

# WINDSOR Seniors' Computer Users' Group

11/10/08

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)



**Internet Browsers – head-to-head** “We use our browsers every day, so it makes sense that we’d want one that’s easy to use

with plenty of extras. You may already have a browser that you’ve become comfortable using, but with new versions available from the major players, it’s worth your time to explore the options. Most browsers offer similar tools, but each has its own special features that make it unique. We’ve tried some of the most popular Internet browsers, and we’ll give you an overview of each, covering the newest features and pointing out some of the minor downfalls. The following browsers are evaluated: Internet Explorer 8 Beta, Mozilla Firefox 3, Opera 9.5, Safari 3.1 (Apple), and Maxthon 2.1. Google’s Chrome beta was mentioned also. At the end of the day, you can likely adapt to any Internet browser you choose, but we hope you’ll find a browser with that one special feature that you can’t live without. All are free. Notable features: (1) IE8 – Accelerators send information to other applications; (2) Firefox – Enhanced security features; (3) Opera – Speed Dial; (4) Safari 3.1 – Private Browsing; (5) Maxthon 2.1 – Split View navigation.” Smart Computing, Nov. 2008, p. 18-20.



• **Next version of Office heads to the browser** – “After years of questioning the value of Net-based productivity applications, Microsoft confirmed Tuesday that it will offer new versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint that can run from within a standard Web browser. In an interview, Microsoft Business Div. Pres. Stephen Elop said that the browser-based editing capabilities are being developed in conjunction with the next version of Office, known as Office 14. Microsoft won’t say when that version will arrive, but Elop said that a technology preview of the browser-based products will come later this year and that a beta version will

be released in 2009. The company has been pushed into this arena by Google, which has been offering its free Google Apps programs for some time. Elop said that not all of the editing capabilities of the desktop products are in the browser versions. ‘The editing we are characterizing as lightweight editing,’ he said.”

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860\\_3-10076883-56.html?tab=txt](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860_3-10076883-56.html?tab=txt), Oct. 28, 08, blog post by Ina Fried.

• **50 Tools to speed up your PC** “Get Windows humming again, supercharge your browser, and clear out the crud with these (mostly) free downloads. You’re just minutes away from a faster, smoother system. *Tune Up Tools: Advanced WindowsCare V2 Personal (Free)*. This multipurpose tool straightens out your Registry, handles Windows startup apps, erase browsing history, removes spyware and gives your PC an all-around optimization. Be sure to tell program to create a restore point before it goes to work. *WinPatrol (Free)*. This very good all-around optimizer frees your system of unnecessary programs that run on startup, and keeps it clean of spyware and other malware. Many more tools are described in many more categories.” PC World, November, 2008, p. 106-114 *Editor note:* Be sure to read about ‘Free’ doesn’t always mean free in this article.



**TIP. Google capabilities:** There is more to Google than just a search engine. It has Google Earth where you can see photos of areas around the world; it has a web word application – free – Writely – <http://docs.google.com>; it has a calendar that can be used online etc. etc. etc. Go to <http://www.google.com> and on the menu line starting with Web, click on More and then if that isn’t enough, click on even more. This is a good rainy day project.



Remember Veterans' Day - Remembrance Day

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

**What a Handy Tool – just point & click** - <http://www.allmyfaves.com> Thanks to Nolan Dehner

**Find the lowest gas prices in your area** - <http://www.gasbuddy.com>

**Quick reliable Overview of health information** - <http://www.organizedWisdom.com>

**Process names from Windows Task Manager** - <http://www.processlibrary.com>

**What's new in Photoshop Elements 7** -

<http://graphicssoft.about.com/od/pselements/ss/PSE7whatsnew.htm>

**Cash from your handiwork** - <http://www.etsy.com>

**Keep an eye on your investments** - <http://www.bloomberg.com>

**Clip art tips and articles** - <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/HA102066371033.aspx>

**Latest children's slang** - <http://www.urbandictionary.com>

**Latest Search Engine Information** - <http://www.sonic.net/donna/searchen2008.pdf>



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

**5. Difference between Netbooks and Notebooks?**

This was a question in CNET forum 10/31/08. It's quite simple. Netbooks are indeed smaller than notebooks; we usually say that a netbook can have a screen up to 10 inches from corner to cover. Netbooks are cheap and have relatively slow processors, but this is because they are designed for more basic tasks.

You'll also find that netbooks don't have optical drives. Most netbooks can run either Linux or Windows XP." [http://forums.cnet.com/5208-7587\\_102-](http://forums.cnet.com/5208-7587_102-0.html?forumID=69&threadID=313546&messageID=2890973&tag=forums06;search-results#2890973)

[0.html?forumID=69&threadID=313546&messageID=2890973&tag=forums06;search-results#2890973](http://forums.cnet.com/5208-7587_102-0.html?forumID=69&threadID=313546&messageID=2890973&tag=forums06;search-results#2890973)

**6. Today's Program** –Dylan Field from

O'Reilly Media, Inc. will talk about "Webware, Web 2.0 and Web

Applications". Thanks Dylan for sharing your expertise. Also today Marsee Henee of

O'Reilly Media is here. She is the coordinator of The O'Reilly User Group & Professional Association Program and has supplied us with computer books for our lending library from O'Reilly. Be sure and stop by and say hello to both these people.

In addition, we have Jason Kitchen, Customer Sales Specialist, from Office Depot, Windsor, who will give us a brief overview of their Tech Depot Services. This will be at 3:00 pm or a little later. Thanks Jason.

**7. Speakers for 2009** – Next User's Group, Dec. 8, the Board of Directors will meet to consider next year speakers and programs. You are more than welcome to attend also. Who do you want on the agenda next year? Let us know.



**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, projects addressed: *No preregistration – Donation*

November 24, 2008, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

None in December

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

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

**December 8, 2008** *No preregistration*

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

2:00 -4:00 pm - Program - A group from Best

Buys Technical staff in SR headed by Seth Maybee, will discuss/demonstrate "Santa's Latest and Greatest Toys and Gadgets". In addition to Computer items, they will cover some cool and popular electronics and devices.

We are very fortunate to have such knowledgeable people for our presentation.

**10. Upcoming Workshops -**

**Hands-On Computer Workshops –**

Introduction to Excel – 11/13/08 10:00 – 12:00 pm

Create Personalized Greeting Cards and other print

projects – 11/17/08 – 1:00 – 4:00 pm.

See Town's Fall 2008 Recreation Bulletin for details.

**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.**

"Don't waste today regretting yesterday instead of making a memory for tomorrow." *Laura Palmer*

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