

# WINDSOR Seniors' Computer Users' Group

7/13/09 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](mailto:rossg@sonic.net); Chris Bethards [Chbethards@comcast.net](mailto:Chbethards@comcast.net)



2. **News** • *Making sense of Windows 7 upgrade options:* “While it's true Windows 7 (Microsoft's latest operating system) doesn't arrive on retail shelves and new PCs until October, Microsoft has announced two programs designed to give a head start to those who know they want the new operating system. The Windows Upgrade Option, which runs through early next year, allows those buying a new Vista PC to get a free copy of Windows 7 after it hits shelves in October. The other program, which runs only through July 11 (I realize this has passed, but there will be more deals), allows Windows XP and Vista users to pre-order a copy of Windows 7 Home Premium for \$49 or Windows 7 Professional for \$99. Right now Windows 7 Home Premium full version is \$200,”

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860\\_3-10274963-56.html?tag=nl.e404](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860_3-10274963-56.html?tag=nl.e404)

*The lowdown on Windows 7 pricing:* “Microsoft plans to release Windows 7 on Oct. 22. Computers purchased June 26 or later qualify for a free upgrade. To qualify, a machine must be running Vista Home Premium, Business or Ultimate. You'll get a comparable version of Windows 7. Manufacturer is handling this so check their policy. The upgrade program will end Jan. 31, 2010.”

<http://www.komando.com/toolbox.aspx?id=6905>



• *Stay Safe Online – Avoid the latest threats* -. Smart Computing, August, has a detailed section including the following: (1) A web of lies, Today's online threats & what to do about them. (2) Protect your PCs – Secure your Home Network (3) Sanitize & Destroy – Remove Malicious Invaders (4) Identity Theft – Avoid an online Identity Crisis. Here is a little from the first section: “It's not as if malware didn't exist before the Internet Age, but back then it was much more contained. Malware generally had to be put on a floppy disk. The Internet changed everything. Its

popularity and obiquity eliminated the need for mulicious software programmers to have physical access to the machines they prey upon while simultaneously granting them access to millions of potential targets. Types of malware: Spyware and adware, Keyloggers and screen scrapers, and botnets. ... The the most common malware delivery method is to infect files that users download – inadvertently or otherwise – and manually install. Using an alternative browser is a good way to cut down on potential avenues of attack. *Install one antivirus package and one or more antispysware utilities and keep them, along*

*with Windows, up-to-date.*” Smart Computing, 8/09 p. 50 - 64

• *Online Calendars – Eliminate Clutter & Keep Everyone Current* “The Web has several online calendars to offer free. Google ([www.google.com/calendar](http://www.google.com/calendar)), Yahoo!

([calendar.yahoo.com](http://calendar.yahoo.com)) and Windows Live, ([calendar.live.com](http://calendar.live.com)) for instance, have similar online calendars with many features. You will find that each handles tasks, event details and reminders slightly different than the other, and the sharing capabilities will vary. You need to register, and you also get a web email account. 30 Boxes ([30boxes.com](http://30boxes.com)) is also a free online calendar.” Smart Computing, August, 2009, p. 46-47

3. **TIP - Drivers for Printers** – “All printers have a driver. Usually it comes with the printer, but there are also updates. Go to the manufacturer of your printer and check for updates if you change operating systems and/or it doesn't work anymore. If you can not find your model, select a generic drive or one for a model close to yours. During the printer install process, you can use “Windows Update” to make sure you get the latest updates from Microsoft.” Technology Bytes, Press Democrat – 7/6/09, page B6

Happy Summer - Enjoy!!!!

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

**A trusted Non-Profit (Rotary) Resource -** <http://helpguide.org>

**Tourist site for USA -** <http://discoverAmerica.com>

**Use your old camera as a Webcam -** <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=6951>

**World-class education free online -** <http://Opencourseware.us>

**Book Airport Parking -** <http://www.aboutairportparking.com>

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

**Chrome OS from Google -** [http://news.cnet.com/8301-19882\\_3-10283555-250.html?tag=nl.e776](http://news.cnet.com/8301-19882_3-10283555-250.html?tag=nl.e776)

**How safe is Carbonite online backup -** <http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=6936>

**Windows may update unexpectedly -** <http://www.windowssecrets.com/2009/07/02/02-Its-confirmed-Windows-may-update-unexpectedly>

**Firefox 3.5 – Excellent for fans, but -** [http://download.cnet.com/8301-2007\\_4-10276351-12.html](http://download.cnet.com/8301-2007_4-10276351-12.html)

**Make animated cartoons -** <http://goanimate.com>

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

**5. Secunia Personal Software Inspector (PSI)**

“Secunia is a Danish company and the software, Secunia (PSI) --FREE!--, is a very useful tool, which checks programs on your system for vulnerabilities that can be exploited. It detects programs that should be updated or patched, this includes add-ins like Flash Player, QuickTime, or Sun Java. It notifies you and gives you the opportunity to correct the problem. This software is recommended by ZD net, PC World and C/net.” <http://secunia.com>

**6. Today's Program** –Ms. Susan Volpi Palmer, MS, PT, of Ergonomic Consulting will discuss/demonstrate “Computer Workstation Ergonomic Principles – They are important even at home!” Also Mr. Ed Bronson from Advent Office Furniture will be here as a resource for new & used “good” chairs.



**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*

July 27, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

August 24, 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:

**August 10, 2009** *No preregistration*

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

2:00 -4:00 pm - Program –Mr. Ross Guistoni, IT

Consultant, will discuss/demonstrate “Internet and eBay”. 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 –**

There will be no further workshops until the Fall, 2009. Please send email to Donna on what you would like to see in the way of workshops then. Thanks.

**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.**

“I don't believe in failure. It's not failure if you enjoyed the process.” *Oprah*

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

