

# WINDSOR Seniors' Computer Users' Group

8/10/09 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](mailto:rossg@sonic.net); Chris Bethards [Chbethards@comcast.net](mailto:Chbethards@comcast.net)



## 2. News • *Cnet Review – MS Windows 7 Professional*



“Product summary – The good:

Strong design and Microsoft don't always go together, but they do in Windows 7. Users might take a while to get used to the new taskbar and Aero Peek, but they're a pleasure to use. The Bad: Performance is still hit-or-miss in Windows 7. At the ripe age of seven, Windows XP still performs better in some categories. The bottom line: Windows 7 is more than what Vista should have been, it's where Microsoft needed to go. How much damage Vista did and whether Windows 7 is enough for people to finally abandon Windows XP are questions that nobody has the answers to right now. Features:

Taskbar and Aero Peek: Although the look of Windows 7 may seem to be nothing more than some polish applied liberally to the Vista Aero theme, make no mistake: This is a full replacement operating system, and more than just “Vista done right.” From driver support to multitouch groundwork for the future, from better battery management to the most easy-to-use interface Microsoft has ever had, Windows 7 is hardly half-baked. The first thing that should stand out is the new taskbar. Besides incorporating the translucent style of Aero, the new taskbar is arguably even better than the Mac Os X dock. There is also a new XP Mode which creates a virtual environment with Windows 7.”

[http://reviews.cnet.com/windows/microsoft-windows-7-professional/4505-3672\\_7-](http://reviews.cnet.com/windows/microsoft-windows-7-professional/4505-3672_7-33704140.html?tag=mncol:lst)

[33704140.html?tag=mncol:lst](http://reviews.cnet.com/windows/microsoft-windows-7-professional/4505-3672_7-33704140.html?tag=mncol:lst) Editor's note: This is an extremely complete review.

• Hard Drives & SSDs - “For the last couple of decades, the most practical place to keep your data has been a hard drive. Its spinning disks and moving read/write heads may seem a little anachronistic these days but its continually updated materials and design consistently advance the state of the art. Twenty years

ago, few of us even know what a gigabyte was, let alone a terabyte. Today with 2TB drives available, it's nothing short of amazing how far the technology has come. Hard drives still remain the most inexpensive mass storage devices. They're fairly speedy, too, in the scheme of things. On the other hand, SSDs (solid-state drives) are poised to take away some of the old guard's market share. Some of these flash memory-based storage units are much faster than any magnetic media based hard drive, although none has been able to even approach the other drive's extremely low cost per GB.

Yet.” Smart Computing, September 2009, p. 76-77



• Gmail Flaw shows value of strong passwords “There's a straightforward way to protect your online accounts – use sign in phrases that are easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess. You can see whether your current passwords – you do use more than one, right? – are rated “strong” by using Microsoft's online Password Checker <http://www.microsoft.com/protect/yourself/password/checker.aspx> . A list of Dos and Don'ts is included in this article. Such as: Don't use the same password for different sites, Don't enter a password or even your account name in any Web page you access via an email link. Etc.” Article by Becky Waring. 8/6/09 <http://www.windowssecrets.com/2009/08/06/01-Gmail-flaw-shows-value-of-strong-passwords>

3. **TIP** – For those of you who might be having problems with the time stamp on your emails if you are using Yahoo/SBCGlobal, it is your server which is based on GMT (Greenwich Mean Time). When you set up your account with SCBGlobal, you have to tell them what time zone you are in, but it has to be based on a number minus or plus of GMT. In California it is GMT-7 hours. So adjust your account if this applies to you. Thanks to Ross Guistino.

Happy Summer - Enjoy!!!!



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

**Buying a Windows 7 compatible machine** - <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=7059>

**Great deals MS Office Home & Student 2007** –

[http://www.microsoft.com/office/offers/home/?ION\\_CL=4046](http://www.microsoft.com/office/offers/home/?ION_CL=4046)

**Create a better diet** – <http://www.nlin.nih.gov>

**Take a holiday from taxes** - <http://taxadmin.org>

**Online rebuttal to MS IE8 claims** - <http://www.tinyurl.com/kmcsea>

**What the heck is Twitter about?** - <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=6737>

**Free Genealogy & Family History online** - <http://www.usgenweb.org>

**Top Digital Photo Editing Software** -

<http://graphicssoft.about.com/od/photopresentations/tp/photocatalog.htm>

**Different kind of Auction site** - <http://www.Listia.com> Thanks to Kim Komando Cool Sites

**Sort out confusing processes** - <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=7049>

**Resources for Windows XP processes** - <http://www.processlibrary.com> Thanks to Kim Komando Tips

**Windsor Senior Center Newsletter Online** – <http://www.townofwindsor.com>

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

**5. Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor** – “Windows 7 is still three months away, but Microsoft has already cranked up the marketing machine with the Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor. Before you take the little bit of time and trouble to download the 6.2 MB file and let Microsoft scan your PC, be sure to visit the official Upgrade Advisor page

(<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7/get/upgrade-advisor.aspx> )” Article by Dennis O'Reilly. [http://news.cnet.com/8301-13880\\_3-10294870-68.html?tag=mnco:posts](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13880_3-10294870-68.html?tag=mnco:posts)

**6. Today's Program** –Mr. Ross Guistino, IT Consultant, will discuss/demonstrate “Update Internet and eBay”. Thank you Ross for sharing your expertise.



**7. If I don't answer your email** – If I (Donna) have not answered your email in 24 hrs please resend it. It could be lost in spam or who knows where. I do want to answer you. Also if you change your email address, please let me know. Thanks. If your rate at Sonic has gone up – give me a call.

**8. 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: *No preregistration* – *Donation*  
August 24, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
September 28, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

**9. Next meeting of User's Group**

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

**September 14, 2009** *No preregistration*

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

2:00 -4:00 pm - Program –Mr. Richard Dow, All

Pro Computer Solutions, Computer Consultant, will discuss/demonstrate “Social Computer Networking”.

What questions do you have – what do you want to know? We are very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable person for our program.

**10. Upcoming Workshops –**

**Hands-on Computer Classes:**

Introduction to Computers-Part 1, 9/21/09, 1:00 – 4:00

Introduction to Computers-Part 2, 10/19/09, 1:00 – 4:00

**Discussion/Demonstrate Workshop:**

Introduction to Computers, 11/10/09, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Shamrock Mobile Home Park.

**If you have questions**, please call me (home 838-4737), (e-mail: [wscugrdonna@gmail.com](mailto:wscugrdonna@gmail.com) or [donna@sonic.net](mailto: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.**

“Inches make a champion.” *Vince Lombardi*

*Have Fun Computing & Take Time to Smell the Roses*

