

# BOWIE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

MEETING MINUTES FOR OCT 15, 2015

Carl Bulger presided. Visitors were introduced.

It was decided to have a holiday luncheon at the Osaka Grill & Buffet restaurant at Crofton Center on Dec 3 at 11:30pm. (Carl to verify no conflict with Chorus).

Guest speakers Lewis Johnson (left in photo) and Kavell Thomas (right in photo) of Best Buy's Geek Squad provided a Questions & Answers presentation about Microsoft's XBox products. (This presentation had been arranged by Dan Lee as a follow-up to a question about XBox that was raised at the Sept 17 meeting.)



The following meeting notes provided by Tom McCabe:

- 1) Xbox is an entertainment system not just a gaming console.
- 2) Basic system cost is \$350 but you need to spend \$500 for the "Connect" model as that version has a camera, mic and other features that make it very usable, like accepting voice commands and reading gestures with the web cam (like the Nintendo Wii system).
- 3) Xbox games cost about \$60 each. New update coming supposed to allow older games already owned to play on new Xbox and use as a DVR (not sure

about these).

4) System comes with many interconnections. Main one is a hook up to flat panel TV as the gaming display and to use the TV's sound system. Each Xbox is basically a special purpose PC and has a 500 gb hard drive, WI-Fi, DVD player, HDMI ports, and USB inputs. It acts like a smart TV to access the Internet for Netflix and to play shared games. Games can get downloaded (but not free). It also hooks to a cable box so you can watch TV and play games at the same time. Xbox can interact with a laptop.

5) Mr. Johnson explained why he likes the Xbox more than the Sony Playstation.

6) Following the XBox discussion there was a discussion on Comcast vs. Verizon. The Geek Squad answered some questions about rented routers hooked to Comcast and Verizon and the need for new AC routers with new 4K TV's. Looks like Comcast can allow routers owned by users to hook to their system and not pay a rental fee. Appears not possible with Verizon.

*Photo by Dennis Edgington (NOTE: The photo was "photoshopped" to include the Xbox image).*

*Bill Long, Secretary*