

WINDSOR Seniors' Computer Users' Group

1/12/09 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



•XP deadline extended toward launch of Windows 7



"Microsoft has acknowledged that it will allow system builders to pay for installed copies of XP through May 30, rather than shutting down the pipeline this month. If you order from your preferred vendor by Jan. 31, you may be able to rely on XP for new systems almost right up until the long-awaited Windows 7 ships, an event that's expected to occur within a few months. Vista is looking more and more like the Edsel of the computer industry. Presumably as a result of slow uptake by corporations and individual users, Microsoft last month confirmed that it will allow OEMs and smaller-scale "system builders" to pay as late as May 30, 2009, for copies of XP ordered by Jan. 31. Combine this news with reports that Windows 7 may ship as early as mid-2009, and it looks like Microsoft is ready to relegate Vista to the binary scrapheap. The official release of Beta 1 of Windows 7 to the public is widely expected to occur next week. You will be paying a premium to downgrade from Vista to XP according to Dell which is now a whopping \$150." By Dennis O'Reilly, <http://windowssecrets.com/comp/090108>. *Ed Note:* See also: "What you need to know about Windows 7" PCWorld, 0109, p. 80 – hands-on evaluation.



•Forward – How much Ink is Left in that Cartridge –

"We ran printers until they said it was time to change the cartridge, and found that some left more than 40 percent of their ink unused. You've probably had this experience: Your printer tells you it's time to change the cartridge, but you dismiss the message and keep printing. Days or weeks later, the cartridge still works, and you're thinking that rumors of its death were greatly exaggerated. Or perhaps your printer simply shuts down when it decides you've gone deep enough into its ink well, refusing to operate until you replace. PCWorld conducted lab testing on this matter, and the results confirm what you may have suspected: Many

manufacturer branded and aftermarket cartridges still contain a startling amount of ink when their host printers read empty. In fact, some inkjet printers force users to replace ink cartridges when the cartridge is nearly half full, PCWorld has found. We performed the tests using inkjet multifunction printers from four major manufacturers: Canon, Epson, Hewlett-Packard, and Kodak. Our results show that when these models reported their black ink cartridges as being empty, the quantity of unused ink ranged from about 8 percent in an Epson-based cartridge to a whopping 45 percent in an aftermarket cartridge for a Canon printer. Designing printers not to drain ink cartridges completely is a smart practice for several reasons, printing experts say. "Many inks, if they run dry, can cause significant

damage to the printer". Cold, January, 2009. p. 16-18. See: For advice on reducing print costs, see 'Save Money on Inkjet Print Ink' at Find.pcworld.com/61891 and 'How to Spend Less on Print and Get better Results at find.pcworld.com/61893. Also see article for details on entire test.

• *Do not include email address in a 'tweet' or Twitter* "The reason is an old answer: spam. Twitter is many ways defies description. It's been called a "micro blogging" site, a "community IM" tool, and a bunch of other things. The bottom line is that you post messages of up to 140 characters, and anyone following you can read them. Anyone can see your email address if you tweet it. Your tweets are visible to everyone." http://ask-leo.com/why_shouldnt_i_include_my_email_address_in_a_twitter_post_or_tweet.html.



TIP. All barcodes that start with 690, 691, 692 until 695 are all Made in China. 471 is Made in Taiwan. See <http://www.hoax-slayer.com/product-bar-codes.shtml> and you can find Product bar code country identification. Thanks to J. Pat Geis.

Happy New Year and Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day



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

Government information by topic - <http://origins.firstgov.gov>

Turn old gadgets into cash - <http://gazelle.com>

The 10 most Overrated Products - <http://tech.msn.com/ssprint.aspx?cp-documentid=10762232&imageindex=9>

How to stop Skype spam - <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=5984&page=2>

44 U.S. Presidents -Click on arrow to start morphing <http://www.flixy.com/presidents-morphing.htm>

Price comparison sites - <http://pricegrabber.com>; <http://nextag.com>; <http://shopping.com>

Finding the best bank rates - <http://bankrate.com>

Kim's top 20 of 2008 - <http://www.komando.com/top20/> - Tips, Cool Sites, Downloads.

Fun for weather geeks - <http://www.srh.noaa.gov>

Time for fun and games - free computer games - <http://kongregate.com> -

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



5. "A **filename** is a special kind of string used to uniquely identify a file stored on the file system of a computer. Some operating systems also identify directories in the same way. Different operating systems impose different restrictions on length and allowed characters on filenames. " Wikipedia

6. Today's Program -Chris Bethards, Donna Crawford and Ross Guistino will discuss/demonstrate "Basics of the Computer - What do you want to know?". Thanks to all for sharing their expertise.



7. Speakers for 2009 - We have a tentative schedule for User Group speakers for the coming year. We still have some gaps. Who do you want on the agenda next year? Let us know - Donna or any of the Board members.

8. Extensions and Programs they initiate - In order for a file name to access the correct program to display the file, the extension must be associated correctly with a program. From Windows Explorer select Tools>Folder Options, or select Folder Options from Control Panel, then click on tab File Types. You will see as you scroll down, the extension is associated with a program to open that file. The program can be changed or a new file extension can be added. There must be an agreement between the program and extension. We will discuss this as time provides.

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*

January 26, 2009, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

February 23, 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:

February 9th, 2008 *No preregistration*

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

2:00 -4:00 pm - Program - Arianne Eskew, The

Computer Lady, Ariannes Computer Service, will discuss/demonstrate "Backups, How, When and Why!" We are very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable person for our presentation.

11. Upcoming Workshops -

Hands-On Computer Workshops -

Part 1 - Word Processing A to Z - 3/16/09 -

1:00 - 4:00 pm

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.

"Fear defeats more people than any other one thing in the world.." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Have Fun Computing & Take Time to Smell the Roses

