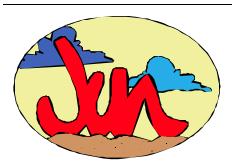


# Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 6 June 2002



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Last month's meeting got into the guts of computers and how they are put together and how the OS gets installed. Thanks to Jim Russ for this informative demonstration.

We have not been successful in obtaining additional meeting dates from the Hospital for SIGs, so this month we are having the Digital Photography SIG joint meeting with the regular club.

As I have said before, the entire club appears to be in the Digital Photography SIG anyway.

Peter Czerwinski will present at the meeting. Peter will be discussing the use of Photoshop in manipulating pictures. Particularly Peter will focus on the Adobe program ImageReady which is a version of Photoshop tailored to preparing images for computer screen display particularly on the Web.

Members discussed topics for the future. Here are few mentioned:

Photoshop (the next meeting topic),

Digital audio,

360 panorama (this was done last year by Peter Czerwinski and the web site has some info on that meeting under SIGS and Digital Photography), Live demos of 3 or 4 levels of digital cameras you can buy,

Cost and quality comparison of camera by brand you can buy,

GPS (a topic Jim did last year) revisited since there is a lot of new technology,

3D technology,

Discuss newsgroups and the club newsgroup and,

An Email complaint session.

I want to thank Doris Moore for being our bagel coordinator over the last year or so. Doris resigned from this position in April. To indicate how important this job she did was, we were short bagels at the last meeting because we depended so much on her diligence in this important club feature.

Rick Williams gave us the heads up that the October meeting date may be moved by the Hospital. We will let you know.

The hard working club Secretary Don Columbo reported we have 77 paying members with six renewals last month.

I forgot to mention last month that at the April meeting the Hospital Web Master showed up to recruit web site testers. Faber Fedor and John Warsinski are thanked for their participation. See related report on page 5 of this issue.

Jim Russ indicated he is in need of modem cards and CD drives along with ISA and PCI cards. You can help his community efforts with donations. His email is jfruss02@optonline.net.

See you at the next meeting.

Lon

#### ITS BROKE, DON'T FIX IT

PS: Not Over Until The Credit Card Owner Sings

By Lon Hosford

You may remember from part two of the "Its Broke, Don't Fix It" story, I ended with the statement:

"And there may be a sequel to the story because in the end my credit card should only show \$115 plus shipping."

Well I was so exhausted from writing the story I computed the total incorrectly. The actual total should be \$104.92. That included tax.

Here is the actual billing:

April Discover card statement:

3/21 = \$226.823/28 = \$121.90

May Discover card statement:

4/14 = \$(121.90)

Balance = \$226.82.

#### May 24, 2002

I called HP for to clarify the figures. The women's voice on the phone sounded familiar, but then my ears were clogged from rage. But I spoke softly.

She listened, asked a question or two, took the invoice number and put me on hold. About 3 minutes, a life time on hold, she returned with good news. I would receive another \$121.90 credit on my next Discover statement.

That should bring the episode of the broken fuser to over 3 months of tracking. There should be software for this, really.

In any case the credit card owner has yet to sing.

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Marlyn needed to transfer a larger than floppy file and used the CD burner. The CD could not be read by another computer. Tried formatting the CD which took 40 minutes.

If she is using CD-RW CDs and she is using Adaptec software, she should look for an additional program on the Adaptec software menu to handle CD-RW CDs.

Also should investigate the closing of the CD session. If the session is open, the CD may not be readable.

Joe Burger also suggested the possibility of trying to read on an older CD drive. There are some errant compatibility issues.

Jim Russ mentioned using Roxio http:// www.roxio.com/was very successful for him.

George Knoedl Jr. had a 2000 question about restricting his grandchildren's access. The user groups Administration and PowerUser was allowing everyone access.

One suggestion was he needed to create a user or user group for the grandchildren and then he could allow access to resources for this Group.

Another suggestion is to be sure Service Release 2 for 2000 be installed.

Seymore Fishkin trying to install Publisher Pro in Office 2000 but has misplaced disk #2 which is what the install program requests.

Recommendations for a PDA were asked for and Paul Glattstein offered that he likes the Visor manufactured by Handspring.

Jim Russ just hooked up a new cable modem! He has a new E-mail address which he will be using more and more in the coming weeks. It is: jfruss02@optonline.net . Please use it along with his Juno address: jfruss@juno.con, when sending him mail. He is not sure what he will do with his other accounts, but will keep us posted.

## The CEO, CFO, CIO, COO and Now the CHO

(by Lon Hosford)

We all are aware of the need for security these days. From the worldwide terrorism to our own computers.

For computers we worry about hackers. Companies are particularly worried about their web commerce sites being hacked.

In a effort to counter this threat new computer security positions are opening up. This is similar to the emergence of CIO (Chief Information Officer) during the 1980's and 1990's arising out of the importance of computerized information in a company.

The recent need to secure computers has given rise to the CHO (Chief Hacking Officer). The CHO title is not widespread but does exist in function.

The basic goal is to have someone responsible for doing what a hacker would do from the outside. Basically an internal hacker. The need is so great, the position has elevated to the top ranks of companies.

In some rare cases the people sought after for these positions are actual computer hackers. Peiter "Mudge" Zatko is one example. Mudge who came of the virtual hacker closet February 2000 to appear in a photo opportunity with President Bill Clinton in the White House Cabinet Room.

More info on this character see: http://www.infosecuritymag.com/articles/november01/people\_mudge.shtml
Mudge is now an advisor sought after

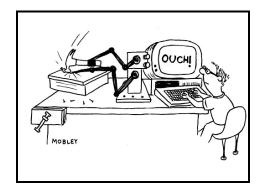
for his past hacking transgression expertise. He works for the Massachusetts based company @Stake's and bears the title CHO.

Most hackers are of the "white hat" variety. The difference between "white hat" and "black hat" hackers is simply a criminal record.

Companies take a chance at hiring "black hat" hackers. The real danger is possible extortion and blackmail. However, they tend to be the best at the hacking trade.

So if you need to get at another hacker, hire a hacker, give them a lofty title CHO with commensurate pay and perks and set them free after the hackers you are trying to thwart.

How low do we go?



### <u>NASA NEWS</u> (Smart Computeing, June 2002)

NASA is quite willing to share the latest news and information on its studies and programs with interested astronomers and scientists of all ages. From the Science@NASA home page (http://science. nasa.gov), click the Subscribe To Science @NASA updates link and you'll see a list of several news options, all of which you will receive via e-mail.

Subscriptions to Science@NASA or Ciencia@NASA, NASA Kids, LIFT-OFF, SpaceWeather.com, and Thursdays Classroom are all free, and NASA does not give or sell your e-mail address to third parties. The NASA Kids update has content for kids of all ages, including games, stories.

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#### **TOP 10 DIGICAM FEATURES**

(Computer Shopper, May 2002)

Although most new digital cameras offer a raft of features and functions, here are 10 favorite conveniences, many of which can be found on digicams in all price ranges.

- 1. **Multipattern light metering**: Breaks an image into small fields that are then measured, analyzed, and averaged to calculate the best exposure under challenging light conditions.
- 2. **TV-out and slide-show capabilities**: Plug your camera into the TV, click a few buttons, and—presto! your snapshots start scrolling smoothly across the screen. The easiest way to show your work to technophobes who would never let a PC in the house.
- 3. **Clip-motion image capture**: This is a terrific feature for Web authors, who can capture a sequence of photos and store them as an animated GIF file. At present, this function is only found on Sony cameras.
- 4. **Voice annotation**: Lets you use a built-in microphone to record spoken commentary that can be attached to your photos.
- 5. **USB auto-connect**: Uses the auto-detect and auto-mounting functions built into the latest Windows and Mac operating systems to connect to your computer without requiring a proprietary driver.
- 6. Low-latency image capture: Describes a camera that takes less than 60ms to store an image—in effect, rivaling the responsiveness of a 35mm model. You may not be able to afford a unit that delivers this level of performance, but try to come as close as you can.
- Preflash: Solves a range of lighting problems by analyzing the light reflected from a momentary flash burst and then using that information to adjust camera settings automatically.
- 8. Smart image enhancement: A range of features that increase resolution, reduce noise levels, or remove graininess before a photograph is compressed and stored. The result is better-looking output without the loss of detail that results

from standard interpolation techniques.

- 9. **Rechargeable batteries and charger**: A no-brainer for anyone who's seen annual battery costs approach the purchase price of a new camera.
- 10. **Zoom lens**: Still the key feature to look for in any digital camera. A must-have for capturing long-distance shots, as well as portraits.

#### MSN CHAT NEEDS SECURITY CHECK

(by Lon Hosford)

Microsoft's Internet Division, MSN Chat, has revealed a security flaw. While connected invaders can send along streams of data to the point of causing a buffer overflow. Once the buffer overflow is reached it opens a hole to allow program code into the computer. The type of code allowed in is in general the form that allows the invader to control your computer remotely. Specifically the problem is with the MSN Chat Control. MSN Messenger and Exchange Messenger are not effected. MSN Chat Control covers public group chats. MSN Messenger and Exchange Messenger are private room chats.

#### **COMPUTER VOLUNTEERS**

(by Evelyn Stewart)

The single topic single session Monday Morning classes are going well. Please help by telling friends over 60 about them, and dropping in to teach or kibitz. Mondays 9:30 to 11:30. Office on Aging Computer Room, on R.t 31 north of the hospital on Gauntt Place, in the second of three buildings that house the Extensions Service (Rutgers Ag), The Office on Aging, Senior Activities Center, County Social Services, and the Link Bus service. Classes are limited to people who are really using computers at home and who have had at least one course at the Center. Exceptions can be made at the discretion of the boss teacher (me). These are not formal teacher vs. student classes but workshops with lots of conversation. We have experimented with larger classes and have had from 9 to 14 people each

week without any problems. People must register at 788-1359 to attend any or all the Mondays. Payment is by optional donation.

- June 17 No class I am going to Historic Deerfield, Mass, to have a chance to try being a Printer's Apprentice, using the old flat bed press, making decorative printed paper to bring home.
- *June 24* Make and take a layered card, single fold, printed on 2 sides.
- July 1 No class Believe it or not I am bidden to the 50th anniversary party of the very first and very wonderful volunteer aide at the Barley Sheaf School Library, in Scottsdale AZO at the Pointe South Mountain resort, and member Liz is going too, and after the weekend party we are going to go see if the Grand Canyon is still there.
- July 8 File Management
- July 15 Introduction to Quicken check register and budget, but not Portfolio Management (Softwareoutlet.com had Quicken for \$4.99 and \$9.99 on May 15.
- **July 22** Finding and using a data base simple enough for Christmas Lists making mail merge work- HCC suggestions welcome.
- **July 29** Install and remove programs search engines- find what you want on the Web.
- **August 5** Send and receive attachments and where to save them.
- August 12 "Remind Me" an example of a personal reminder program- compare to Works Calendar.
- August 19 Defrag and Clean up Temporary Internet files
- August 26 Using Win Zip How and Why- John Warsinski gave us a whole. morning on this but this group is dedicated to chewing on things slowly. until they are digestible, and they have asked for a recap and continuation. Many of the topics covered so far will be repeated by request.

## MICROSOFT: THE BIG IE PATCH

(by Lon Hosford)

On May 12th, Microsoft urged all IE (Internet Explorer) users to download the latest patch. The patch fixes six new flaws for the widely used browser.

One of the flaws allows hackers and worms to launch programs on the user's computers. This flaw only effects IE version 6.0.

Microsoft termed this flaw as "cross-scripting". The hacker either hosts a web page or sends and HTML (hyper text markup language) email to take advantage of this weakness.

In either case, the program launched beats the security you have and compromises your computer system.

There are two flaws that compromise information on your computer. These flaws are based on how IE processes the cascading style sheets used to format your HTML web pages and on how IE uses cookies.

This flaw could allow an attacker to read, but not add, delete or change, data on the local system. The hacker needs to know the exact knowledge of the location of the intended file to be read on the user's system. Further, it requires that the intended file contain a single, particular ASCII character.

For a complete listing of the problems see: http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS02-023.asp

The download to fix the six problems is 2 megabytes. It includes all the old fixes for Internet Explorer 5.01, 5.5 and 6.0.

The link to the fix page is: http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/downloads/critical/Q321232/default.asp

Now hold your seat. The fix also includes a new feature that restricts the default settings of the "Restricted Sites" zone to block all HTML page frames.

#### **QUICK TIPS**

(Smart Computing, May 2002)

MEMORY CARDS—The USPS (United States Postal Service) now uses an electron-beam irradiation process to safeguard mail against anthrax attacks. Unfortunately, the irradiation destroys the data on memory cards and renders them inoperable. Use caution when buying memory cards through the mail.

At press time, neither UPS (United Parcel Service) nor FedEx were irradiating packages, and the USPS is researching ways to irradiate mail without destroying memory cards. If you send or receive memory cards through the mail, your safest bet is to check with the memory card manufacturer and the agency delivering them.

MONITORS—Monitors get dusty pretty easily, but you shouldn't simply grab a tissue (or your sleeve) and start scrubbing it. You may scratch your monitor.

Use a lint-free cotton cloth and a cleaner that's designed for use with electronic components, such as Endust for Electronics. That way, you'll avoid damaging your monitor while still keeping it clean.

HCC NEWSLETTER is published monthly at 267 Federal Twist Rd., shortly after the regular meeting, which is normally on the third Saturday. Subscription is included in the annual dues of \$25. for an individual, \$30. for family. Nonmember subscriptions, out of state only, are \$8.00 a year. Contributions are eagerly sought, and may be on paper, by phone, on disk, or file or email to mreuter@ptdprolog.net.

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#### **SPAM UPDATE**

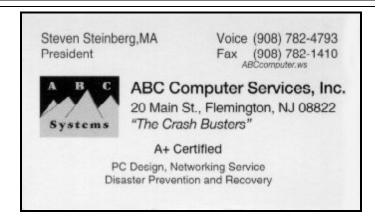
(by Lon Hosford)

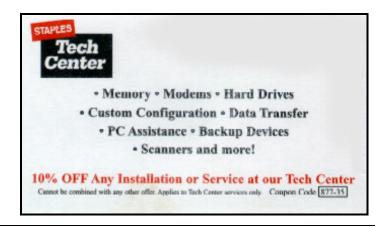
Here is the June report: I received 5,300 spam messages as of June 1. Last year the count was 4,500. Basically over 35 per day this year so far. However I can tell you the average per day in May is closer to 70.

## MEMBERS VOLUNTEER AS WEB GUINEAS

Faber Fedor, a recent new member who has a forte in the Unix world, and John Warsinski, long time club member and senior computer teacher, volunteered as Web guineas for the Hunterdon Medical Center. At the April meeting, the hospital web master popped in to request two bodies for a study of hospital web sites. The members got a \$50 gift certificate at the Hospital gift shop for 1 hour of their time that afternoon.

Faber reported that a marketing person and the web master presided. Faber said their mouse movements were monitored. They visited other Hospital web sites such as the Somerset Hospital site. The staff recorded their comments and opinions. They also got some previews of the revamped Hunterdon Medical Center web site. The Hunterdon Medical Center web site is http://www.hunterdonhealthcare.org.





#### H.C.C. HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Attn: Donald Colombo - Membership HCC, 18 Lambert Lane, Lambertville, NJ. 08530 - (609) 397-1265 dc1944@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP FORM ☐ RENEW ☐ NEW ☐ LAPS ANNUAL DUES \$25 Single \$30 Family \$190 Life

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Inf	formation that will help us help you:				
1.	WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HEL Club officer Technical advisor S Other	Setting up for the meeting		Newsletter	Programs
2.	DO YOU HAVE AN AREA OF COMPUTER EXPERTISE? IF SO, WHAT IS IT?				
3.	PLEASE LIST ANY COMMENT AND	D/OR LIST WHAT WOULD Y	YOU LIKE TO SEE IN	OUR COMPU	TER CLUB

Presenter: Peter Czerwinski Program: Using PhotoShop to Manipulate Pictures

nod/I oT .M.A 05:8

Rt. 31 Flemington MJ Hunterdon Medical Center

Mext Meeting Saturday, June 15, 2002

Hunterdon Computer Club

FIRST CLASS MAIL Address Correction Requested

HCC NEWSLETTER

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Marlyn Reuter

267 Federal Twist Road Stockton, New Jersey 08559

Guests Welcome – all ages all levels