BOWIE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2015

Carl Bulger called the meeting to order at 12:40 pm

We had a visitor, Chris Stephanides

Bob Blum gave a technical preview of Windows 10 based on his experience as a beta tester. He used his laptop computer to demonstrate the new and changed Windows features. The presentation included a discussion of the pros and cons of upgrading to Windows 10 which will be free to Windows 7 and 8 users when it comes out in Fall 2015. During the discussions it was noted that one of the cons of Windows 10 upgrades might be driver issues. Dave Hackenberg noted that there are presently no plans to cover Windows 10 in upcoming BSCC computer classes.

Tom McCabe gave a presentation on his experiences in repairing an ASUS computer that had apparently suffered from an undiagnosed problem. Tom's initial attempts to restore/reset/refresh ??? the computer to factory condition were unsuccessful but he was eventually able to do it using an external flashdrive on which he had loaded a special Microsoft tool "Create Installation Media for Windows 8.1" which he had downloaded from http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-8/create-reset-refresh-media. During the course of the presentation there was much discussion of the ways of dealing with such problems. Tom is an ardent Acronis advocate, but members noted that there are free applications (e.g., Macrium Reflect, AOMEI) that will create system/disk images. Tom advocated purchase of *Windows 8 for Dummies* indicating that it is a valuable resource reference for dealing with Windows issues.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 5. Ms. Vanetta Pledger, Director, Information Technology, for the City of Bowie, will be our guest speaker. She assumed her current position in June 2014. We have asked her to discuss the scope of the IT department, recent accomplishments and future initiatives.

On Mar 19, Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, Director of Audiology, Hearing Professionals, Inc. will discuss the technology used in conducting hearing evaluations and prescribing hearing aids.