BOWIE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 16, 2015

President Carl Bulger opened the meeting at 12:40 pm. Carl offered two freebies: an HP-45 ink cartridge and a laptop computer case which were accepted by BSCC members.

The meeting speaker was BSCC Member Eric Hein. The topic was "Booting Multiple Operating Systems." Eric explained that the Center's lab computers are being modified for capability to boot four operating systems, Windows 7, Windows 8.1, Windows 10 and Linux. This presented a challenge due to the fact that the computer's BIOS and disk structure only provide four primary partitions two of which are not available due to Dell proprietary usage. Eric's presentation used one of the computer lab's computers (a Dell model XPS 9100 with a single 750 GB disk drive) that he had successfully set-up for all four systems.

As a prelude to the main topic, there was some discussion about the "power options" available from Windows control panel settings, and, about image backups and recovery features.

Twenty-one Slides Were Used in the Presentation and Will Be Made Available for Download

01. Title Page "Booting Multiple Operating Systems"
02. Computer Lab Problem & Solution for Backup
03. Format Tiers: File, Partition and Hard Drives
04. Utilities: GPartEd, Partition Wizard, EasyBCD, Windows Disk Management
05. Master Boot Record
06. MBR Bytes
07. Partition Table (MBR Scheme)
08. MBR Rules
09. BIOS Sequence
10. BIOS to Bootloader Action Sequence
11. Boot Managers: [NTLDR, BOOTMGR,GRUB(2)]
12. Problem: (Dell computers use 2 of the 4 Primary Partitions)
13. GPT vs. MBR
14. GPT Experience
15. Disk Reconfiguration using Extended Partition
16. Bowie Center Computers Installation Sequence
17. Rules Violated!
18. Linux installer not stopped by partition rules
19. Recovery Active Partition Booted
20. OS Booted Using Logical Partition
21. Questions & Answers

Additional discussions that followed the presentation:

It was noted that Comcast (as had Verizon) is discontinuing the personal Web pages feature of it customer's plans which will force us to move our BSCC Website.

Dave Hackenberg advised the audience of the "Five Year Plan" for the Center's training computers.

It was noted that there is a lot of citizen interest in social applications and that future classroom training may be adjusted accordingly.

The Center's public use computers presently are running windows XP with a "Steady State" application that protects them from malware. These computers are being replaced with Dell 3646 desktops with Windows 8.1. Their reconfiguration will be managed by a committee to be led by Dan Lee.

President Carl Bulger closed the meeting at 2:20 pm.

Prepared by Bill Long
Secretary, Bowie Seniors Computer Club