

Newsletter

Volume 17 Issue 7

July 2004



Smart Computing magazine is hitting the road this July and is pleased to announce that we will soon be visiting your area! *Smart Computing* has been a respected resource for computer users for years. Our mission is to help users of all skill levels improve their PC-related productivity. While visiting your group, we'll tell you everything you need to know about *Smart Computing*, www.smartcomputing.com, and the *Smart Computing* User Group Program. In addition, we'll introduce you to our newest publications, *PC Today* and *CE Tips*.

Smart Computing is a monthly computer magazine designed to help users of all skill levels improve their PC-related productivity. You'll find dozens of features, columns, reviews, and tips & tricks to help you become a more efficient computer user. In addition to receiving monthly issues, subscribers of *Smart Computing* magazine gain admittance to all facets of the *Smart Computing* User Group Program.

Smart Computing allows you can stay abreast on the latest products and trends, solve troubleshooting problems, perform PC tasks, utilize software programs, enhance your online time, learn tips and tricks, and much more. *Smart Computing* is your ultimate computing and technology resource!

One of our goals at *Smart Computing* is to provide readers with as much information as possible, in a user-friendly format. Our website, www.smartcomputing.com, allows users to access a vast

amount of information from all of our publications. Numerous tools exist on the site, granting subscribers access to an article archive of more than 19,600 articles and other helpful tools.

Our presentation begins by showing *Smart Computing* images and features in PowerPoint format. Next, we will guide user group members through SmartComputing.com as we conduct live demonstrations of each feature. We will also discuss the *Smart Computing* User Group Program.

We will have special order forms available which offer a free issue from our Learning Series (a \$7.99 value) with every order at the meeting. These issues will be available for group members to take home at the meeting. Plus, multi-year (2- or 3-year) subscription orders made with payment at the meeting will receive a free issue from our Reference Series (a \$9.95 value) in addition to the Learning Series issue.

We will bring a copy of *Smart Computing* and a guide to SmartComputing.com for everyone in attendance.

We will bring door prizes to be given away at the meeting.

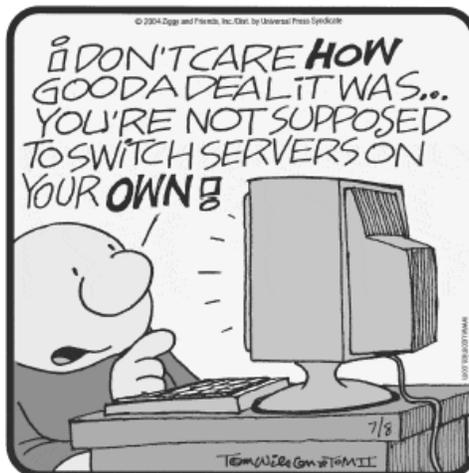
Come spend a fun and dynamic morning with the *Smart Computing* folks and receive a free issue of *Smart Computing*! See you there!

DSL TIPS

(Don Franklin)

If you have DSL, you may experience connection problems in the summer because of brownouts. On hot days the voltage sometimes drops during peak usage, and a one or two second power outage can also occur. Consider turning off your modem and router when you turn off your computer to avoid these connection problems.

If you do experience a connection problem, unplug the modem and phone line, and also unplug your router. This resets the system. First, reconnect the modem, and wait until the DSL signal is established. Then, reconnect the router, and test your connection. This will work most of the time, and save you a tech support call.



Submitted by Eleanor Mistler

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WATCH FOR PLANES

(Peter Czerwinski)

"Watch the Planes". Log on the the website <http://www4.passur.com/ewr.html> and see a map of Newark Airport with slowly moving airplane icons arriving and departing the runways. It takes about 3 minutes to load the "Airport Monitor" program, but you can see the BLUE planes arriving and the GREEN planes departing. Plane icons in BLACK are just passing through. For security reasons, the moving images are about 10 minutes behind, but it's fascinat-

ing. If you choose an 80 mile view (also 5, 10, 20, & 40 mile views) you can see some of the jets moving over Hunterdon County. See attached image. In one instance from my house, I noticed a jet overhead about 12 noon. I went to Newark Airport's Airport Monitor website and could see the jet's icon. It showed the jet's altitude (17,400 ft.) and type (Boeing 777). If I went to the Airport Monitor website a few hours later, and chose REPLAY MODE, I could get more info about the overhead flight, such as its destination, which in my case was Atlanta, Georgia.

There are other airports to watch if you're interested, such as JFK. I just finished a video about trout fishing at Ken Lockwood Gorge (North Hunterdon County) and am now working on a video with a working title "Newark Airport". I plan to capture the moving icon images from Airport Monitor and use them in my work. I also am using simulated images of planes arriving and departing Newark Airport recorded from Microsoft's Flight Simulator 2004 interspersed with actual video of planes landing. Video is great!

AirportMonitor™ 2.0 Newark Liberty International Airport

POWERED BY **PASSUR**.com

Current Mode: PAUSE | Replay Mode: PAUSE | Select speed & click start: START PAUSE Help ?

Enter date & time(eastern) Hour Minute: June 28 2004 23 38 | NORMAL 2x 5x 10x

MAP RANGE (from center): 5 MILES, 10 MILES, 20 MILES, 40 MILES, 80 MILES

Flight Information
Click on any airplane at left for details

Date/Time	6/28/2004 23:41:54
Flight ID	*
Aircraft Type	B722
Altitude	17700 ft
Origin	*
Destination	*

Legend

- ✈ Newark Liberty Intl Airport (EWR)
- ▣ Departures
- ▣ Arrivals
- ✈ Helicopter
- ▣ Selected
- ▣ In Transit

WHAT IS SPAM (cont'd. from p. 2)

When I get tear jerker tales I delete them if I remember hearing about the same case a dozen or so times. I don't know why I should look out for someone else's kids since they apparently did not do a very good job of it.

By the way, did you hear that congress is going to pass a bill which will make you pay five cents for every e-mail? Just forward this message to everyone you know and ask them to forward it to their con-

gressman so we can stop this threat to our free(dom)!!! I neither participate in nor forward boycott junk. I do not want to be responsible for one good American losing his/her job no matter who signs the paycheck.

Of course I support our troops, because I was one. I don't think it is incumbent on me to keep repeating it. Am I worried that my actions or statements will cause others to doubt my patriotism or resolve? Whom am I trying to convince?

Well, it looks as though my little adventure into the world of spam has turned into a lecture about NOT being "an old woman" (not very P.C., my apologies to our elder female members). If you want to send someone a message, write your thoughts and send them to whomever in a personal and thoughtful manner. Get off the forward button! Don't be a spammer who clutters the internet with junk. If you had to pay the way you do for snail mail, you'd probably think twice about it.

AT THE JUNE MEETING*(Ilene Shope)*

HCC-Peter Czerwinski, club vice president, opened the meeting at 9:30AM on Saturday, June 19th, in the meeting room several doors down from the Bagel Shop in the Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington.

Peter said the club president, Lon Hosford, was away for his daughter's graduation. Jim Aller, club secretary, was away also. Club treasurer, Sara MacQueen Oderwald, presented the financial report.

Four visitors joined us at the HCC meeting: Walter McGregor, Ron Galvin, Carl Razza and Jim Miller. Mr. McGregor and Mr. Galvin were Sara's guests. Ron Galvin said he came through word of mouth from Sara. He is a farmer in Flemington. He raises registered Highland cattle on his farm, "Rainbow Hill Farm." Carl Razza said he recently opened his new business Computer Renaissance on Rte 31 in Flemington. He does sales in new computers and in computer repairs. He brought along discount coupons for the members and left his business cards.

Jim Miller is the new owner of ABC Computer Store on Main Street, Flemington. He took over the business from Steve Steinberg, an HCC Member. His store also offers new computers and repair services.

Peter informed that the usual 50/50 raffle... would be 0/0 (Zero/Zero) raffle... due to Lon's absence.

Doris had difficulty accessing the 'loop' board. Carl Andres asked about the newsletter set up. Bob Inglis said it has been six months since he was in for HCC Meetings as he has been busy with many projects including a move to Florida as he is no longer teaching.

Members at Q&A joined in a round of eager participation. Topics included DSL, cable, UPS prices, and the power failure last year. Jac said, "Every router has an IP address". Dr. Barad was concerned with fake emails wherein his e-address is used as sender. The Club had a lot to say about this. John Warsinski called it "spoofing". The implied virus resides in an indirect 'friend's computer'

and is very hard to spot. It is similar to 'the friend of a friend of a friend' concept, in trying to track the unsuspecting victim's computer harboring a virus.

When Dennis Belgard tried to get Real Player, he read the fine print on the website and was turned off by the site asking for his credit card information. Jac advised that when looking for the FREE downloads, it is hard to spot the FREE ones amongst the sales packages of that site or any site for that matter.

Ken Jones said he is helping his daughter restore Microsoft 2000 on her IBM laptop that she dropped. The screen is missing the menu bar and tool bar. Jac recommended using the Microsoft Cleaner, re-install, and start from Default.

George Knoedl questioned Administrator's override of permissions. Tom Zavatsky had questions on telephone connections for his upstairs computer and for his wife's laptop downstairs. Alice Mitchell said that recently she hears, emissions of the sounds generated as when new email arrives, but finds that there are no new emails when she takes a look. (One suggestion was that new sound ads perform sound effects when the cursor of the mouse action physically passes over that area of the ad.) Peter asked her to record when this happens and bring it up again at the next meeting.

John Warsinski remarked that Yahoo has a new front page and the Free Yahoo Email is now 100 MB. Carol Myer was the speaker on brownouts. Peter advised that UPS costs about \$100. Carl Kukula said he has seen UPS for \$60, for a 10-minute alert.

After the Q and A session members went to the auditorium for Jac's Program: "How to publish yourself with a weblog."

RUSS WALTER RIDES AGAIN!*(Evelyn Stewart)*

After a year's silence, Russ has put out Volume 29, 607 pages, "10,000 Improvements". He has dropped Fortran., Cobol, Logo, and advanced DOS. Volume 29 includes ME, XP, Linux, Palm, MAC OS

X, not to mention Windows 3.1 through 98 and 98 SE. Newspaper quotes: "best in computers published anywhere in the world..." "a welcome relief", "legendary teacher" ... "no -bull insights". Wall Street Journal says " Russ Walter is a computer expert.... He's influential"...

List Price is \$17.50, (9x 12 paperback). Club discount is price \$8.00, because we have bought hundreds. If you know Russ you may want this as a collector's item - how long can he go on?. If you don't know Russ, it's worth \$8.00 to get acquainted. Most of the older editions are still available, and useful if you are deciphering an old machine. Russ named his first and all these books "The Secret Guide to Computers" because he started writing in an effort to talk directly to the bewildered masses struggling with the incomprehensible manuals of early computing life. He would never write a sentence like that. His book is always clear, direct and useful. He has fun with it, but doesn't waste your time like the Dummies books do.

The club gets a dollar from each book sold. As I have for many years, I will handle the orders and delivery at meetings, pay Russ and give Treasurer Sara the dollars. Send e-mail to estewart@ptd.net. with number of books wanted, and meeting when you will pick them up. Or call and leave your name and number of books wanted, at (908) 995-4042, and tell me which meeting you are likely to show up at. The message recorder is always on. The old message asks what day it is because Doug used to get business calls for which the date mattered. Now it still asks what day it is and when you get this old you'll know why.

I can also take orders at a meeting and bring the books the following month. Russ is swift on delivery. We have a deal with him to drop ship a box of books now and then to the Florida HCC branch. However you order, make checks payable to HCC. If you insist on handing me cash, PLEASE put a note with it with your name, and hand it to me. Don't put it down and walk away, as some members used to do. Wait to be checked off. I don't do receipts in the confusion of a meeting.

THE BLOG PHENOMENON

(by John C. Dvorak)
(submitted by Don Colombo)

A recent overlooked Web trend—overlooked by the mainstream media, at least—is the proliferation of public diaries, generically referred to as Blogs. The term originated from "WeB log". People who "Blog" are called Bloggers, and right now there are hundreds, thousands of Blogs on the Net.

The vanity Web page has lost momentum. People who posted one have already done so, and the growth has slowed. Most are uninteresting and uninspired. A Blog is the next iteration, and most vanity site mavens have gravitated toward these things. And the universe of these diaries can even be searched at various specialty search sites, such as www.blogfinder.com.

Generally speaking, these postings are fascinating, since they often have serious elements of Hyde Park corner blather, besides blatant exhibitionism and obvious self-indulgence. And whatever you think of them, you'll admit that they are much more interesting than the static vanity site from years ago. If you just want to pontificate and talk about yourself, start a Blog.

Blogging goes beyond software posting and uses an entire system that allows for easy creation. With a Blog there is no coding to do. The Blog is usually more attractive than sloppy HTML done by an amateur, and by nature it demands updating so that the material is kept current. People can't resist updating the diary and apologize if they don't do it—as if anyone really cares. You have to be dedicated to a Web site to keep it current. Not so the Blog; it's more addictive. And hobbyist Blogs have emerged. For example, some people like to watch a lot of movies and review them. They see a movie and immediately post their comments. Some of these homebrew reviewers are better than the pros.

Still, with the few hobbyist exceptions, Blogs are mostly personal diaries. Here's where the sociology comes in. Why, ex-

actly, do people want to have other people read these ramblings? Many are incriminating! Ask a Web log addict why he or she does it and you'll get a range of answers that tend towards the "because it's easy" or "because it's fun!" bromides. Whatever the reason for the Blog phenomenon, it's not going to go away anytime soon.

A blog can help you disseminate your views, and a hosted blog service can help you get started cheaply and easily. You can write about politics, gardening, your cats—anything you like. Depending on the service, you can post to your blog by browser, e-mail, or even phone.

Blogs are everywhere. Doonesbury's Zipper Harris is a blogger. Howard Dean tracks his presidential campaign in a blog (www.blogforamerica.com).

NEXT PURCHASE

(Ilene Shope)

PC Shows, Inc.
(formerly Ken Gordon Productions)
July 24-25 (10AM to 4PM)
Aug. 21-22 (10AM to 4PM)
NJ Convention Center
Raritan Center
Edison NJ

Launching a blog is about the simplest way to create a personal Web site. Once you've configured your blog's appearance and characteristic options, you simply start posting. The blog software organizes your posts with the newest at the top and a calendar linking to older posts. You can keep the whole thing private, like an old-fashioned diary, or let a few trusted friends view it. But for most bloggers, the challenge is to attract as many readers as possible, and they let in anyone who stumbles upon their blogs.

Themes or skins let you configure your blog's appearance to reflect your personality; if you know a little HTML, you can do some fine tuning. Many services include interactive elements to keep visitors engaged, like the ability to rate or discuss posts. A search function may help you find bloggers with similar interests. Exchanging links or joining blog rings helps

drive traffic to your blog. A few services make it easy to display the books and music that currently interest you, with automatic creation of thumbnails and links.

A successful blog can outgrow a free or low-cost basic service, forcing you to choose a premium service or even set up your own Web site to host the blog. Some bloggers self-host because of concerns about retaining ownership of their blog entries, though hosting services make it clear that you retain all rights to your posts. But like any Web hosting service, a blog host retains the right to delete content it deems obscene or illegal. And some users may simply enjoy hosting their own.

Scholars today study the famous diary of Samuel Pepys for insight into everyday life in 17th-century England. Will your blog be just as famous in a few hundred years? No one will ever know unless you try. You will have some competition: Pepys's diary is back, as a blog, with annotated copies of the original entries appearing daily (www.pepysdiary.com).

You can choose from an assortment of tools that can host your blog for you. Go to Goggle and do a search, i.e. "Free Blog Host."

George Knoedl submitted the following enlightening Q & A:

Q: I am afraid that my 15-year-old son is into online pornography. When he gets off the computer, he deletes all cookies and temporary files. Is there still a way to find out what he has been doing?

A. You could install a keylogger. These programs will tell you everything he does on the computer. If you want to try this, here are three programs:

Guardian Monitor (\$40)
www.guardiansoftware.com

PC Tattle Tale (\$40)
www.pctattletale.com

Spector Pro (\$100)
www.spectorsoft.com

SENIOR CLASSES*(by Grace Marcus)*

Note: Registration is required for all classes, EXCEPT for the Open Lab and the Computer Social. Any requests and/or suggestions you may have for specific topics are always welcome.

Computer Lab is open every Monday (except holidays) from 1:00 - 2:30.

All are welcome. A monitor will be on duty to assist you.

NEW FOR JULY**(REGISTRATION Required)**

Print Artist – Mondays 9:30-11:30
E. Stewart

July 5th - NO CLASS - Holiday
July 12th - Notecard Gift Package
Part 1 of 2
July 19th - Notecard Gift Package
Part 2 of 2
July 26th – NO CLASS

Create a Digital Photo Slide Show
K. Jones

Tuesday, July 13th 9:30-11:00
Merge Digital Photos to Create a Panorama
Tuesday July 20th 9:30 – 11:00
(Part 1 of 2)
Tuesday July 27th 9:30 – 11:00 (Part 2 of 2)

File Management*
E. Stewart

Thursday, July 15th 10:30 – 11:30
*limited to 4 students

File Management
B. Woodall

Thursday, July 22nd 9:30 – 11:30

Maintaining Your privacy in the Internet Age
Spam, Pop-ups, Spyware
B. Woodall
Thursday, July 22nd 1:30-3:30

There will be NO COMPUTER SOCIAL this month.

SELF-GUIDED TUTORIALS AVAILABLE

You may reserve the lab to use the following interactive CDs:

Typing Tutor	Access 2000
MS Word XP	MS Word 2000
Excel XP	Excel 2000
Outlook XP	Outlook 2000
PowerPoint XP	PowerPoint 2000
Access XP	

ON-Going:
Computer BASICS –12 weeks

Tutoring offered from time to time depending on the availability of instructors and other volunteers.

*Beyond Basic Computers (5 weeks)
S, Shah Thursdays 9:30 - 11:00

July 29th - File Management
August 5th - Defragmentation
August 12th - Saving Data files, Email address Book, Picture files on CD
August 19th - Creating Audio CDs
August 26th - Tips for Outlook Express & Internet Explorer

HCC NEWSLETTER is published monthly at 267 Federal Twist Rd., Stockton, NJ shortly after the regular meeting, which is normally on the third Saturday. Subscription is included in the annual dues of \$25 for an individual, and \$30 for family. Non-member 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 .

Marlyn Reuter, Editor
Paul Glattstein - Liz Dunbar
Contributing Editors
Joe Burger, Banner Design

President
Lon Hosford
908-996-7941
lon@hosfordusa.com

Vice-President
Peter Czerwinski
peterhccc@itsagoodlife.org

Treasurer
Sara MacQueen Oderwald
soderwald@worldnet.att.net

Secretary
Membership
Jim Aller
jimaller@att.net

Program
Bill Woodall
woodall@woodall.com

Ex Officio
Richard Williams
Immediate Past President

HCC Web Page
www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org
Paul Glattstein, WebMaster
pglatt@ptd.net

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H.C.C. HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Attn: Jim Aller, 85 Little Philadelphia Road, Washington, NJ 07882 — jimaller@att.net

MEMBERSHIP FORM **RENEW** **NEW** **LAPS**
ANNUAL DUES **\$25 Single** **\$30 Family**

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____ @ _____

Fax (_____) _____

Information that will help us help you:

1. **WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP THE CLUB ? (circle one or more)**
 Club officer Technical advisor Setting up for the meeting Taking club minutes Newsletter Programs
 Other _____
2. **DO YOU HAVE AN AREA OF COMPUTER EXPERTISE? _____ IF SO, WHAT IS IT?**

3. **PLEASE LIST ANY COMMENT AND/OR LIST WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN OUR COMPUTER CLUB**

Thank you to the following club members for their contributions to this month's newsletter:

Jim Aller (<i>mailing list</i>)	Sara MacQueen Oderwald
Don Colombo	Ilene Shope
Peter Czerwinski	Evelyn Stewart
Don Franklin	John Warsinski
Grace Marcus	Bill Woodall
Eleanor Mistler	

Submissions for articles, cartoons, pictures, or other information pertinent to the club are due to the editor by the 3rd of each month. If you plan to email your submission, please be sure to include HCC in your subject line. Send to:

mreuter@ptdprolog.net
 or
 marlynreuter@hotmail.com
 or use snailmail

BUY 6 BAGELS

- Home made soups & Salads
- Catering Platters
- Full line of smoked fish



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2100 Wescott Dr.
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Unique Bagel Cuisine!

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Hunterdon Medical Center
908 237 5410

Unique Bagel Cuisine!

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Bring a Friend

PROGRAM — Smart Computing Magazine

8:30 A.M. To Noon

Rt. 31 Flemington NJ

Hunterdon Medical Center

Next Meeting Saturday, July 17, 2004

Hunterdon Computer Club

HCC NEWSLETTER

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB
Marlyn Reuter
267 Federal Twist Road
Stockton, New Jersey 08559

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Correction Requested

