Carl Bulger presided.

The membership approved Carl Bulger's motion that we make no changes to the Constitution and By-Laws.

Bob Blum has been working long and hard on the old computers in the Computer Lab to make sure that they are still in working condition and configured appropriately to sell them to members of the Computer Club and the Senior Center if we get approval from the City. Two of them will replace the two public computers in the main hallway and two will be retained as backups. The two computers presently used as public computers will be moved into the Great Hall to replace the two gaming computers. Most of the remaining computers will be offered by lottery to members of the Senior Center and Computer Club for a suggested $50 donation.

PRESENTATION:

Robert E. "Bob" Davis, one of our older distinguished members, gave three presentations. He talked about his experiences in Printing Double-Sided Business Cards, in using a Wireless High-Fidelity Stereo Headphone System, and in Setting up Blu-Ray HDTV 3D Playing Capability. His detailed well-written handouts are worth including here.

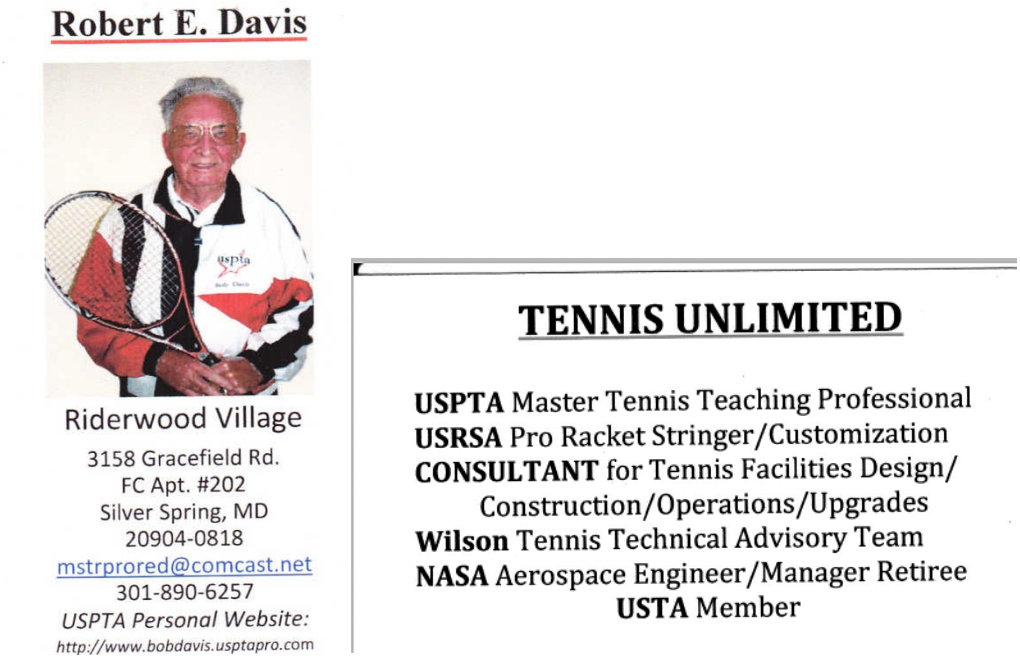
Business Card Development Presentation

Outline of low-cost personal approach to design & production of business card with my picture, contact, professional associations and capabilities information.

Initial experience with a United States Professional Tennis Association contractor, who finally did a fairly good job re-printing 1,000 cards after problems with no proof, wrong color "purple" sky for my previous home and tennis court picture, and not quite making the supporting text information to my liking.

Submitted by Barry Hammond

After many draft considerations, a decision was made for use of a two-sided card stock with front side in portrait orientation and back side with company capabilities in landscape orientation.



My wife took a digital photo that I liked but it had a shadow that was removed by my daughter-in-law before the card was finalized showing me with my USPTA jacket and its logo and nickname.

Submitted by Barry Hammond

After many trials and errors, I found a suitable material at Staples with an Avery 200 packet two-sided precut ink jet 10 card paper #8871 that recommends use of an Avery template #8371 computer print format. These were easily accommodated by my Kodak all-in-one ESP5250 dot-matrix color printer. This pre-cut card material is glossy white 2"x3.5" card stock that dries quickly and is waterproof. Each Avery packet provides free compatible templates and CD software.

Once the initial card was setup in MS word, ten cards per page were duplicated on the template and all printed at one time. The setup of the edge spacing for each overall page should be done carefully to have the final card centered properly to look professional.

Wireless High-Fidelity Stereo Headphone System Presentation

Problem: As seniors age, their hearing sensitivity levels decrease and their frequency response curves degrade to the point that companions have difficulty setting a TV receiver to a mutually satisfactory loudness level. And that level will probably be too loud for younger visitors. Loud settings may also bother close apartment neighbors.

Solution: Knowing our problem, our daughter-in-law bought us a Sony MDR-RF970RKC1 wireless high-fidelity stereo headphone system that plugs into the three-contact analog stereo audio socket of any TV receiver. My wife and I liked them so much that our daughter-in-law insisted on buying us a second system. This has worked out well for our apartment life.

System Description:

Headphone Specifications

Battery-operated Wireless Stereo Headphone System ($62 - $100, depending on vendor)

Frequency Response: High-Fidelity 10 to 22,000 Hz with Deep Base and External Noise Cancellation Circuitry

Operating Frequency: 900 MHz

Three Operating Channels: selectable by a push button on the right-channel headphone or on the cradle.

Volume Control: Adjustable wheel on the right-channel headphone.

Submitted by Barry Hammond

Power Charge: Red light indicates when powered by an electro-magnetic coupling loop.

Signal Control: The inner headband straps controls the On/Off switch. When you remove the headset, the signal current is turned off, and vice-versa.

Stereo Phone Markings: R and L markings for proper wearing and insertion into the charging cradle.

Battery Life: long

Storage: In cradle for charging or when not in use.

Receiving Antenna: Built into headset.

Reception Range: Approx. 150 feet, depending on attenuation of the radiofrequency (rf) signal by the structure. (Instead of an rf transmitter, some headphones use an infrared (ir) signal, which is line-of-sight and therefore does not permit you to hear outside the line-of-sight of the transmitter, which is usually beside the TV.)

Cradle

Insert – Right headphone into right cup and clip Left headphone into left cup with matching arrows. The corresponding transmitter is off when the headphones are in the cradle.

Charger/Light – Magnetic coupler coil, with no contacts. Green light indicates Power ON and shows red when it is charging the headphone battery.

Cradle Power –Power cord with 12 volt 7 watt direct current converter plugs into 117V 60Hz wall outlet.

Stereo Audio – Three-lead cable and a small three-contact plug that plugs into TV receiver Audio Out. A second larger three-prong audio adapter plug is also provided, if needed.

Transmitting Antenna – Built into Charger Cradle Base.

Setting Up Blu-Ray HDTV 3D Playing Capability

Objective: To determine and set up a state-of-the-art HDTV 3D cable receiving and 3D recording playback capability.

Submitted by Barry Hammond

Approach: I decided to buy a Samsung 40-inch LED HDTV with "Smart TV" 120Hz 1080p 3D capability with a 3D remote controller. I also purchased two pairs of Samsung wireless 3D glasses and a Blu-Ray DVD player. All 3D HDTV and Blu-Ray equipment must be compatible and preferably made and supported by the same manufacturer. Be aware that Blu-Ray is still developing; specifications may differ even among cooperating developers.

I exchanged my old Comcast digital/analog TV box for a new HDTV Digital Video Recorder (DVR) box with 3D capability.

I then wired up the TV, Comcast box, Blu-Ray player, DVR, and Sony Wireless Headset system. Since we already had a non-3D 46-inch LCD HDTV, I wired a second Sony wireless headphone system to it, permitting listeners to select the audio from either TV. The headphone system can accommodate up to three channels; currently one is unused.

I called Comcast to have them activate the new Comcast DVR box, emphasizing that I wanted it set up for 3D HDTV operation. Comcast has two 3D channels, Comcast's XFinity and ESPN's.

I purchased several 3D Blu-Ray DVD movies including Avatar, Hubble Space Telescope Repair Mission, Star Wars, Disney's Lion King, and others.

Several college and professional football games have been shown and recorded in 3D including Miami and University of Maryland. Some stage shows and other programs are in 3D.

Parents are warned that very young children should not watch 3D. Adults may need to rest their eyes occasionally. Viewers with poor eyesight in one or both eyes will probably not see the 3D effect.

But for viewers with good eyesight in both eyes and the ability to see 3D, the fine pictures and sound qualities of this setup reduce the incentive to see events in person.

Submitted by Barry Hammond