

WINDSOR Seniors' Computer Users' Group

4/13/09 Agenda for Today

1. **Questions/Answers????** - General Discussion. Computer dialog - what's new, what's different, what works or doesn't work? Computer Tips. Upcoming events:

Computer classes: SRJC, SR Cm Center, Windsor HS, Healdsburg HS, SSU Ext

Computer Consultants: Ross Guistino rossg@sonic.net; Chris Bethards Chbethards@comcast.net



•High-Risk Security Threats and How to Fix Them “If you use a social network, a Web browser, a public computer or a cell phone, you’re in grave danger of falling victim to attacks on your PC, your bank account, your personal privacy, and more. Here are 17 common threats and the fixes to defend yourself. <editor note – we will cover only a few> (1) The tell-Tale Browser Cache: Designed to speed up surfing, a browser cache keeps copies of text, images and snippets of code from the Web pages a person visits. Obviously, you could learn a lot about someone’s surfing habits and interest by dumpster-diving in this collection – much more than by looking at a history list. For some time Firefox, Safari and a few other browsers have given users considerable control over cache trashing, but Internet Explorer 8 will be the first version of IE to offer a secure browsing feature, called InPrivate. Two ways to fix: (a) Write to a portable drive, by changing Internet Options in Control Panel, Settings in Browsing History, click on Move Folder. (b) Try an excellent free tool called Eraser. It securely deletes browser cache files by overwriting the files numerous times. (c) At the least do a delete all files in Internet Options.” See article for details on several other Risks. PCWorld, 3/09, p.63-70



•What is BIOS? “The BIOS (Basic Input/Output System) is a small amount of program code that is semipermanently stored in a chip located on the PC’s motherboard. The BIOS initializes the motherboard components when power is first applied to a reboot occurs. It also identifies other components that may be attached to the motherboard such as RAM, a video adapter, or hard drives. It then hands off the boot process to the OS (Operating System). The BIOS also provides a setup utility that lets you specify the hardware configurations and set operating parameters

for the motherboard.” Smart Computing, April 2009, p. 91 Frequently Asked Questions.

•Browser Battle – nine browsers of Today & Tomorrow compared “Anyone who may have thought the death of Netscape would signal the end of the browser wars, boy were they mistaken. Prepare to be overwhelmed by an onslaught of new browser releases in the coming months as Microsoft, Mozilla, Apple, Opera Software and Google all vie to provide your vehicle for navigating the web. STABLE Releases: (1) Internet explorer 7 - Feeling the pressure from Mozilla’s popular Firefox browser, Microsoft ended a five year hiatus after burying Netscape in the ground and finally jumped back into the browser game with a long overdue update. (2) Firefox 3 – Better memory management, improved security, an aptly named AwesomeBar, and several other improvements made the best browser on the market even better. (3) Opera 9.6 – Several speed enhancements made the already fast browser even snappier. (4) Safari 3 – In the summer of 2007, Safari shed its Mac-only shackles and surfed over to Windows with claims of performing up to twice as fast as the competition. Soon to be old news, Apple is gearing up to replace Safari 3 with a significantly faster fourth version. (5) Chrome 1.0 - Google has better tab management. UPCOMING releases – many.”



<http://www.maximumpc.com> 3/5/09

TIP - Twitter Resources: –“ (1) Tweetbeep.com – this site will notify you any time words are mentioned that you want to track. (2) Monitter.com – a good site for monitoring what people are saying on Twitter. (3) Peoplebrowser.com – a Twitter dashboard like Twirl or TweetDeck that is gaining steam with some users. (4) Wefollow.com – a twitter directory with user submitted info.” Tech world going beyond Web 2.0, Press Democrat/business 4/2/09



4. Internet -Web sites: (If these don't work, let me know - Editor Donna)

Late '30s Big Band Music - http://loudcity.com/stations/sta-stay-tuned-america/tune_in Thanks to PatG

Get a free web site for your event – <http://www.invite43.com> Thanks to Kim Komando

Browser battle? More alike than different – http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10144186-2.html

10 tips – Photoshop Elements 7 - <http://graphicssoft.about.com/od/pselements/ss/10tipspse7.htm?nl=1>

Save on shipping with Amazon - <http://www.superfiller.com>

Some Legal help free - <http://www.nolopress.com>

Nutrition Information - <http://www.nutritionsource.com>

Personalize your PC - <http://www.microsoft.com:80/athome/morefun/funextras.aspx>

No reason to rush your upgrade of IE 8 <http://www.windowssecrets.com/2009/04/02/01-No-reason-to-rush-your-upgrade-to-IE-8>

15 online photo editors compared – http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10170332.html?tag=nl.e404

***** **Favorite Web Sites:** What is yours? Let me know and I'll include it*****

5. VoIP - Voice Over Internet Protocol – “Using voice over IP, any computer or telephone connected to the internet with a broadband connection can call another computer or phone at a fraction of usual cost, or absolutely free.” <http://www.voipreview.org/> See attached sheet for details.

6. Today's Program –Mr. Al Loebel, Computer Specialist Healdsburg Senior Center, will discuss/demonstrate “Digital Photography – An update on What's Hot and What's Not.” Thanks to Al for sharing his expertise.



7. Note announcement attached regarding USB turntable and slide scanner. We are very fortunate that Ed Naslund has offered to loan them to anyone who wants to use them. Please note flyer for how to sign up.

8. Kindle 2 - Amazon's new wireless reading device – latest generation - \$359.00 – Vision to have all books on wireless and available for instant download. Slim; lightweight; wireless; books in under 60 seconds; improved display; longer battery life, More storage – holds over 1,500 books; faster; read-to-me; Large selection – over 260,000 books plus U.S. and international newspapers, magazines and blogs; Low book prices - \$9.99. See <http://www.amazon.com> and search for 'Kindle 2.0'

9. Computer Help – Drop in - People can drop by the Senior Center, first come/first serve, and will receive one/one opportunity to get their problems, questions projects addressed: *No preregistration – Donation*

April 27, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

May 18, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

10. Next meeting of User's Group

All senior computer enthusiasts are invited to join us. This informal gathering shares ideas, resources and networks:

May 11, 2009 *No preregistration*

1:00 – 2:00 pm General questions/answers

2:00 -4:00 pm - Program – Mr. Lockie Gillies,

Owner Wine Country Computers, Healdsburg, will discuss/demonstrate “What do you need in a new/used computer And Why might you need to upgrade?” We are very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable person for our program.

11. Upcoming Workshops –

Hands-On Computer Workshops –

Part 2 – Word Processing A to Z – 4/20/09 –

1:00 – 4:00 pm.

See Town's Winter /Spring Recreation Bulletin for details.

If you have questions, please call me (home 838-4737), (e-mail: wscugrdonna@gmail.com or donna@sonic.net) or you can call the Senior Center 838-1250 for dates/times of computer events. See <http://www.sonic.net/donna/windsor.html> for Computer Info Windsor Sr. Computer User Group



This is your User's Group - What are your goals? Help to make this group what you want it to be.

“Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get use to the idea.” Heinlein

Have Fun Computing & Take Time to Smell the Roses