

HUNTERDON
COMPUTER
CLUB

Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 12

December 2002



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The club's election resulted in the following club officer's for 2002-2003:

Lon Hosford, President
Peter Czerwinski, Vice President
Jac Carrol, Treasurer
Jim Aller, Secretary

As of this writing there is no change in the department functions. Jim Russ continues as program, Paul Glattstein as web master, Bill Woodall as web site manager, Marlyn Reuter as newsletter editor and chief, Ilene Shope as email loop coordinator, Barbara Middleton as refreshments coordinator, Rick Williams as AV coordinator and if I left anyone out, you still got the job.

However, we need a public relations coordinator. The job entails sending out press release announcements for each monthly meeting and for each SIG meeting. This is usually done by email or FAX to 6 to 12 news organizations.

It really involves a Word template where you fill in the meeting description, date time and ship it out. Of course the job area could be expanded beyond this minimum. This is a critical job as it brings in a few new members each year. So join this winning management team and contact me anytime to get started.

There is a Digital Photography SIG meeting on December 14th. See details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Particularly the Digital Photography SIG meeting sports live on the spot digital photo editing by Peter Czerwinski. He claims that you just bring your images and he will fix them. Nose jobs, wrinkle removal, new hair all at no extra charge. The digital video editing includes demonstration of a digital video camera at the hands of Joe Burger. This is a first for the SIG, do not miss it!

The December regular meeting is on the 21st. This is our annual holiday party meeting. Don Slepian will grace us with live music. As always coffee and bagels are supplied, but you can bring holiday treats to share. As well, you can bring can and box goods and they will find their way to food programs.

What a club, what a club!

OUR DISCUSSION BOARD

(by Lon Hosford)

If you have not visited the Club's discussion board yet, you should. There is a link from the Club's home page. Look for the "discussion topics" link. I recommend that you place your questions on the board. However, you should also consider sending Ilene Shope ilene@goes.com new conversations so she can send out through the loop. This will encourage folks to check the board for the conversation topic and participate. Be sure that you tell Ilene that the message is already on the board.

Recent review of the board show the following discussion conversations (threads) and the last posting date:

⇒ Web Hosting - Advanced Shared Providers 11/18 10:18pm

⇒ The question was about knowing system specs 11/19 02:03am

⇒ SPAM Filtering 12/02 12:28am

⇒ Cable Internet Connections 11/27 05:15pm

In general the discussion board involved reading messages, starting new conversations and adding messages to existing conversations. A conversation is the traditional thread you are familiar with in newsgroups and message boards. You use it for a complete new topic.

To add a new conversation, you click the "Create New Conversation" button found on the board's "Hunterdon Computer Club General Topics" page, which is the main page of the board. Simply fill out a subject for the conversation and add a message. Your user name is any name you want so members can recognize you.

The password is not required and your email address is optional also. However if you do want to be contacted, mask your email address such as embedding some words that are clearly not supposed to be in the address such as billjones@HUMPTYDUMPTYeclipse.net or billjones@eclipse.ABCD123net.

Overall you should probably not need to add an email address.

To add a new message to an existing conversation, scroll to the last message in the conversation and there are fields for you to fill including the user name, password and email address discussed above. For both new messages and new conversations, you click the Preview/Post button. This shows your message as it will be posted and provides an area to edit again. If acceptable, you post again.

Remember that!
Posting messages
is two steps.



Web Master SIG

by Lon Hosford



Overall the meeting was very informative and shows that there is a great world of free software that fills a great big market. Sorry Microsoft and particularly Bill Gates.

The November 9, 2002 meeting included a presentation from Bill Woodall on DiscussWare's message board freeware and myself on mySQL a freeware database.

DiscussWare claims over 60,000 people are using its software. It has a free version and a paid version. The free version is called Discus and the latest stable version is 3.10.

DiscussPro is the name of the paid version at \$149.95 and the latest stable version is 3.10.5-both have a beta version 4.

The Pro version has numerous additional features such as editing and deleting messages once posted, IP banning, and moderated posting. The freeware version is completely free including no nudging messages to buy. It does the job for a basic message board.

There are three downloads depending on your server operating system. The web site is www.discusware.com.

I took the Windows download and tried using it under Apache 1.3.27 server on a Windows 98 computer. It worked just fine.

Discuss is used for our club's discussion board set up by Bill Woodall last winter. As a result of Bill's presentation a few of us have taken to using it and are getting results.

You can link to the club's discussion board from the club's home page.

The mySQL presentation from Lon was done amazingly using a Windows 98 computer running Microsoft's Personal Web Server and using ODBC (Open Database Connectivity) drivers.

mySQL is a freeware client server database like Oracle and Microsoft SQL. It is much more lightweight than these products such as not handling transactions. mySQL is offered on many UNIX and Linux web hosting servers as part of the service.

I had only worked with mySQL for a few days prior to the presentation. I showed the basic command line, which is a reminder of using the first popular PC database dBase II. I also showed how to link to the database from Microsoft Access.

Demonstration of using some web pages to get data from the mySQL database was also demonstrated.

You can obtain mySQL from www.mysql.com. You can get the source code and compile the program using the appropriate compiler.

You would want the source if you thought you wanted to change features to create a modified version.

You also can get binary copies that are the typical install programs. Installation is zero impact on your Windows computer.

There are versions for many different operating systems such as Linux, Windows, Solaris, FreeBSD, MacOSx, and more.

For Windows download version 3.23.53. If you are using Apache web server, that is all you need to get to working with mySQL.

If you are using a Microsoft web server such as IIS (Internet Information Server), you should plan on downloading the ODBC driver, version 2.50 from the mySQL web site.

This is a simple install so that your ODBC panel will contain mySQL as a driver.

If you are testing on a local machine for local purposes you can ignore all the security steps of adding passwords and get right to work for fun.

If you do not want to use the command prompt, and who does, you can get a terrific free web based manager for mySQL. It is called phpMyAdmin and the latest version is 2.3.3. You can download it from www.phpmyadmin.net.

phpMyAdmin requires a web server running the PHP scripting language engine. To get PHP you go to www.php.net.

The latest version of PHP is 4.2.3 and you should be aware of a hotly debated bug or not bug between phpMyAdmin and PHP folks you see spotlighted on the phpMyAdmin web site or you can consider the <http://bugs.php.net/bug.php?id=19404> link.



TAKE TIME

(by Ilene Shope)

Exhibits: non-virtual... (for family outings)...

(Smithsonian) <http://www.si.edu/visit/whatsnew/ai.htm>

(DEC) "Gingerbread Creations" by Jan Curry (12/07/2002 thru 12/24/2002) Jan Curry, a food columnist and theatrical set designer.

(JAN) "Journeys of the Spirits" -21 photographs by Joe Triscari-(01/15/2003 thru 03/15/2003) of ancient Native American petroglyphs and sacred ceremonial sites, with context to rock art.

(JAN) "Nature's Jewels: A Living Exhibit of Orchids and Butterflies (new title)"- (01/18/2003 thru 05/26/2003) The 8th Annual Exhibition is a joint effort by Smithsonian Horticulture Srv Div and U S Botanic Gardens... Live orchids and butterflies...(PHOTOGRAPHY PERMITTED)...

(SMITHONIAN Institute) ARTS/INDUSTRIES BLDG 900 Jefferson Drive,SW, Washington D.C.
<http://www.si.edu/visit/whatsnew/ai.htm>



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

The Hunterdon Computer Club Digital Photography SIG will meet at 9:00 am at the Hunterdon Medical Center Auditorium on Saturday December 14th. Peter Czerwinski will entertain editing any graphic image you bring. You can use a floppy, CD or zip drive to transport your images. Joe Burger will bring his Digital Video camera. He plans to capture video and show some basic editing in Adobe Premier. The club does not provide refreshments at this meeting, however you can bring refreshments or purchase at the Bagel Club.



**IT'S TIME FOR SPAM
SUBJECT LINES**

(by Lon Hosford)

Some SPAM email replies I forgot to send.

1. "see LHOSFORD"
See LHOSFORD delete your email message.
2. "Re: I lost my job nhdvbw"
All I can say to that is yunanunamnavdrf.
3. "Extended Warranty On Your Health"
When does my current warranty run out?
4. "How Does It Hang"
A little to the left.
5. "How Is It Hanging"
Still a little to the left.
6. "»Ø'£°i°óÔµí"j±DMAç"£-µç»°
ËæÃ·èçñ'ò£j£"°üÄ"£°Û°¼¼çþÓÏjç
ÉÐ»°£©#" *Well! A triple double »ODMA°üÄêç" to you and your whole family!!!*
7. "Fw:Re:about my health"
To Fw or Re, that is the question.
8. " Immediate response required."
Buuuuuuurrrrrrrpppppp!
9. "Hi I am Wilma, and I have a dream... "
Finally had it with Fred and the whole Bedrock scene huh Wilma?
10. "Are you a man?"
Only from 9-5 M-F and 9-1 on Saturdays.



Thomas Zavatsky asked how to get AMD processor specifications. He should try a program from www.belarc.com. It is called Belarc Advisor and is freeware. It builds a detailed profile of your installed software and hardware and displays the results in your Web browser. All of your PC profile information is kept private on your PC and is not sent to any web server.

Bob Inglis asked about choosing between Windows XP or Windows 2000. Jac Carrol claimed that below 350-megahertz computers are too slow for these two operating systems. Ken Jones claimed that PC magazine choose Windows 2000 over XP due to networking. Windows 2000 has less overhead than does XP. 128 Meg of memory is the minimum and you know what good is having the minimum on a PC. Windows 2000 has both a workstation and server version. There may also be a developer version.

Dennis Belgard asked about an Epson 777-color printer that was using color ink when he was only printing black and white. Joe Burger suggested switching to half tone printing.

????WHO???? On a Gateway 97 or 98 the clock stopped. The clock needs resetting each boot-up. Is this a problem? Peter Czerwinski suggested a battery replacement was in order. Some discussion over the computer having a separate battery for CMOS and the clock. More investigation of the model is needed.

George Knoedl Jr. asked how to stop a HP870 printer job. He found turning off the printer did not work as when the printer was turned back on the printing resumed. Don Franklin claimed there is a HP utilities program that you can use. This is found in the printers directory. Also selecting the printer menu choice and canceling the job was recommended. If no jobs are showing then

turning off the printer should kill the job. Carol Myers said pulling out the printer tray is a good way. Then you can try software to purge the job. Edward Ulrich mentioned clicking on the printer tray icon, if enabled, and that gets you to the screen to cancel or pause a job.

????WHO???? A question was asked as to the difference between a laptop and a notebook computer. This brought on the further categories of tablet, portable and desktop replacement. The distinction is more marketing than technical. Look for features such as processor speed, memory, hard disk space, weight, screen clarity, battery life, etc.



COMPUTER TROUBLES

(contributed by Carl Heitzman)

I was having trouble with my computer. So I called Rick the computer guy, to come over. Rick clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.

He gave me a bill for a minimum service call. As he was walking away, I called after him, "So, what was wrong?" He replied, "It was an ID ten T error."

I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired: "An ID ten T error? What's that ... in case I need to fix it again?" The computer guy grinned.... "Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?" "No," I replied. "Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out." So I wrote out:

ID 10 T



Visit the HCC website at hunterdoncomputerclub.org.
Read an interesting history of the club and access other information.

TOP 5 TIPS FOR BETTER HOLIDAY DIGITAL PICTURES

(from Kodak's Webpage)



Wonderful pictures of your family and holiday activities await you--if you're ready for them. The variety and quantity of pictures facing you these upcoming holidays will challenge both your picture-taking and preparation skills. Follow a few simple tips and you'll take great pictures.

Most importantly, prepare ahead of time. Act today on getting the recommended supplies. If you delay, the holiday frenzy will engulf you and cause you to miss some outstanding pictures of the family that could become cherished heirlooms.

The 5 top tips for better holiday pics are:

- Review your camera manual
- Stock up on power and memory
- Be picture perfect with the LCD
- Know the limitations of your flash
- Show people in action

Review your camera manual

Not the camera manual, you moan. Yep. Even if you're a camera whiz, you will probably learn something new and useful during a quick review. But most of us aren't whizzes, so forge ahead for a quick brush up. Do you know how to use the self-timer so you can jump into the family picture? Can you hook the camera up to the television for an after-dinner show of the day's picture highlights? Can you show your amazed in-laws that you are a budding digital guru?

Most importantly, are you ready to take simple snapshot pictures? If you haven't used the camera lately, make sure you know the basics: turning the camera on and off, changing batteries, reviewing pictures on the LCD (showing them to the in-laws as proof of your prowess), and deleting pictures.

Stock up on power and memory

Extra batteries so you keep taking pictures. No power means no pictures. No pictures means embarrassment. Don't be embarrassed. Be prepared. With the

constant use of the flash and LCD, you'll definitely need extra batteries. Just as kids live on potato chips and cookies, digital cameras thrive on batteries. When yours run low, have a backup set handy. If you're using Ni-MH rechargeable batteries, always keep the backup set charged. And keep that AC adapter handy. Use it when you are showing images on the camera LCD or displaying them on the television. Consider the most powerful energy source—lithium batteries. Although expensive, they're a good choice when recharging isn't practical.

Extra memory for better pictures

If you don't have an extra memory card, consider getting one. Don't skimp. Prices for memory cards are relatively low. And the card can be used over and over to take thousands of pictures. Extra memory leads to a key equation of success in photography. EP = mp². Excellent pictures = more pictures squared. In other words, take a lot of pictures to get more good pictures. The larger the memory card, the more pictures you can take. Unless you seldom take pictures, a 32 MB card, which can hold 100 or more pictures with most cameras, should be the smallest you consider. If you take lots of pictures, go for a bigger card. The day before any holiday event, transfer pictures from your memory cards and your camera's internal memory to maximize your picture storage area.

Be picture perfect with the LCD

The LCD picture viewer on the back of your digital camera is a revolutionary tool. Never again do you have to be surprised by a bad picture. Anytime you take an important picture, look at it on the LCD. Is the brightness correct? Are people smiling or frowning? Can you even see all their faces? If a picture displeases you, delete it and take another. Because the LCD drains power from the batteries, don't overuse it unless you have a plentiful supply of batteries. Use it for important pictures and review them quickly. Then turn off the LCD.

Know the limitations of your flash

Your built-in flash will give you superb pictures when you use it appropriately. The most important thing to remember is

that you should not take pictures of people at great distances. When using the flash indoors, stand no farther than about 3 steps (9 feet) from the folks or object you're photographing. If you try to take a picture of somebody beyond that, it will be too dark. Maximum flash range for most digital cameras is 9 feet. If you're taking several flash pictures, wait a few seconds after the green flash-ready signal on your camera glows before taking the picture. Those extra few seconds will assure that your flash is fully powered and bright enough to light your picture.

Show people in action

Naturally you'll ask a few people to stop what they're doing and pose for a picture. But most of the time, don't interrupt them. Just take their picture at whatever they're doing. Whether they're snoozing or schmoozing, go for that natural, spontaneous look. And, of course, the holidays will bring out all sorts of fun behaviors. Keep your camera turned on and flash fully charged, so you're ready for the unexpected.

Emergency tips for extending your picture-taking

Okay, so what should you do if you forget to bring the extra batteries or the picture memory runs low? Is there anything you can do to stretch out your picture-taking? Indeed, there is. But you may have to make a few sacrifices. To save battery power, use the LCD display as little as possible. As much as people might want to view their pictures on the LCD, tell them they'll have to wait for you to e-mail them pictures. When picture memory runs low, first review the pictures to see if there are any you can delete to make room for new pictures. Then set the camera to a lower picture-quality setting. By using a lower quality setting, you may double or triple the number of pictures you can take. Not surprisingly, the tradeoff is lower quality pictures. But pictures of moderate quality are better than no pictures at all. Best of all, prepare for picture-taking ahead of time. Remember to bring along an extra picture card, extra batteries, and even the AC adapter.



PEA SHOOTER AS MEGA*(by Ilene Shope)*

Have you seen the Olympus CAMEDIA C-50 Zoom digital camera? How small it is and weighs eight ounces with the battery and the media? It is ultra compact, all-metal in its body. This model is not black. It is silver in color.

I saw this camera in action on Thanksgiving Day. Lori was using this camera (5.0 Megapixel CCD-with TruePic technology - 3x optical/ 4x digital zoom—Olympus CAMEDIA C-50 Zoom). Lori is a whiz at computers, a whiz at typing (she does 120 wpm) and as a seasoned insurance adjuster, she travels to inspect and record those many bent up, damaged vehicles. Now, she with her camera, took the 'point-and-shoot' stance, blocking the TV screen, as she 'snapped' the folks, while they watched the Dallas/Detroit football game. I offered to shoot the last frame for her, so she could be in the photograph. She showed me the view-finder and said, use the right index finger, click the shutter button, but only do that when I've seen her in the frame.

This Olympus CAMEDIA Z-50 ZOOM is feather light! That old SLR-Canon (my camera) is not this light! The image is larger. It makes a racket when the shutter clicks, then it whirrs itself in self-pity!... Now the three young ladies came in view. Lori shifted herself closer to the others so I could see the steam billow from mashed potatoes on the hot stove behind them. It would make a nice sentiment ... Click!

http://www.olympusamerica.com/cpg_section/cpg_product.asp?more_info_lobby=1&p=16&bc=2&product=891 (Olympus CAMEDIA C-50 Digital Camera)

Olympus uses 32 MB- xD Picture Card removable media, with its TruePic technology. Auto-connect USB driver/software enables in video clips and panoramic shoots to transfer images from camera to computer, in a quick and easy manner. This digital camera lists for \$599 and the detailed specifications are on Olympus's Web Site: <http://www.olympusamerica.com>

**SO YOU THINK YOU ARE TECH-
NICALLY CHALLENGED?
THINK AGAIN!!**

(submitted by Carl Heitzman)

Take heart, anyone among you who believes you are technologically challenged, you "ain't seen nuthin' yet." This is an excerpt from a "Wall Street Journal" article.

1. Compaq is considering changing the command "Press Any Key" to "Press Return Key" because of the flood of calls asking where the "Any" key is.

2. AST technical support had a caller complaining that her mouse was hard to control with the dust cover on. The cover turned out to be the plastic bag the mouse was packaged in.

3. A Dell technician advised his customer to put his troubled floppy back in the drive and close the door. The customer asked the tech to hold on and was heard putting the phone down, getting up and crossing the room to close the door.

4. Another Dell customer called to say he couldn't get his computer to fax anything. After 40 minutes of troubleshooting, the technician discovered the man was trying to fax a piece of paper by holding it in front of the monitor screen and hitting the "send" key.

5. Yet another Dell customer called to complain that his keyboard no longer worked. He had cleaned it by filling up his tub with soap and water and soaking the keyboard for a day, then removing all the keys and washing them individually.

6. A confused caller to IBM was having trouble printing documents. He told the technician that the computer had said it "couldn't find printer." The user had also tried turning the computer screen to face the printer but that his computer still couldn't "see" the printer.

7. An exasperated caller to Dell Tech Support couldn't get her new Dell Computer to turn on. After ensuring the computer was plugged in, the technician asked her what happened when she pushed the power button. Her response, "I pushed and pushed on this foot pedal and nothing happens." The "foot pedal" turned out to be the computer's mouse.

8. A woman called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer. The tech asked her if she was running it under "Windows." The woman responded, "No, my desk is next to the door. But that is a good point. The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window and his printer is working fine."

9. A story from a Novel NetWireSysOp: CALLER: "Hello, is this Tech Support?" TECH: "Yes, it is. How may I help you?" CALLER: "The cup holder on my PC is broken and I am within my warranty period. How do I go about getting that fixed?" TECH: "I'm sorry, but did you say a cup holder?" CALLER: "Yes, it's attached to the front of my computer." TECH: "Please excuse me. If I seem a bit stumped, it's because I am. Did you receive this as part of a promotional at a trade show? How did you get this cup holder? Does it have any trademark on it?" CALLER: "It came with my computer. I don't know anything about a promotional. It just has 4X on it." At this point, the Tech Rep had to mute the caller because he couldn't stand it. He was laughing too hard. The caller had been using the load drawer of the CD-ROM drive as a cup holder and snapped it off the drive.

10. A Dell technician received a call from a customer who was enraged because his computer had told him he was "Bad and an invalid." The tech explained that the computer's "bad command" and "invalid" responses shouldn't be taken personally.

11. Another IBM customer had trouble installing software and rang for support. "I put in the first disk, and that was OK. It said to put in the second disk, and had some problems with the disk. When it said to put in the third disk, I couldn't even fit it in..." The user hadn't realized that "Insert Disk 2" implied to remove Disk 1 first.

12. Tech Support: "O.K. Bob, let's press control and escape keys at the same time. That brings up a task list in the middle of the screen. Now type the letter "P" to bring up the Program Manager." Customer: "I don't have a "P". Tech: "On your keyboard, Bob." Customer: "What do you mean?" Tech: "'P' on your keyboard, Bob." Customer: "I'm not going to do that!!!"

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ADDRESS BOOK!

(submitted by Carl Heitzman)

I learned a computer trick today that's really ingenious in its simplicity.



As you may know, when/if a worm virus gets into your computer it heads straight for your email address book, and sends itself to everyone in there, thus infecting all your friends and associates.

This trick won't keep the virus from getting into your computer, but it will stop it from using your address book to spread further, and it will alert you to the fact, that the worm has gotten into your System.

Here's what you do: first, open your address book and click on "new contact," just as you would do if you were adding a new friend to your list of email addresses. In the window where you would type your friend's first name, Type in AAAAAAA. Same in space labeled screen name.

Now, here's what you've done and why it works: The "name" AAAAAAA will be placed at the top of your address book as entry #1. This will be where the worm will start in an effort to send itself to all your friends. But, when it tries to send itself to AAAAAAA, it will be undeliverable because of the phony email address you entered. If the first attempt fails (which it will because of the phony address), the worm goes no further and your friends will not be infected.

Here's the second great advantage of this method: If an email cannot be delivered, you will be notified of this in your In Box almost immediately. Hence, if you ever get an email telling you that an email addressed to A could not be delivered, you know right away that you have the worm virus in your system? You can then take steps to get rid of it! Pretty slick huh?



If everybody you know does this then you need not ever worry about opening mail from friends.

HOW'S YOUR NETIQUETTE? MASTERING MANNERS ONLINE

(by Jeff Shannon, submitted by Don Colombo)

Would you shout at a colleague in the hallway? Or barrage friends with jokes without asking if they're interested? Probably not. Yet many people do the equivalents online — and not just "newbies."

While Internet services continue to evolve, one thing remains the same — the need for proper online etiquette, or "netiquette." As in the offline world, your actions online present an impression of who you are. Bad manners in any context (and especially in e-mail), can result in anything from unintentional annoyance or hurt feelings, to misunderstandings and damaged business relationships. Read on for some basic guidelines to online courtesy.

1. Beware of viruses. Don't be the one who sends a virus! Help protect yourself (and others) with an advanced virus detection program so that incoming and outgoing viruses will be isolated before they cause problems. Also, don't forward virus alerts unless you're certain a virus is being spread from your own computer. Most alerts are hoaxes.

2. Avoid large file attachments. Many e-mail services have limited inbox capacities. Be cognizant of your recipient's memory by compressing ("zipping") large files with WinZip or other readily available file-compression freeware. To help ensure you don't run out of memory, choose an Internet Service Provider that allows you ample inbox storage.

3. Don't SHOUT. Using all uppercase letters in e-mail is like raising your voice. It's unnecessary and many people find it offensive. If you have a rich e-mail service, it's better to get your point across with fun "emoticons," graphics, and other special effects.

4. Respect privacy. When sending broad mailings, put e-mail addresses in the blind-copy ("bcc") line, unless you know your recipients don't mind their addresses being public. For further protection, use an Internet service provider that

has a strong privacy policy.

5. Avoid "flame wars." A prolonged series of hot-tempered "flame" mail, especially within a group, will almost always get you in trouble. Cool off, and reconsider your words before hitting "send."

6. Use "Reply All" with caution. Don't assume others want to be included — most e-mail conversations are better one-on-one.

7. Ha Ha! (Maybe not.) Not everyone wants to receive jokes. You may offend someone, clutter their inbox, and/or waste their time. If you suffer from joke-mail overload, be sure to use an advanced junk-mail filtering system to block such messages from your inbox.

8. Want to know more? "Netiquette" (1994), by Virginia Shea, is considered the definitive resource on the subject. The book is available in print and online. Or simply type "netiquette" into your favorite search engine to find a wealth of information.



MANY WAYS TO ANTI SPAM

(by Ilene Shope)

REFDESK.COM: Site of the Day, is "Mailwasher" <http://www.mailwasher.net> wherein the new version 2.0.18b MAILWASHER, is available (update of 11/27/2002) and the features are in detail.

MailWasher reduces SPAM in E-mail... <http://www.REFDESK.COM> also gave a list of Anti Spam software at the GOOGLE Web Directory search page: http://directory.google.com/Top/Computers/Software/Internet/Clients/Mail/Windows/Tools/Anti_Spam/?tc=1

New email address for
Peter Czerwinski

peterhccc@itsagoodlife.org

LECHUGUILLA GALLERY

(by Ilene Shope)

(A spiritual enlightenment on a virtual revelation of photographic reserve)

Lechuguilla Cave can only be viewed VIRTUALLY by the general public. Aha! This is a fact! This is one of the wonders of PBS TV programs/ PBS NOVA -science programming on air and Online. THE CAVES of LECHUGUILLA - Photoshots on the Web) - Lechuguilla Caves in the Guadalupe Mountains in Mexico is on www.pbs.org/nova. This Website's gallery of cave photographs was created September 2002.

The three photographers: Sura Ballmann, Kevin Downey and Urs Widmer, pull to the surface, a grand selection of operatic visual frames to turn minds to that far reaching endeavor of spiritual closeness, only achieved by adventure into one of the world's deepest caves.

(JEWEL of the UNDERGROUND) -- Peter Tyson's INTRODUCTION to Lechuguilla Cave says: "...take a peek inside Lechuguilla, as the cave is known. (You can only do it virtually, because to preserve its pristine nature, the National Park Service keeps the cave closed to the public.) As you go along, click on highlighted terms to access 'cave glossary'. - Peter Tyson."

Peter Tyson, Editor in Chief... Brendon Kootsey, Senior Web Developer ... (http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/caves/jewel.html#fea_top)

"Jewel of the Underground": (Photographs)

The INTRO image of the opening of the cave 'Lechuguilla' and this batch: Chamber 1. Cave pearls- Boulder Falls, Chamber 3. Lake Chandalar, Chamber 4. Hoodoo Hall, Chamber 7. Lake Louise, Chamber 8. Chandelier Graveyard. (Photograph credits: Sura Ballmann, Urs Widmer)...

And other images are: Chamber 2. Pit in Glacier Bay, Chamber 5. Chandelier Ballroom, Chamber 6. Underground At-

lanta, Chamber 9. Oasis pool, Chamber 10. Nirvana, Chamber 11, Aragonite frostwork- Great Beyond, Chamber 12. Coralloids- Glacier Way. (Photograph credits: Sura Ballman, Kevin Downey, Urs Widmer)...

The caves were 'broken' into, on Memorial Day 1986- (Lechuguilla Caves). The limestone gives way, by the nature of elements in decay, reveals aesthetic cavernous magnificence. Digital photography capabilities accompany the text of cave research information here on this Interactive Online Website. (http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/caves/jewel.html#fea_top)



TIRE OF JUNK MAIL?
PUT A LID ON IT!

(submitted by Don Colombo)

It clogs your inbox, wastes your time, and is just plain annoying. The culprit? Junk e-mail — also known as "Spam" or "unsolicited e-mail." Solicitations range from legitimate commercial offers to get-rich-quick schemes and links to Web sites with adult content. There are ways to manage and cut down on Spam, however. Get started now with these tips.

1. Set your filters. Use an Internet Service Provider (ISP) with advanced junk-mail filters to keep out Spam while helping to ensure you don't lose important messages. Look for ISPs that offer easy-to-use, customizable settings that allow you to choose your level of protection.

2. Be careful about disclosing your e-mail address. Junk mail gets to your inbox several ways. Some spammers send e-mail to random variations of e-mail addresses. Others buy address lists from Web sites where you registered or entered a contest that required you to give your e-mail address. Spammers can obtain your address from Internet white pages listings, guest books, newsgroups, resume postings, and chat rooms, too.

3. Help protect your privacy. If you plan to register at a Web site or enter a contest, check the site's privacy policy and terms of use statement. If the Web site doesn't explain how they use your information, reconsider registering your e-mail address and sharing other personal information.

4. Don't reply. Answering Spam, even to "unsubscribe," just confirms your e-mail address is valid. Spammers usually ignore your wish to unsubscribe and add your e-mail address to their list. Then they send more Spam and/or sell their list, creating more junk mail. Your best bet is to simply delete the Spam messages from your inbox.

5. Forward Spam to the originating ISP. Check the e-mail header information to see what Internet domain the Spam came from. If it came from msn.com, forward the entire e-mail, with headers, to abuse@msn.com. If the Spam originated from another ISP, forward it directly to the postmaster or abuse alias at that ISP.

6. Stay updated. Learn about the latest news, software, and legislation related to controlling Spam online. TRUSTe (<http://www.truste.org>) is an independent organization dedicated to building consumer trust and confidence in the Internet. Or visit CAUCE, (<http://www.cauce.org/>) the Coalition Against Unsolicited Commercial Email.

While there isn't a way to totally stop receiving Spam in your mailbox, by following these tips you can better control the e-mail messages that you do receive.



*Happy
Holidays*

SOME TIPS*(submitted by Ken Jones)***Three Little Words**

I suppose some degree of commerce would grind to a halt if telephone solicitors weren't able to call people at home during dinner hour, but that doesn't make it any more pleasant. Now Steve Rubenstein, a writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, has proposed Three Little Words, based on his brief experience in a Tele-marketing operation that would stop the nuisance for all time. The three little words are: "Hold On, Please..."

Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each Tele-marketing call so much more time-consuming that sales boiler rooms would grind to a halt.

When you eventually hear the phone company's "beep-beep-beep" tone, you know it's time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task. Three little words that eliminate telephone soliciting.

Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end? This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone.

This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a "real" sales person to call back and get someone at home. What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times, as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine (I have no idea if this really work) that dialed the call and it kicks your number out of their system. Since doing this, our phone calls have decreased dramatically.

Another Good Idea:

When you get "ads" enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these "ads" with your payment; let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away.

When you get those "pre-approved" letters in the mail for everything from-credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, Do not throw away the return envelope. Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right?

Well, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes.

Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express. Send a pizza coupon to Citibank.

If you didn't get anything else that day then just send them their blank application back!

If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you send them.

You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing!

Eventually, the banks and credit card companies will begin getting their own junk back in the mail.

Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and the best of all they're paying for it ...
Twice!



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. 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 .

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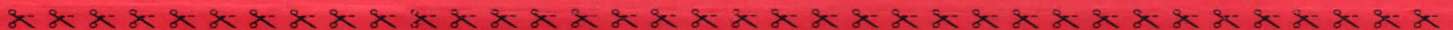
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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



SPAM COUNT UPDATE (by Lon Hosford)

Here is the December 2nd report.

I received 18010 SPAM messages as of December 2. The entire last year the count was 4,500. Basically over 53 per day this year so far versus the over 12 per day last year.

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 to return address on next page.

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Guests Welcome - all ages all levels

Bring a food item for the Food Pantry and, if you want, a treat to share with the club.

Program: Holiday Party with music by Don Slepian

8:30 A.M. To Noon

Next Meeting Saturday, December 21, 2002
Hunterdon Medical Center
Rt. 31 Flemington NJ

Hunterdon Computer Club

HCC NEWSLETTER

HUNTERDON COMPUTER CLUB

Marlyn Reuter
267 Federal Twist Road
Stockton, New Jersey 08559

Season's
Greetings



FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Correction Requested

Renewal Date: 1/2003

George Knoedl Jr.
191 Little York-Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Milford NJ 08848