

WINDSOR Seniors' Computer Users' Group

4/11/11 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 and Computer classes: SRJC, SR Cm Center, Windsor HS, Healdsburg HS, And SSU Ext



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

2. News – Solve Software Errors by Blaine Flamig

“Among the causes of downtime are bugs, incompatibilities, conflicts, security breaches, and other negative aspects of the software you use daily, including programs to back up data. Software problems can rear their heads in many forms, including erratic system performance following an upgrade or a program refusing to launch after installation. As stressful as software problems can be, many are correctable using the Windows-included System Restore tool. As Microsoft describes, System Restore helps “restore your computer’s system files to an earlier point in time” or “undo system changes to your computer without affecting your personal files, such as email, documents or photos.” This is good preventive medicine.” (*Editor’s Notes follow:*) This article includes help on (1) Backup Blunders & Compression Conflicts, (2) PDF Problem-Solving, (3) On the Money, (4) Office Suite Errors, (5) Keep your tasks on track and (6) When Good Anti-Malware Goes Bad. I’d like to expand on the last one a little. “With Kaspersky Lab (kaspersky.com) reporting 580 million Web-based malware attacks throughout 2010, it has never been more important to install anti-malware and other security tools on your PC. It is also important to keep those tools updated and running properly. Remember when we said not to use two different security programs at the time? Anti-Malware is an exception. Run manual Anti-Malware scans monthly (or when you think something bad slipped past the first line of defense.)” Smart Computing 4/11, p. 52-71



• Make it faster! How to Turbocharge your PC “For decades, PC users have complained “My computer is too slow!” We decided to do something about it. From hardware upgrades to software tweaks to networking tricks, we looked at the most common computer bottlenecks and found ways to fix them. You want a

faster system? Put faster parts in it. That’s the simple answer to a question that every PC owner asks from time to time. But replacement parts aren’t free, and cash-strapped computer enthusiasts know that the key is to put their money where it counts most.” (*Editor’s notes follow:*) There are Hardware speed boosts and Software speed Boosts. They have charts on everything. Loads of good information on the subject . PcWorld 4/11, p. 62-69, see also

http://www.pcworld.com/article/181579/speed_up_everything.html which has several pointers.

- New Web browsers offer great features -“The web browser you use can deeply affect your Internet experience. Having a good browser is crucial for many reasons. Some sites might only work on certain browsers. All of the major browsers have gotten recent updates. They offer new features to try out. (1) Internet Explorer 9 – now includes hardware acceleration and has a new layout, and incorporates HTML5. (2) Firefox 4 – Over the last few years, Firefox has severely diminished IE’s dominance. The latest version of Firefox is better than ever. Entire top area of the window is slimmed down, and it also features faster start up and shut down. (3) Chrome 10 - It is very fast and uses very little memory. Next version will have a search-by-voice feature. (4) Opera 11 – can access all the same sites, but it’s very fast. And can be customized. (5) Safari 5 – Apple claims it is up to twice as fast as Internet Explorer.”



<http://www.komando.com/downloads/category.aspx?id=10503> 3/26/11

3. HELP: We, WSCUG, need a new web site. I have gotten a domain name, but don’t have time or energy to design and create a new web site. Anyone like to help? We’ll get together and go over which editor to use and go from there. Sign up on bulletin board going around. Thanks, Donna



Celebrate Easter, Passover and 41st Anniversary of Earth Day - April 22

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

Change photo backgrounds easily - free - <http://cybia.co.uk>

iPad 2 and other tablets - <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=10402>

Why Outlook Express Loses Email - <http://www.ask-leo.com/C4776>

Why is my computer slow for a while after I start it up? - <http://www.ask-leo.com/C4778>

Monitor your hard drive for problems -

<http://www.komando.com/downloads/category.aspx?id=9136>

Benchmark battle: Chrome vs. IE vs. Firefox - http://download.cnet.com/8301-2007_4-20047314-12.html

Malware - LizaMoon infection: a blow-by-blow account - <http://windowssecrets.com/2011/04/07/01>

Firefox 4 launches into a tougher, faster world - http://woload.cnet.com/8301-2007_4-20045726-12.html?tag=nl.e404

3 Free family tree programs - <http://www.komando.com/downloads/category.aspx?id=10473>

Prepare for a disaster - <http://www.72hours.org>

A great dictionary free - <http://www.sequencepublishing.com> for Windows XP, Vista, and 7

What's the deal with Internet Explorer 9? - <http://www.kkomando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=10300>

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



5. Spam - I have found two very good articles on Spam from one of my favorite tech writers - Ask - Leo. The first is "Why am I being Labeled a Spammer?" <http://ask-leo.com/C4783> It gives a definition of Spam - "It is simply email that you didn't ask for." You don't get to define what is and is not spam; your recipient does, and by reporting spam, your recipients ultimately can affect whether or not your email makes it to others. "If you find that your email isn't getting delivered to people, ask yourself this: Have I been sending them things *that they didn't ask for?*" If so, they might have convinced their email provider that email from you is spam, by using the "Report Spam" button. The next one from Ask-Leo is "Why am I not getting the email my friend sends me?" <http://ask-leo.com/C4780> Hope this helps with Spam. You'll find both articles helpful.Donna



6. Today's Program - Mr. Al Loebel, Computer Specialist Healdsburg St. Center, will discuss/demonstrate "Windows 7 Overview!" Thanks to Al for sharing his expertise.



7. Thanks for Refreshments - Thanks to Nolan Dehner for bringing refreshments today.

8. Changes in Smart Computing. For subscribers they now have SmartPeople Computer Support - free first time and \$29 thereafter and also Digital Editions free for subscribers.

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 and projects addressed. You can also bring your laptop and we will hook it up to answer questions: *No preregistration - Donation*

April 25, 2011, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

May 23, 2011, 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 9, 2011 *No preregistration*

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

2:00 - 4:00 pm - Program - Mr. Dick Weston,

member of SR Photographic Soc. And long time photo-editing pro, will discuss/demonstrate "Photo Editing Overview". Come, enjoy, learn and network. Bring your questions. We are very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable speaker.

11. Upcoming Workshops - Nothing scheduled for the next few months. Come to Drop-In Computing Help for questions on projects and unknowns.

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 used to the idea." *Heinlein*

Have Fun Computing & Take Time to Smell the Roses