

Carl Bulger presided.

The City of Bowie has now upgraded all of their computers to Windows 7. This meeting was the first meeting after the upgrade of the Center's laptop computer that we often use for meetings. But, guess what, now it won't work with the new flat panel monitor in the classroom. After fiddling with them for half and hour, Bob Blum loaned us his laptop, which worked fine. Kathy White, the Senior Center Manager, said she would contact the City's IT Department which upgraded the laptop recently from Windows XP to Windows 7.

We then had our annual election. The officers for the coming year:

President: Carl Bulger

Vice President and Program Chairman: Dan Lee

Treasurer: **D.J. Campbell**

Secretary: **Bill Long**

Membership Chairman: Dennis Evans

Publicity Chairman: Vic Kiviat

Webmaster: Dick Henthorn

Treasurer's Report: We still have \$149.60 in the treasury at Old Line Bank.

Mark Laster solicited advice on what to replace his Palm Tungsten E2 which is cell phone size and fits in his pocket. Much discussion followed with many choices including various smart phones and iTouch devices.

Bill Long, our new Secretary acknowledged that the hardest job falls to Dan Lee, our Vice-President and Program Chairman. He asked Dan, "What's harder – Getting presenters or finding topics?" "Both!", replied Dan.

Dan has found an amazing variety of speakers/presenter for our meetings. Google "Bowie Seniors Computer Club Meetings" and look at the variety of topics we've had in the years Dan has been Program Chairman.

Bill Long asked what topics on which we would like to have presentations and discussions. Bill said he was interested in converting home movie films to digital video files. Eric Hein responded that he is in his third week of teaching a Video Creation and Editing course on Friday mornings in the Computer Lab/Classroom. Six people have signed up and are taking the class. There's room for six more.

Eric says he is emphasizing Video Creation, although a third of the course involves Editing. Movie Plus is the editing software he prefers. In a presentation he gave the Club several years ago, he used Pinnacle's Video software, but he has found too many bugs. PowerPoint is okay for basic stuff and Microsoft's Movie Maker is an example of cheap software. Video creation and editing software all stress your hardware. Video software is demanding. It doesn't help that video standards are in flux.

Bill Long noted that he lacks a clear understanding of the terms: boot partition, master boot record, extended partition, logical partition, primary partition, system partition, and volume, and suggests that hard disk organization might be an interesting future topic.

Recently a very serious potential vulnerability has been discovered in a UNIX or Linux shell called BASH (Bourne Again Shell). Many servers on the internet and utility software use it. Bob Blum thinks that most software using BASH can be replaced by UNIX or Linux software using one of the many other shells.

Carl Bulger expressed a frustration regarding robocalls. For calls from specific phone numbers and phones not presenting a Caller ID, there is no way to prevent true "robocalls." (NOTE: Individual states can and do set limits on robocalls, but Maryland hasn't done this, see Wikipedia)

Submitted by Barry Hammond, Outgoing Secretary, and Bill Long, Incoming Secretary