

WHITE HORSE VILLAGE

Computer Group May-Jun 2010

Computer Group Changes

You may wonder why this May-June issue of the Newsletter is being distributed in August, and via email rather than in printed copy. Its belatedness reflects changes in the WHV Computer Group leadership and the stepping down of Euan Hooper as its Chair due to personal priorities. Euan has been carrying the bulk of the effort of the computer group up to this point, composing and publishing this newsletter, and performing a myriad of tasks that he no longer has the time for.

A triumvirate consisting of How Gregg, Marty Shane, and Joe Spampinato have agreed to step in and pick up the ball, with Joe as nominal Chair. At this time, we are taking a close look at all the services that have been offered, and are attempting to reduce some of the more manually-intensive activities. Thus, our decision to use email rather than hard copy for distributing the Newsletter.

We will do our best to maintain the quality and quantity of service that Euan was providing almost single-handedly, and will keep you informed as we strive to get our act together.

RSS Explained

The internet can be a terrific source for any type of news. News on technology, gardening, cars, and world affairs can all be found (for a list of recommended sites, look below). The trouble is that these news sources are updated so often, how does one keep track of new developments?

There's a new technology called **Really Simple Syndication**, or RSS for short, that essentially "harvests" news headlines from your favorite news sources, allowing you to scan a page of headlines to see if there are any stories of interest to you. If there are, you can proceed to read the whole story by clicking on the headline, and the story will reveal itself.

RSS first appeared last year and was only usable with Mozilla Firefox. Since then Internet Explorer and Google Chrome have caught up, so that all major browsers now also offer the capability.

Here are the steps on how to begin using RSS: It is easy to use:

1. Go to any news website or other website of interest by typing an address in the browser top address bar or clicking on a bookmark, e.g., www.slate.com.
2. After the website loads, somewhere on the page, (generally at the bottom), you will see an orange or blue logo with a dot and two arcs. This logo indicates that an RSS feed is available for the site. Click on it, and select the news headline types you'd like to receive.
3. Then click OK when asked into which folder you'd like to the feed to go.



After step 3, you'll see a new entry appear above the address bar. If you click on that, you will see all of the headlines from the website you have currently visited. You may now visit other sites, and add more RSS feeds to your browser. They will still appear after you close the program.

Almost every news, blog, and ISP site provides this capability, making it easy for you to quickly scan the headlines on your favorite surfing places and concentrate on those of most interest to you.



I HAVE A DREAM ...

BRANDON'S CORNER

Ask Google First



Would you like to know where I turn when I have a computer question? I ask Google. And usually without fail, I get a satisfying answer. The magic of Google is that the company spends billions each year trying to find ways to make the search engine at Google.com better understand you. It used to be that if you asked Google a question like "How do I make a new desktop shortcut?" or "What antivirus programs are free?" you would get a list of results in the hundreds of thousands with no relevant answers. But that has changed hugely. No longer do you need to be a search expert to find relevant information on Google. As a simple exercise, ask Google "How do I change my wallpaper?" and you immediately get this useful answer

Scanner Installed in WHV Library

WHV Library computer users now have the capability scan in documents. A Visioneer One-Touch scanner has been installed, with the software that allows mono-chrome, gray-scale and color scanning, and optical character reading (OCR) to convert scanned text to computer-readable format. Complete instructions for using the scanner are taped to the scanner lid.

Note that the scanner and software require that you use the left-side computer. Remember also, that once a document is scanned in, you can only retrieve it for your personal use by emailing it to yourself, or by saving it a portable memory device like a flash drive. An USB port that will take a flash drive is located on the front of the computer, near the bottom.

A screenshot of a Google search page. The search bar contains the text "How do I change my wallpaper" and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, it says "About 2,500,000 results (0.28 seconds)" and "Advanced search". The first search result is titled "How do I change my wallpaper on my computer? - Yahoo! Answers" and is dated "Dec 22, 2007 ... [Vista and XP] Get a image, right click, save as background. [XP] Or, do on the desktop, right click properties, and under wallpaper. [Vista] ...". Below this result are several links: "What do I do to change my wallpaper?", "How can I change my wallpaper on my HP mini?", "How do i change my wallpaper on my gateway notebook, It series ...", and "How do i change my background on my hp mini?". There is also a link for "More results from answers.yahoo.com »". On the left side of the page, there are navigation links for "Web", "Images", "Videos", "Maps", "News", "Shopping", "Gmail", and "more". There are also links for "Web History", "Search settings", and "Sign in".

I recommend that you try the following. Think of something you want to know. It could be related to astronomy, food, medicine, computers, history, or art. And ask Google the question using the same words that you'd use to ask an expert. You'll be amazed at the accuracy. The most relevant responses always appear at the top of the search, as shown in the picture. Even if you think a problem or question is beyond you, chances are that the Google results that appear will explain the topic quite well. If not, hit the back button, and click your mouse on the second result!

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor Emeritus: Euan Hooper
Editor Pro-Tem & HELP! Committee: Joe Spampinato
HELP! Activities: Arlene Flick
Publicity & Meetings: Marty Shane
Distribution: Marty Shane

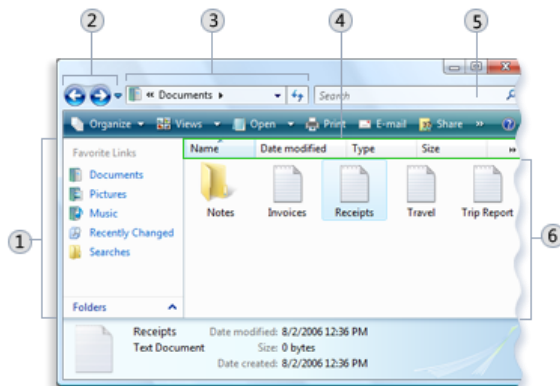
Please send material for the newsletter to:
joenpat40@comcast.net
and visit our Website at:

www.whitehorsevillage.net/

Navigating in Windows Explorer— How Gregg



Navigating in Windows Explorer (WE)... We all lose files on the computer. How do we find them again? We use **WE**. You get there by right clicking on the Start button and clicking on **Explore**. The **WE** window opens looking something like this:



- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1 Navigation pane | 4 Headings |
| 2 Forward & Back buttons | 5 Search box |
| 3 Address bar | 6 File list |

The **Forward** and **Back** buttons, top left, are used to navigate the two panes below them. The left **Navigation pane** shows Folders and the right **File list pane** shows the files and subfolders within a folder. The way the File list looks is determined by the **Views** Icon on the bar overtop the panes.

Click on the arrow to the right of it and a menu open showing viewing options: **Icons** (by size) **List**, **Details** and **Tiles**. Click on each to try them The **Details** view shows the most file information. The other icons on the bar: Open, Print, E-mail, Share and Burn perform operations to files. **Headings** boxes appear at the top of the File list pane. Right click on Name, the first box. A menu opens showing all the categories available for the remaining boxes. **Name**, **Date modified**, **Type** and **Size** are the most popular categories. Left Click on a Heading to sort the files listed alphabetically by **Name**, by **Date**, file **Type** or file **Size**. The **Address bar** shows where you are in the file system at any time. You use the **Search box** to find any name typed in it within any file or folder.

Top 10 keyboard shortcuts you should know!

Are you spending too much time moving your cursor, pointing and clicking just to accomplish simple tasks on your PC? Did you know that you can use your keyboard to work more efficiently?

Below is a list of 10 keyboard shortcuts that will help you increase your productivity by eliminating the need to reach for the mouse.



CTRL + C will copy text after it has been highlighted.
CTRL + V will paste text that you have copied.
CTRL + Z will undo any change that you have done.
CTRL + ESC will bring up the Start Menu.
SHIFT + F3 will turn all capitalized text into lower-case.

SHIFT + DELETE will delete an item immediately without placing it in the Recycle Bin.

ALT + TAB will bring up a Window with a list of icons representing programs which are currently running on your computer. While holding the ALT key, press and depress the TAB button to cycle between each icon task.

ALT + ESC will switch to the next task running on your computer. Hold down the ALT before pressing and depressing the ESC key to cycle to the next task.

CTRL + ALT + DELETE will bring up Task Manager and allow you to end a process (terminate a program) if it has crashed or has stopped responding. Select the process which has stopped responding, and then press "END PROCESS".

SHIFT + INSERT will paste any text that is in your clipboard.

Your cursor must also be placed in an area that will accept keyboard input for this to work.

Thanks to UNIBLUE

COMPUTER MISCELLANY

Euan Hooper

Even if your computer doesn't have a TV tuner card, you can still watch broadcast television programming with Media Center in Windows 7. Today we take a look at some of the features and how to get started.

Earlier this week in another Learning Windows 7 post, we showed you how to set up live TV in Windows Media Center (WMC). Not everyone has a TV tuner card and maybe can't install one, in a laptop or netbook for example.

If you're looking to watch TV on your computer, this is yet another way of quite a few methods, including several online options such as Hulu. This method is quick to setup and allows you to watch some limited programming on demand with WMC in Windows 7. Not all programs are full episodes, but does include clips from several of them. In the future we'll be taking a look at some other types of Internet TV and video streaming options you can incorporate into WMC.

The State of PC Security

PC Pit stop Research analyzed 50,258 computers and found the following:

- 23% of computers have no active security protection.
- 14% of the computers had some sort of high level threat.
- Spyware is the most common malware threat followed by Rogue Security Software.
- Kaspersky protects the best against Rogue Security Software and Trend Micro is the worst.
- Symantec protects against spyware the best, and Kaspersky the worst.
- Trend protects the best against keyloggers and Avast fares the worst.
- Kaspersky protects against viruses the best, and Symantec tails the pack.

Read the thorough and complete article at:



<http://techtalk.pcpitstop.com/2010/05/13/the-state-of-pc-security/>

German Concept Laptop



This is pretty cool, a laptop computer that rolls up into a cylinder. Check it out by clicking on the hyperlink above.

AT LAST- A CELL PHONE FOR SENIORS!



HELP ACTIVITIES

Arlene Flick



MORE IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR WEBSITE!

Go to the WHV Computer Group Website at:
www.whitehorsevillage.net

For the latest progress,
photographs, and narrated videos
on the WHV construction

AND

Tutorials on computer topics,
and past Newsletter issues and presentations.

Our HELP! Committee needs Help

One of our objectives has always been to have our members spread around the campus so that all computer users have a nearby helper. You can see from the listing of HELP! Committee members on the next page that while Danzig is well represented **we are seriously short of helpers in Gardens, Woodlands, Kelso, Ascot and Belmont.** The more helpers we have the less of a burden for each of us.

Please contact Joe Spampinato at
484-422-8195

If you would like to help out.

Euan Hooper helped:

Betty Hendrickson install a new computer

Joe Spampinato helped:

Paul Madsen install a new scanner

Doug & Dottie Kadell install more memory

Tony Potts crop and print a picture from an email.

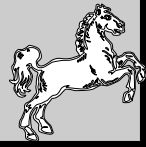
Marty Shane to use Outlook and data sources to print labels for her Xmas cards. Also, to back up her Quicken and Outlook files on a flash drive, and how to compress her Outlook file.

Don Surr helped

Eunice Holmes get her email working again

The HELP! COMMITTEE, Chair JOE SPAMPINATO

HELPER!	Court	phone	email address
Villas		610-558-	
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Jim Calkins	V159 Alydar	6862	jbalkins@verizon.net
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Marsh Nelsen	S110 Saratoga	610-361-8607	saratoga110@comcast.net
Woodlands			
Joe Spampinato (CHAIR)	W116 Woodlands	484-422-8195	joenpat40@comcast.net



WHITE HORSE VILLAGE

Computer Group

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All are welcome!

August: NO MEETING

Tue Sept 28th at 10:30 am: Jim Mobile: "Overview of Movie Making Programs"

Tue Oct 26rd at 10:30 am: Q&A Program to be conducted by How Gregg & Joe Spampinato.

Tue Nov 23 at 10:30 am: Bob Curley: "Things my customers ask me every day"

**ALL MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN THE
WHV AUDITORIUM**

Note: If there is some particular computer subject you would like us to cover at our monthly meetings, please let us know and we will try to accommodate it. Notify How Gregg at howgregg@verizon.net or Joe Spampinato at joenpat40@comcast.net.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Date: Thursday, September 16, 2010

Location: Rose Tree Park, Providence Rd. Media

Time: 9.00 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Rain or Shine

It will be very inclusive: electronics - computers, scanners, printers, fax machines, portable televisions (none in wooden cabinets or, over 27")

Questions? Visit the "Recycling & Trash Collection" link of the Edgmont Township website, www.edgmont.org

Notable Quote

"A lie can get halfway around the world—while the truth is still putting its boots on (Mark Twain);— before the truth gets a chance to put its pants on" (Winston Churchill)

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter, or if you know others who would like to receive it, please tell me at joenpat40@comcast.net or leave a message at 484 422-8195. The latest and preceding newsletters are available on our website. If someone you know at WHV has difficulty in accessing this online version, please let me know so that we can provide assistance.

SECURITY SOFTWARE INSTALLATION CHANGES COMING

One of the areas that your new computer group leadership is thinking about curtailing is the providing and installing of Norton security software at a discounted rate. Euan Hooper has been providing this service, purchasing discs allowing multiple installations from Norton at a cost per computer lower than one for a single installation. Euan passed the savings on to WHV users, tracked the usage and expirations of each installation, and provided renewals on a timely basis. It is not clear at this time how long Euan will be able to continue providing this service. I believe that he currently has several update installations in hand.

There are two reasons why your new leadership is planning to discontinue this service:

1. It has manually intensive, requiring Euan to purchase discs from Norton, track installations and usage of each disc, and install updates when required. These functions can and should be handled by each user.
2. Since Euan started the practice, Comcast now offers customers the complete Norton security suite at no charge as part of their contract. A significant portion (at least 42 of 182) of WHV computer users are Comcast customers eligible for this software.

Users who have been taking advantage of Euan's discount Norton service and are not Comcast internet subscribers have two options:

1. Continue using Norton, downloading the update and paying full price.
2. Uninstalling Norton and downloading one of the free antivirus programs such as AVG.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANYONE WHO USES EMAIL AND/OR GOES ONLINE REGULARLY DO THIS WITHOUT A ROBUST FIREWALL AND ANTIVIRUS PROGRAM.

If you have any question at all about this or about the status of your security software, please notify Joe Spampinato at 484 422-8195 or at joenpat40@comcast.net.