

## **BOWIE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB**

Meeting Minutes for August 18, 2016

The air conditioning system was restored and the meeting was held at the Bowie Senior Center. Carl Bulger opened the meeting at 12:32pm. He noted that some giveaway items were being offered.

Tom McCabe gave a presentation about his problems with a Dell laptop computer that a lady friend had purchased based on his recommendation and his offer to set it up and configure it for her. Tom did a BIOS update and Windows 10 update on the computer and subsequently experienced problems. He returned the computer to Dell. Dell returned the computer with a motherboard replacement at no cost. (problem resolved!). Lesson learned – a BIOS update can be dangerous!

Tom McCabe briefed the attendees about the features of “Ready-Boost” which is provided by compatible flash drives. Ready-boost is an inexpensive way of speeding-up a computer by using a flash drive’s memory as additional cache memory for the processor. Irv Salzberg noted that Ready-Boost facilitates memory “paging”.

Dennis Evans noted that one of his Dell computers had a total loss-of-display problem when he ran a utility to remove its McAfee anti-virus application. He wished to remove McAfee so that he could install and use Symantec instead. The problem was ultimately resolved when Dell replaced the hard drive.

Lois Darr reported on a problem she had with an old Dell that failed to recognize WiFi after upgrade. Bob Blum and others offered some comments and suggestions.

Irv Salzberg gave a comprehensive video slide presentation on “WiFi Problems”. The focus of the presentation was on the frequency bands used for WiFi and how to use certain tools to speed-up WiFi connections.

Bill Long noted that he recently purchased a Chromebook for his college bound grandson. Bill provided an explanation as to why he selected a Chromebook instead of a Macbook or Windows netbook.

Barry Hammond told of a TV Channel 22 problem that he experiences at certain hours.

We had a group discussion of use of Microsoft Outlook for email. Windows 10 installations have created problems with use of Outlook. Several members stated that use of Outlook should be replaced by use of Thunderbird or Mailstore.

Dick Henthorn said he got a letter from Verizon indicating that he would be charged an addition \$2.80/month if he continued to use his current Verizon router, but could purchase a newer and better router for eith \$60.00 or \$150. This lead to a discussion of Verizon's three types of routers and the features of each type. Dan Lee noted that Rob Pegoraro had blogged on this issue

(See:

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/columnist/2016/07/24/keeping-old-router-verizon-fios-cost-you/87502078/>)

Bill Long, Secretary  
Bowie Seniors Computer Club.