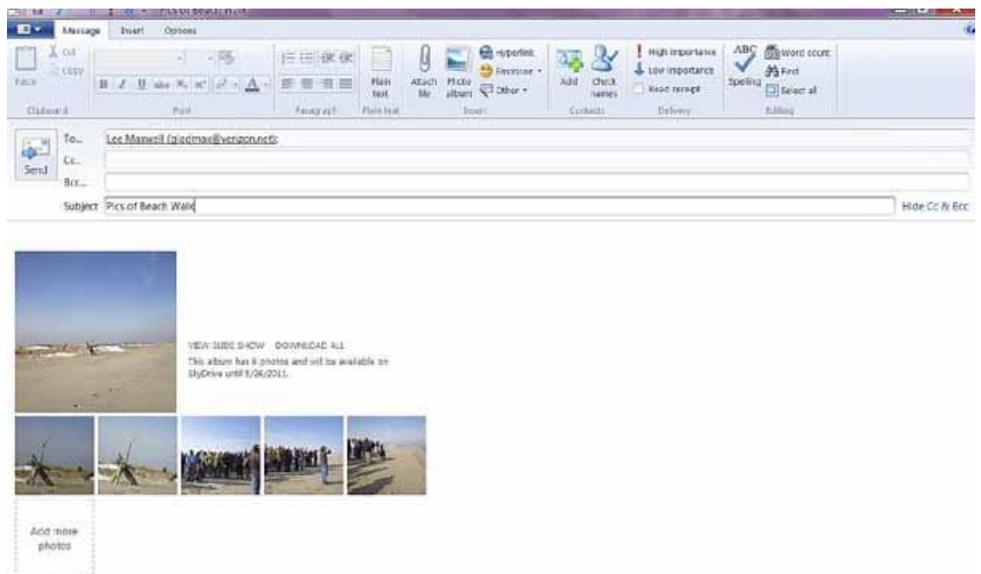
When Outlook dies, Windows Live Mail lives

By Jo Grazide, Leader,
 Word Processing Workshop,
 Brookdale Computer Users Group,
 New Jersey
<http://bcug.com>
gio520@gmail.com

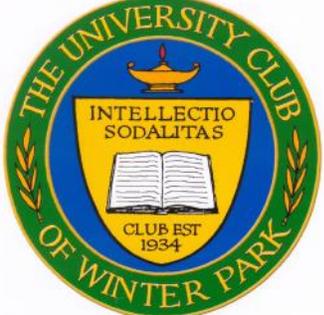
I had been using and enjoying the features of Microsoft Outlook 2007 since 2007, never imagining that one fine day I would log in only to see a message saying something to the effect that Outlook was in use and that I had to close a “pst” file, or face the consequences. In fact, MS Outlook simply stopped. I was unable to move appointments, open an email, or do anything that I was accustomed to in order to make my activities on the computer enjoyable and efficient.

For lack of a better option, I decided to

Screenshot of Windows Live Mail showing message window with attached photo images. All screenshots: Jo Grazide



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turn to Windows Live Mail (WLM), a part of the Windows Live Essentials suite that was already installed on my system along with my favorite photo management program and even my antivirus app.

Since this was already present, I didn't have to do much, except launch it. It happily grabbed my mail downloads from Gmail and politely asked me if I wanted it to be the default email program. I said "Yes!"

I was pleasantly surprised. I use Gmail but I was pleasantly surprised. I use Gmail but only for the convenience of having an online calendar and email program that I could access from any computer. As far as WLM, I would say the only real inconvenience is the loss of my Outlook calendar, but I can manage using the online Google calendar whenever I'm on my desktop.

First Impressions

When you first use WLM, you are obligated to establish a connection with your ISP (Internet Service Provider). Since I use Gmail/Verizon/Hotmail/Yahoo, I can add these by going to the accounts Tab, clicking on the Email icon and adding an account. Since I sync everything on Gmail's server, there is no need to do this. In fact, it gets kind of confusing when lots of email accounts are listed, at least for me. So I stick to my Gmail account and things have been going smoothly.

Tabs and Ribbons

Cosmetically, the interface is clean, uncluttered and easy to understand. You start with a Quick Access Toolbar and tabbed ribbons familiar to those of us using current MS Office apps. The tabs are: Home/Folders/View and Accounts. Let's take a peek at each.



Screenshot of Home ribbon

The Home tab is where you compose, create Photo emails, mark as junk, and for those Calendar challenged like me, an opportunity to add a message to that calendar. This may be the workaround I need. Anything to save typing! You will see a sign in request on the right side. You don't have to be a member of Hotmail or Windows Live or sign in. I do so

under my Hotmail name, as this allows the computer to sync and recognize my name on many other sites, such as Facebook, Windows Live Mesh, and others too tedious to mention here. I am a social networker, and am comfortable with such arrangements, but you don't have to subscribe to these. The email program will still work for you, happily. I really like the Photo email option. In the example shown above, notice how the pictures I chose are inserted as an album, and also that a picture tools and a photo album tools ribbon is provided. Even though that may be considered overkill on Microsoft's part, it is still handy in case you want to do a bit more work before sending your pictures out.



Screenshot of View ribbon

Also useful is the View ribbon. Here you can change the layout of your screen. My favorite button here is the Account color – among others, you can change your theme to Fuchsia or Smoke. Other colors you can use are Lime or Twilight. Someone must have had a sense of humor when they wrote this app. But you can use a different color for multiple accounts, so there is a reason for this virtual rainbow.

The Accounts ribbon is one I hardly go to.



Screenshot of Accounts ribbon

Anything here is handled elsewhere. In fact, IMAP folders or Newsgroup is a bit beyond what I need in my email program, so I leave these alone.

Summing Up

In using WLM, there is little to worry about. It will download your messages, keep your appointments once you enter them, and handle your contacts. In fact, it handles contacts only too well. I was happy to see that it has the uncanny ability to find and list my Facebook contacts as well as the ones imported from MS Outlook. It won't list their emails or any unavailable information, but it does three things I like. It gives me a picture of the friend

from their Facebook profile, a link to their online Facebook page, and whether they are currently there. So even if I'm not online, I can quickly get to their page and see what my fellow networkers are up to. LinkedIn also seems to be important enough to be included in this feature.

No Calendar sync

A quick mention of the Calendar – since it does not sync with Google calendar, unless I have a lot of time to re-enter my appointments, Google will have to be my source of information. I have read recently that Yahoo Mail will sync with WLM and Google, but have not had the time to really investigate this. With the way that the Internet is combining profiles and individuals' information, it would just be one more intertwining of online information. Perhaps in time there will be a better way to do this.

I will miss MS Outlook. But I will not miss the fact that one fine day it just stopped working, gave me strange error messages, and was unwilling to be reinstalled properly. I know that there are always more options, and WLM is a fine option. Being downloaded from the Internet, it is always up to date and free. Try it if you want to use a local email program with lots of features and an uncomplicated interface.

Keyboards and Stuff

By Merle Nicholson, Secretary, Tampa PC Users Group, Inc., FL

Bits of Blue

www.tpcug.org

merle@merlenicholson.com

I've modified and programmed keyboards, trying my best to optimize my time at the computer. Not that I don't enjoy my computer and the things I can accomplish, but, first, I'm a lousy typist, despite having practiced continuously since 1976, and, second, I hate messing with things that are obviously flawed. Keyboards are all flawed, that's a given. Here's how I'm coping.

I pretty much settled, a couple of years ago, on a Logitech Gaming Keyboard model G11. It's been succeeded by a model G510 (\$106 at NewEgg), which is only slightly improved from the G11. I'm always on the lookout for new keyboards, but so far I haven't found anything else to excite me. The G11 is

distinguished by 18 programmable keys, key back-lighting and multimedia controls. The G510 is the same except the backlighting is probably better and it has a small multipurpose LCD screen. It's the backlighting and programmable keys that make it worth it to me. The picture below is the left side, showing the key arrangement and my labels.



You can use these 18 keys in 18 times three ways (54) because there are three buttons at the top of the array – M1, M2 and M3 – that will switch the whole bank of 18 to three sets. So far I haven't found a use for switching the banks. Eighteen seems to be enough, so it stays on M1. Programming is pretty versatile. It accepts macros, shortcuts, functions, text and a scripting language, so I'd guess that you'd be hard pressed to find anything you couldn't program.

The bottom three keys in the picture are pretty obvious: They're a replacement for Ctl+X, C and V. I use these three constantly, since I'm a real believer in cut, copy and paste because I make a lot of mistakes and need to avoid typing as much as possible. The next set up is new for me, marked 1 2 3. They (and cut, copy, paste) don't need labels; I marked them for this article. 1 2 3 run a little program I wrote in VB.NET that will pop the mouse cursor to the center of my monitors 1, 2 and 3 and blip some eye-

catching circles. The only disadvantage in using three monitors is finding the mouse and how to get it where you want it. Problem solved: The buttons "Computer", "F:", "G:", "C:" and "D:" all just open Windows Explorer to those drive letters. "UP" moves Windows Explorer up one level in the directory tree, "close" closes the current window (it's really Alt+F4, and a bit hazardous to use). "KP", "outlook", "IE" and "WATRacker" all launch programs and are used perhaps once a day. I'll ditch any of these if I find any other use for the keys. "Date" runs another program I wrote to push the time and date into the clipboard ready for pasting. I use this, well,...sometimes.

There are several other ways to alter keyboards. I've disabled the "Caps Lock" key. It has no effect when pressed. It takes a complicated little registry change to do that, but just think about it; the only time I EVER use the Caps Lock is to switch it off after accidentally switching it on. What a waste of keyboard space. Likewise "Scroll Lock." I'll bet not one in ten thousand keyboard users know what Scroll Lock is, and it's on every keyboard waiting for an accidental bump. How about the "Ins" key? Although I probably would not disable it as I did Caps Lock, I'd like to at least disable it from an accidental bump almost all the time.

Now that I'm started on this – let's look at Num Lock. Ok, I'll concede that some people use it. But I do own three keyboards (two on notebooks) that have no numeric keypad. But Num Lock switches an array of character keys to numbers if you don't have a keypad. More than once I've gone crazy knowing that I know the logon password on a computer that wouldn't take. Guess what. The num lock was on, the password used characters U,I,O,J,K,L or M, and being a password wouldn't show up on the screen. Man, I hate that.

What I really want is a 100% fully programmable keyboard program built into Windows. How hard could it be?

There are programmable keyboards. One or two really are 100% programmable. Even some that you just place the key switches wherever you want on a slate. But I don't want it bad enough to pay them \$1500!



Pictured above: Logitech G510, NewEgg Item#: N82E16823126100 \$106.

Also nice in my living room (think Netflix): Logitech diNovo Mini Black 63 Normal Keys Bluetooth Wireless Mini keyboard Item#: N82E16823126039 \$120. pictured below. □



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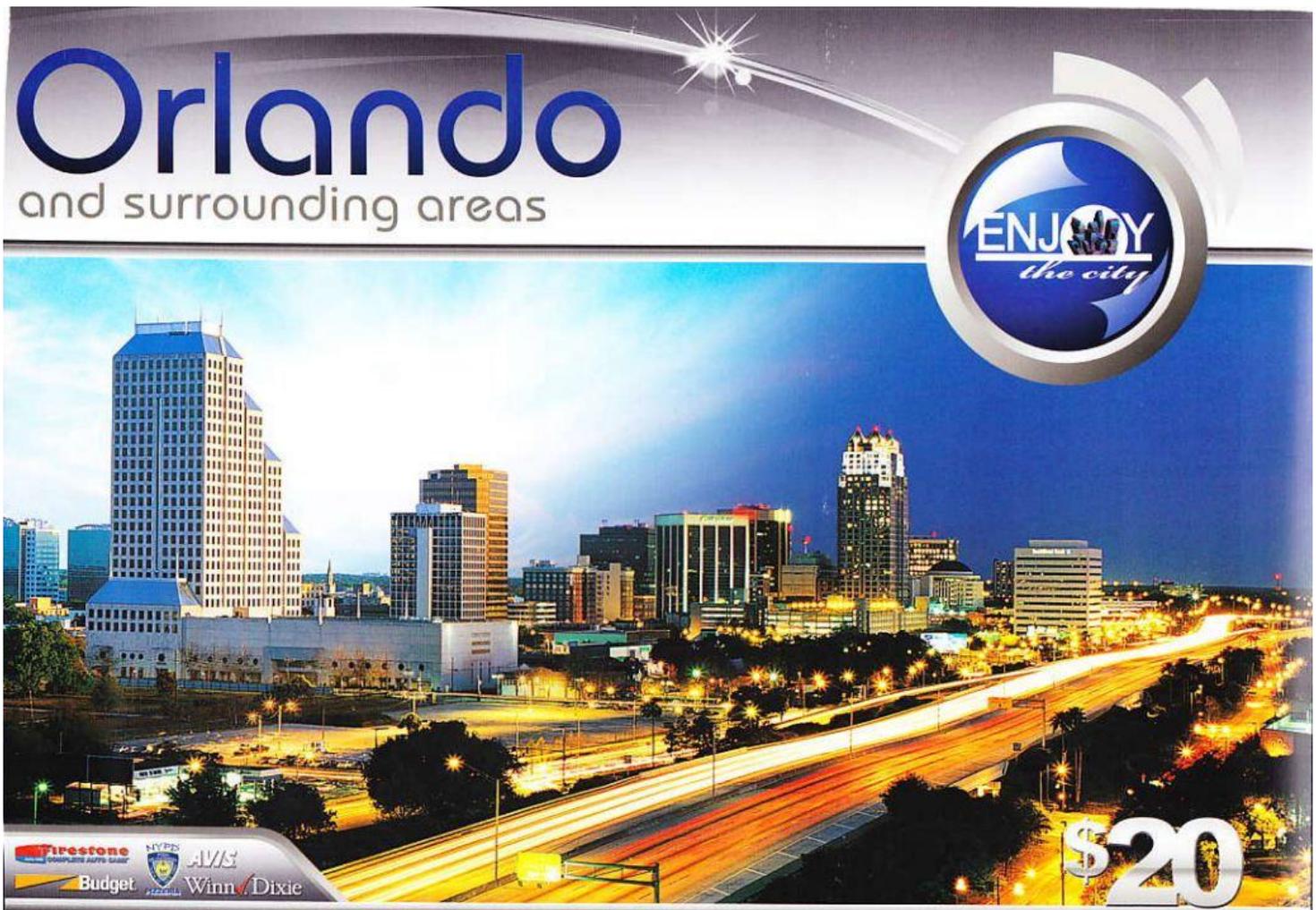
By Neil Stahfest, Vice President,
Tacoma Area PC User Group,
Washington
NCStahfest@msn.com
www.tapcug.org

Do you have trouble seeing the text on your computer's display? New computer displays come in a wide range of sizes. Twenty years ago an 800 pixel by 600 pixel display was considered to be pretty high resolution. Modern LCD displays are available in a number of sizes that can range from 1024 by 600 pixels to 1920 by 1080 pixels. By default Windows attempts to match your computer's display setting to the number of pixels in the display to give

you the sharpest image possible. Sometimes, particularly if you have a very large display, the text may look too small.

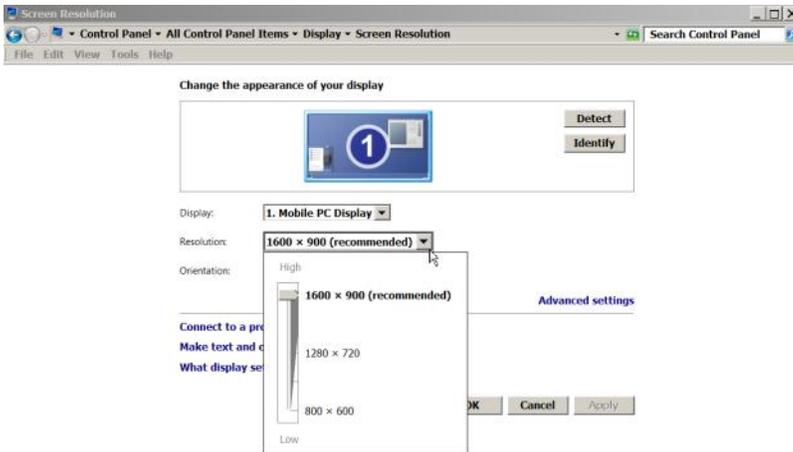
Sometimes, however, your display settings may get changed. If you attach a different display or a projector to your computer may change your settings. When you change back to your original display things may look "different" (icons in new locations and bigger or smaller, text larger or smaller).

Windows 7 makes it easy to check and change your display settings. Just click on the Windows Start button and then the Control Panel. Under Appearance and Personalization, click on Adjust screen resolution. This will produce a window like the one shown here which lets you change the appearance of your display. What we want to look at is the button next to Resolution. As shown, when you click on it a small window with slider appears which shows you



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the range of settings available to you.



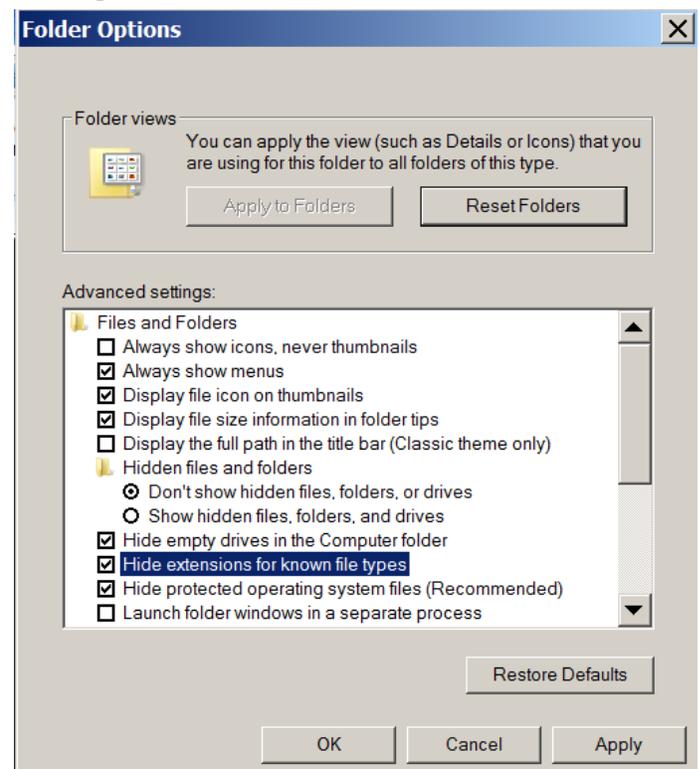
Now that we've "conquered" the subject of video settings, let's talk about file extensions. File extensions are a group of letters at the end of a file name that identifies the type of file for the programs in your computer. For example, if I had a picture on my computer it might be named cat.jpg. The name of the file is cat and the extension .jpg identifies it as a picture file for the Windows Photo Viewer program, as well as other programs that I might have for viewing pictures. Through the magic of Windows, you don't have to specify a particular program to open or view a file. In our example, just double clicking on cat.jpg will start the right program so I can see the picture of a cat.

I have a new laptop computer. It came with Microsoft Word 2010 on it. My old computer has Word 2003 on it. When you create a document with Word 2010, Word places a file extension of .docx on it. If you create a document using Word 2003 it has a file extension of .doc. Why? Because Microsoft changed something in the way it formats document file with Word 2010. Word 2010 can read .doc files created by Word 2003 but Word 2003 cannot read Word 2010 documents with a .docx file extension. For people like me that use Word 2003 on one computer and Word 2010 on another computer, it means that I can't read documents created on the new computer on my old computer. Fortunately Microsoft has provided a solution. It lets me save documents created with Word 2010 with the format used by Word 2003 (with a .doc file extension) so I work with the same document on both computers.

Now we get to Part 2 of my problem. By default Windows 7, as well as other versions of Windows, hides file extensions. This means that by just

looking at the name of a document, I can't tell if it was saved as a .doc or .docx file. In older versions of Windows there was a way to unhide file extensions. I did that years ago on my old computer, it was something to do with "folder options" but I no longer remember how I did it. It doesn't matter. I want to unhide file extensions on my computer with Windows 7. As it turns out, this is very easy.

Start by clicking on the Windows 7 Start Button. In the Search Box that appears above it, type "folder options." In the window that appears above the Search Box we'll see "Folder Options." We can also see that it is located in



the Control Panel, but that isn't important right now. Just by double-clicking on "Folder Options" gets us to the Folder Options window. This is what we want. If we click on the view tab (as shown in the illustration) we see a list of Advanced settings, including one that says "Hide extensions for known file types." Notice the check mark in the box next to it. Click on the box to uncheck it and click "OK" to unhide file extensions.

While we're here in the Folder Options window, notice that there are a lot of other options. I'll leave it to you to explore them. Just remember, if you mess things up, just click on the "Reset Folders" button to restore everything to the default settings.

Microsoft Security Essentials

By Brian K. Lewis, PhD, Member,
Sarasota PCUG, Florida
www.spcug.org
bwsail@yahoo.com

Over the years, ever since my first encounter with a computer virus in 1987, I have used a number of anti-virus applications along with firewall software. As the Internet grew in the late '90s I had to add anti-parasite software and other anti-malware applications to the protection arsenal. Some of this software was free; others were very expensive both to purchase and to maintain. Some used tremendous amounts of computer resources which slowed down the overall operation of the computer. The cost in money and/or resources wasn't necessarily directly related to the usefulness of the application. However such protection was probably a necessary evil to prevent problems on my computer from the "invaders" that existed then and now on the Internet.

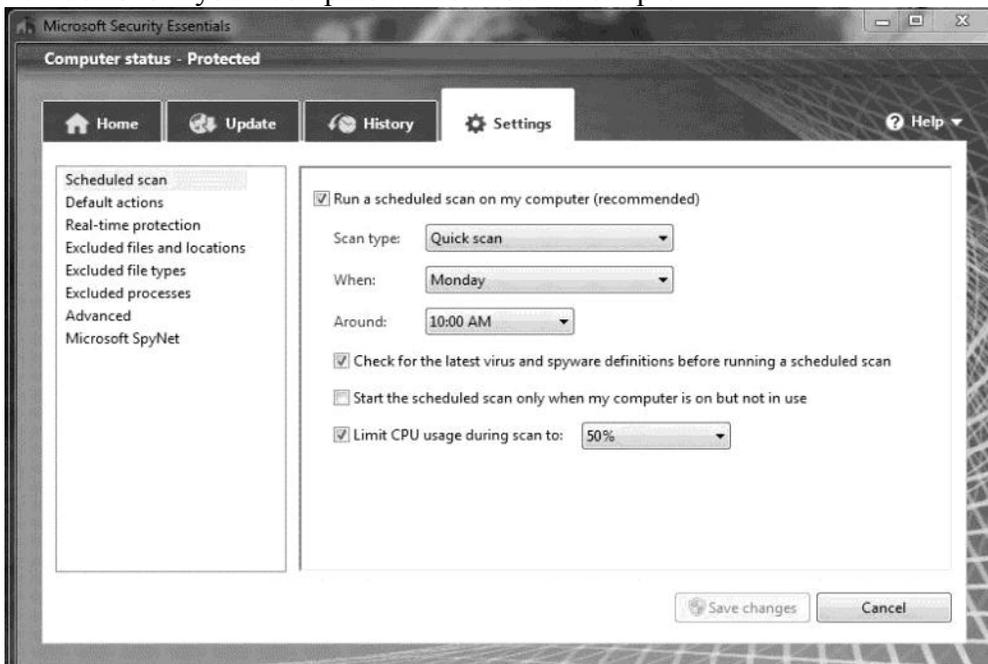
Most anti-malware applications seem to be growing in size as each manufacturer tries to "cover all the bases". Unfortunately with the increase in size and coverage comes an increase in complexity. Now Microsoft has released an improved version of their Security Essentials (MSE) software that is easier for the user to install and operate. This application protects your computer against viruses, spyware, worms, trojans and other malicious software. In addition it is an easy to install FREE download from Microsoft. The only catch is that you must have a legal copy of Windows on your computer. The installation pro-

gram does a check for Genuine Windows validation. The software runs on XP, Vista and Win 7 operating systems (OS). However, I have only been using it on Win7.

It does sound like it must be a resource hog to be able to carry out all of these functions. But the testing results I have seen show minimal effect on overall computer operation. Yes, there is reduction in the speed of processing web pages, e-mail, etc., when using the real-time protection. But compared to other software carrying out the same functions, the difference in speed is insignificant and really wouldn't be noticed by most users. The only place where MSE seems to fall down is on hard disk scans. There I have seen reports of initial complete scanning taking 8 – 24 hours! I have done both a Quick Scan and a Full scan of my hard drive, about 50 GB of data on a 140 GB partition. The Quick Scan was done in less than 2 minutes. The full scan took about 25 minutes. So from my perspective, on my system, the scanning time is not excessive. I have used other malware checkers that have taken over an hour to accomplish a complete scan on the same drive.

If you want to install this application, the first step is to download MSE from Microsoft's web site (http://www.microsoft.com/security_essentials/?mkt=en-us). This page has the download link for the msi file which can be run automatically after downloading by selecting "Run" instead of "Save". If you have questions about the installation Microsoft has a video showing all the steps involved. Once the installation is complete the opening screen shows the current status of your protection and the date of the last update for the malware definitions.

It also shows you the settings related to scanning your hard drive. From this page you can do a manual scan of your drive. The Update tab on the top of the page takes you to a page where you can manually update the malware definitions. MSE will automatically download updates when you are running Windows and are connected to the Internet. However, it may not occur immediately on connection. So if it has been some time since you connected to the Internet you may want to manually download the definitions.



The settings page, shown in the next figure, is one where you can mostly accept the default values. One you will probably want to change is the timing of the automatic scan. MSE defaults to midnight on one day, Sunday I think. You will probably want to change this to a time when you know that your computer will be turned on.

The list on the left of the window shows the additional settings categories for MSE. The “default actions” relate to what should be done with any malware detected. The various categories of default actions run from low threat to severe. In all cases I have set mine to remove the malware. If in doubt as to the effect on your computer you can set the lower threat levels to be quarantined. If you wish to later remove a quarantined item, you can do so from the history page. Select “Quarantined items” and you will then be allowed to remove all or individual items. You can also select to restore an item, but this is not likely to be a good idea. Read the description of the what the malware's actions are carefully before deciding to restore it.

This next figure shows you the protection being provided by MSE. In most cases it is best to leave the default settings so you will get the best protection. You will note the category for behavior monitoring. This allows MSE scan for possible malware that is not in its definitions list. This is referred to as the “heuristic” programming of the software. Any application that seems to be altering the functioning of the operating system, such as a rootkit, should be flagged by this function. This is the only way that any anti-malware application can attempt to stay ahead of the malware writers who are always coming up with new, more complex schemes for infiltrating

your computer.

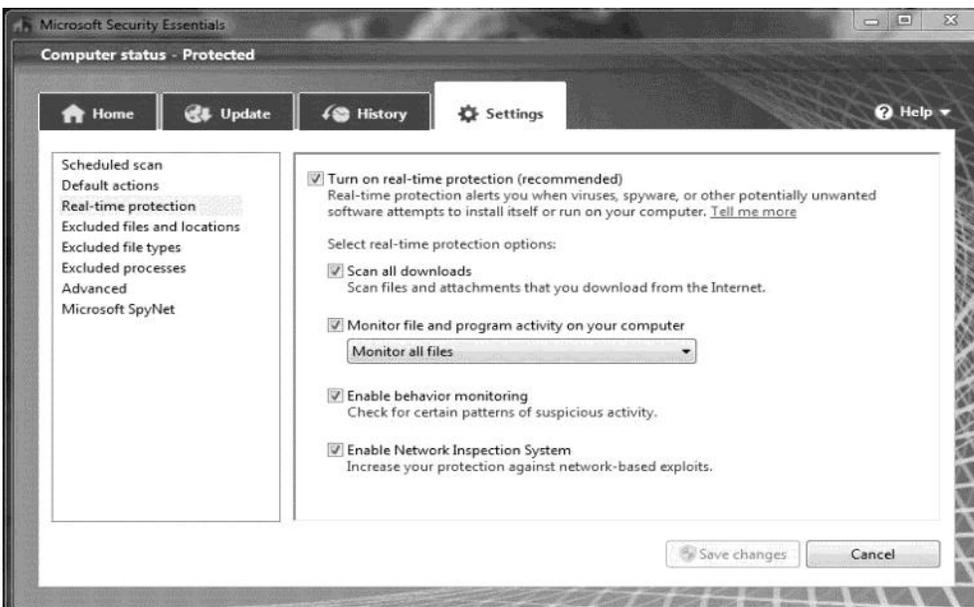
I hope you can see from this quick review of MSE, that it is designed to provide a simple user interface for a complete protection package. Now more tech-savvy computer users might want more control over their anti-malware protection, but for most users, I think this is a good fit and the price is right.

As I mentioned earlier, I have been running MSE under Windows 7. This is Microsoft's best operating system yet. I think this is demonstrated by the fact that the Win7 SP-1 has no really significant changes to the basic OS. Also, Win7 does seem to be more secure than earlier versions. So if you are still running Vista or WinXP, in my opinion, you should be seriously considering a change to Win7. At the very least, whatever OS you are running, be sure to practice “safe computing”.

This article is copyright © 2011 by Brian K. Lewis, PhD. All rights reserved. It is also published as PDF file on the *Lewisfamilypubs.net* website. Dr. Lewis is a former professor of physiology and has been working with personal computers for over 40 years. He may be contacted at bwsail at yahoo.com.

The Mac Corner

By Danny Uff, a member of the Help Line, Mac OS X and Windows XP Tiger/Leopard/Networking, Lehigh Valley Computer Group, PA
www.lvcg.org
www.connectingpeoplesoftware.com
danny.uff@gmail.com



Backing Up Your Photos with iPhoto

Digital photos are great. They allow us to save those memories onto our computers. Gone are the days of boxes and boxes of old, aged photos in some drawer (yes, I am old enough to remember them) or bent photo corners. Yep, it's great! Until your computer crashes, and you have no DVD or printed back up of those memories. Do you wish you knew a way to back up those photos that you spent hours im-

porting into iLife's iPhoto application? Well, it's easier than you think!

First you'll need an external back up source. If you only have a couple photos, then a USB flash drive should do nicely. But if you're like me, you have thousands of photos (old and new) so you may need to save them to a CD, DVD, external hard drive or an Internet back up service. Secondly, there are two ways to back up your photos using iPhoto:

1. If you do not have them sorted into groups, events, etc., just highlight all the photos, and then use the File> Export command
2. If you do have them sorted, then your best bet is to save the actual data file that iPhoto uses

Backing this up is a snap:

- Open Finder, then select the Pictures folder
- Within that folder is a file called iPhoto Library. Make sure this file is saved to the external source you are backing up too. That's all there is to it!

Now, to restore the photos, just get the external source and copy the iPhoto Library file back to the Pictures folder, then go back into iPhoto and bingo! All of your events, places, faces and photos are back again.

Printing from an iPad

By now, you may have seen the jazzy iPad TV Commercial that shows the device printing its output to an HP printer. Some Mac users have asked me if this was a real feature of the iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad? The answer to that question is, yes and no.

YES - It is a real feature for the said devices and by having the current update to its operating system. If someone does have an Airprint-compatible printer it does work like a charm. NO - It does not work if you do not have an Airprint-compatible printer.

What is Airprint anyway? It is a new printer protocol, developed by Hewlett Packard, that allows a user to print from a device such as a cell phone, to a compatible printer. If the user is on the same WiFi network as the printer, then the user's device can

pick the printer "out of the air" and send it to the printer. However, if the person is not on the same network, he or she can still print to that printer by sending the document (or whatever else you're printing) to a special e-mail address for that printer. The user sets all this up when they first set up the device.

Hewlett Packard is the only company making such printers and they can range from \$100.00 on up. They can be found at major retail and online stores.

In-app Purchases

Back in mid December, there were a slew of reports on parents letting their kids play with their iPhone, iPod Touch or iPad getting billed for what is known as in-app purchases.

In-app purchases let a user purchase items within an iOS application (such as more levels to a game, expanding an already purchased app, etc.) using the user's iTunes Credit Card or Checking Account.

One mother in the United Kingdom discovered that her 4 year old child spent more than \$80.00 (U.S. Dollars) on in-app purchases - story via CNN.

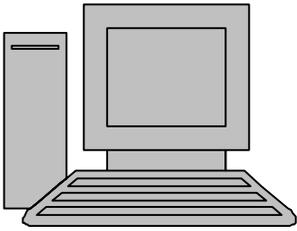
Fortunately, there is a way to disable this feature so that little kiddies (or even you) don't accidentally purchase something while in an application.

1. Tap SETTINGS
2. Tap GENERAL
3. Tap RESTRICTIONS
4. Enter a Restrictions pass code
5. Select "Enable"
6. Scroll down to "In-App Purchases" and make sure it is set to "OFF"
7. Exit Settings

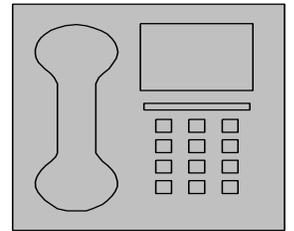


Personally, I have to say that with all of the experience I have with computers, I almost made a mistake with the above and have disabled this feature on my devices.





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

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

DOS

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm
smwallner@yahoo.com

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755
kris.hestad@surfdogs.com

Hardware

Ken Larrabee 407-365-2660 anytime

Stan Wallner 407-862-2669 5 pm-7 pm
smwallner@yahoo.com

MS ACCESS

Arvin Meyer, MVP 407-327-3810 7 pm - 9 pm
Access-sig@cfcs.org

MS Office Products:

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

Security

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810
vp-adm@cfcs.org

Networking - Home or Office

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Dougga@gmail.com

SQL-Server

Arvin Meyer 407-327-3810
vp-adm@cfcs.org

Windows

Hewie Poplock 407-362-7824 5 pm-7 pm
hewie@hewie.net

Kris Hestad 321-459-2755
kris.hestad@surfdogs.com

WinZip

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◀ May		~ June 2011 ~					July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 CFCS BoD Denny's Casselberry 7 pm	2 Newspaper Copy deadline	3	4	
5	6	7	8 Access, Office, Security SIGs: New Horizons, Lee Rd. 7 pm	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15 Photo/Video SIG Cancelled until further notice	16	17	18	
19 12:30 pm Windows SIG 2pm General Meeting	20 iPhone SIG, Lee Rd. Denny's, 7 pm	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28 Tech SIG Denny's, Casselberry 7 pm	29	30	Notes:		

◀ 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 Cancelled until further notice	21	22	23	
24	25	26 Tech SIG Denny's, Casselberry 7 pm	27	28	29	30	
31	Notes: Don't forget that the General Meeting on April 17 is back at the Jackson Hewitt offices on Lee Rd. See April's BUSSLINE or cfcs.org for directions.						

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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