Amateur Computer Scroup of New Jersey NEWS

Volume 37, Number 06 June 2012

ACGNJ Announcements

Main Meeting - Friday, June 1st, 8 to 10 PM Speaker: David McRitchie Topic: Search Engines (Google, Etc.)

Window Pains Meeting - Friday, June 15th, 8 to 10 PM Speakers: David McRitchie & Brenda Bell Topic: Browser Choices

A Message From The Editor

As I write this, I've been in the hospital for a good month and a half. Now, let me reassure you. My condition is **not** life threatening. However, it **is** mobility challenging. In simpler words, I can't put any weight on my left foot. As you might guess, this has cut down **a lot** on my computer access. Case in point: I'm writing the text for this announcement on a borrowed laptop. I don't have **any** idea when I'll be able to transfer it to my main machine, and then copy it into my current newsletter work file. (Thus making it available for publication). I'll be lucky if I can get this June newsletter out before July arrives. All I can say is: "I'll do the best I can".

At our Window Pains Meeting on May 18th, I was scheduled to host our 37th Anniversary Party. Then, my sudden hospitalization caused me to drop out at the last minute. That, in turn, led to the abrupt cancellation of the party. Even though there was absolutely nothing else I could do, I apologize to everyone for the inconvenience.



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ACGNJ Meetings

For the very latest news on ACGNJ meetings, please visit the ACGNJ Website (www.acgnj.org).

Board of Directors Meeting: Tues, May 29, 7 PM Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org)

Main Meeting: Friday, June 1. 8:00 PM Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org)

Lunics (**Linux/UNIX**): Monday, June 4, 8:00 PM Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org)

NJ Gamers: Friday, June 7, **6**:00 PM Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com)

Layman's Forum: Monday, June 11, 8:00 PM Matt Skoda (som359@aol.com)

Hardware Workshop: Monday, June 11, 8 PM Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org)

Java: Tuesday, June 12, 7:30 PM Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net)

Mobile Devices: Wednesday, June 13, 7:30 PM Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org)

Investing: Thursday, June 14, 8:00 PM Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org).

Window Pains: Friday, June 15, 8:00 PM John Raff (john@jraff.com)

Firefox: Monday, June 18, 7:30 PM David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org)

C/C++: Tuesday, June 19, 7:30 PM Bruce Arnold (barnold@ieee.org)

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Directions and map on back cover. □

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ACGNJ News

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Submissions: Articles, reviews, cartoons, illustrations. Most common formats are acceptable. Graphics embedded in the document must also be sent as separate files. E-mail submissions to newsletter@acgnj.org preferred. **Always confirm**. Date review and include name of word processor used, your name, address and phone and name, address and phone of manufacturer, if available.

Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

Advertising: Non-commercial announcements from members are free. Commercial ads 15 cents per word, \$5 minimum. Camera ready display ads: Full page (7 x 10 inches) \$150, two-thirds page (4.5 x 10) \$115, halfpage \$85, one-third \$57, quarter \$50, eighth \$30. Discount 10% on 3 or more consecutive insertions. Enclose payment.

Publication Exchange: Other computer user groups are invited to send a subscription to ACGNJ at the address below. We will respond in kind.

Address Changes should be e-mailed to *membership@acgnj.org* or sent to ACGNJ at the address below.

Membership: Regular (now includes *all* family members who reside at the same address): 1 year \$25, 2 years \$40, 3 years \$55. Student: 1 year \$20. Senior Citizen (over 65): 1 year \$20, 3 years \$45. Send name, address and payment to ACGNJ, PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076.

Typographic Note: This ACGNJ News was produced using Scribus 1.3.3.13. Font families used are Times New Roman (TT) for body text, Arial (TT) for headlines.

E-Mail Addresses

Here are the e-mail addresses of ACGNJ Officers, Directors and SIG Leaders (and the Newsletter Editor). This list is also at (http://www.acgnj.org/officers.html).

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A Skeleton In My Closet

(Part 1 of 2) Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

I like using "joke" titles; but this one is a lame joke at best. So I'd better explain it: By "Skeleton", I mean a "bare-bones", mostly empty newsletter (except for our "boilerplate" pages, and for the masthead and other repeatable objects usually included on page one); and by "Closet", I mean our newsletter's current working directory on my hard disk. As I type this, it's Wednesday, March 14th, 2012. The Trenton Computer Festival has been over for a few days now (though I haven't actually finished unloading my car yet); but it's past time that I started working on my April 2012 newsletter. As far as my personal concerns go, the most timeconsuming task has already been completed. I finished my own article for the April issue on March 7th, and sent it off to my brother for proof-reading. (He hasn't gotten back to me yet; but he will, one of these days).

So why am I writing this now, when it won't be published until June at the earliest? Because I'm self-documenting. In other words, I'm making notes that

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happened to me.

new working directory.

So now I've created APRJUN12, and so far it contains only one file: SkelCls1.odt (the source file for this article). Oops! Make that two files and one directory. I created a subdirectory named Starters, and I copied Skeleton.sla from JANMAR12 into it: and already I've got a problem. Since Skeleton.sla contains "boilerplate" pages, it will change over time, albeit slowly. This means that its name has to include some kind of serial identification. Thus, I renamed it Skel1204.sla: and, in fact, it needs to be edited **now**. That's because page 14 contains the advertisement for our Newsletter Collection CD, and we just made a new one for TCF. Make that *several* problems, due to the internal design of the Scribus work files. Scribus does import text, and stores it in the work files that it creates; but it doesn't import images. It just stores the name and relative location of each image's source file. Only when it creates its final output (in our case, PDF files) does it actually copy those images. Relocate anything before that happens, and Poof! All of your images will disappear from your work file. As you can guess, that's what

my future self will need, when I start working on my July newsletter; but I'm also expanding those notes into another newsletter article. Truly a win-win situation). At this moment, JANMAR12 (my current newsletter working directory) contains 403 files. totaling 144.2 MB. As you can tell from the name, I only intended to use it for the first three issues of 2012. Last year, for my two "Summer" newsletters, my working directory was JULAUG11. When those two issues were finished, that directory held 276 files, totaling 172.5 MB. The previous year, JULAUG10 contained 279 files, totaling 307.8 MB. Extrapolating from those figures, I estimated that after three months, a newsletter working directory would have generated about 420 files, totaling about 350 MB. Thankfully, my *real* total size figure came in considerably lower (144.2 MB vs 350 MB); but my real total files figure was pretty much spot-on (403 vs 420). Furthermore, as I'd expected, keeping track of my monthly files had become a bit tedious by this point. Therefore, it was definitely time for a (Continued Below Left)

Fortunately, I knew that was going to happen, so I was prepared. In this case, I lost seventeen images; but that's not as bad as it sounds, because thirteen of them were multiple copies of the exact same file. (I'll discuss that particular image, a "little computer picture", next month). This left only four missing. The first was the ACGNJ logo on page 1. Since I plan to alternate my front page logos each month, I copied my four possible source (ACGNJ3BW.PNG, ACGNJ3R.PNG, ACGNJ4BW.PNG and ACGNJ4R.PNG) into APRJUN12\Starters. (I plan to use ACGNJ4BW.PNG, my newest and neverbefore-used black and white logo on our April issue). The second was the CD image on page 14. It needs to be replaced anyway, so I'll get back to that one next month, too. The last two were pages 15 and 16, each of which is essentially one giant image. The source file for page 15 is named 1108page15-150.png, and the source for page 16 is named 1108page16-150.png. The 1108 refers to the last time that each was updated (August 2011), and the 150 refers to their resolution in dpi (dots per inch).

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A Skeleton In My Closet, continued

It's <u>NOT</u> easy; but those two pages *can* be edited (with a graphics editor) if necessary. I plan to reconstruct both of them as Scribus pages eventually. However, it's going to be a while before I have the time to do that.

At the end of my article *Publish and Perish* (in the self same April 2012 newsletter that we're discussing here), I wrote; 'There were other things that I had to take care of: "Continued On Next Page" messages, captions for the "black bars", the little computer pictures at the end of each article, the "wacky kludge" that I have to use to make my links work correctly, and so on; but this article has gone on long enough'. We'll work on the last of those omissions right now, because pages 15 and 16 contain *fifteen* instances of my "wacky kludge". We'll start on the last page and work our way forward.

Page 16 contains *one* image frame, 8.5 inches wide by 10.25 inches high. It covers the whole page *except* for the bottom three-quarters of an inch. That's so each individual newsletter page's footer information can show through, correctly identifying (Continued Above Right)

exactly as wide as the complete address. If I didn't quite get it the first try (as often happened), I'd simply adjust my new text frame's X, Y, Height and Width properties as necessary, until everything was "just right".

Now, here's the fun part: I right-clicked on my new text frame, and from the twenty or so choices given by the menu that popped up, I hovered over "PDF Options". That brought up a sub-menu with two more choices. I clicked on "Is PDF Annotation", and both menus disappeared. When I repeated my previous right-click and hover moves, that sub-menu had changed. In addition to the check mark that now preceded "Is PDF Annotation", there was a new third choice: "Annotation Properties". When I clicked on window labeled a small "Annotation Properties" (but without the underscore) came up, containing a box labeled "Type". That box, in turn, gave me four further choices: "Text", "Link", "External Link", and "External Web Link". I picked "External Web Link". Then I clicked on the "OK" button. Underneath the "Type" box, another box labeled "Destination" appeared. There, I typed in my

that issue's month, year and page number (which won't necessarily always be 16). Looking at that page, you'll see fourteen web site addresses printed in red ink. Just by eye, you can't tell that those addresses are just red dots in a picture taken of an old newsletter page. You'd think that, if you clicked on them, they'd work; and thanks to my "wacky kludges", they **DO!** Here's the secret: Overlaying each of those so-called links is an "invisible box". When you think that you've clicked on the address, you've really clicked on the box instead; and that's the mechanism that actually establishes the connection to your web site. Here's how I made each box (back in August of 2011, when I first thought of this idea): Running Scribus, I opened up my work file, went to page 16, and clicked on the "Insert" drop-down menu. Next, from the dozen choices presented, I chose "Text Frame". That changed the look of my mouse pointer, and gave it the ability to create a text frame anywhere on the page. Then, I moved to one of those web site addresses, and I carefully drew a small rectangle that just enclosed the red ink: Only as high as the tallest character, and (Continued Below Left)

complete web site address. Then I clicked on the "OK" button again, and I was done. Once I exported my Scribus work file as a PDF, all of my "invisible

boxes" acted properly as working links.

Getting back to the present: Page 16's fourteen "invisible boxes", being text frames, were still there, and still properly configured. All I had to do was use the Scribus "Get Image..." function to re-connect 1108page16-150.png to my work file's page 16, and make sure that it was on the page's **bottom** level. (So the boxes were sitting on top of the image like they should, not uselessly hidden underneath it). I also did the same for page 15, which only has one "invisible box". Now, let's take a small digression. Here's what the Scribus Manual says about PDF Annotations: "Annotations are non-printing notes which Scribus can optionally embed within a PDF. This is really simple. Create a text frame. Then add vour notes and right click, select PDF Options and check Is PDF Annotation". Nothing about links of any kind. For my purposes, *not* very helpful. I guess that we'll have to consider the fact that all of my links now work to be an undocumented feature of

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A Skeleton In My Closet, continued

Scribus. Just as we'll have to consider that any links made in the so-called "correct" way have *never* worked for me under *any* version of Linux (and only *some*times under *some* versions of Windows) to be an *un*admitted bug. Speaking of bugs: There's *another* one in Scribus, involving those thirteen "little computer pictures" mentioned above. However, those will have to wait until our next issue. So: See you then.

Appendix I: Cartoon Craziness (Part 1 of 2)

Back when I was merely a frequent contributor to this newsletter, Barbara (then our Editor, now our Editor Emeritus) would occasionally indulge me by publishing wacky Appendices which really had nothing to do with computers (except that I usually found their contents on the Internet, often from Wikipedia, the free Encyclopedia (www.wikipedia.org)). Now that I'm the Editor, I find that I'm less willing to indulge myself in this way, feeling that it constitutes an "abuse of power". So I've assembled just about everything I've always wanted to tell you about cartoons, and I'll be including the "good stuff"

here (and in next month's associated Part 2 as well). So enjoy yourselves. This just *might* be the last time.

Part 1: Favorite Lines

Somewhere fairly recently, in one of my articles, I mentioned my third favorite line of spoken dialog from a Warner Brothers Cartoon; but rather than just refer you back to that article, I'm going to repeat that line here, too. It's from Ali Baba Bunny, a 1957 cartoon written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. (In 1994, it was voted one of the 50 Greatest Cartoons of all time by 1000 members of the animation field). It co-stars Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck, and as you might expect from the title, it features a Treasure Cave. In it, when Bugs asks him why he keeps trying to steal the treasure, Daffy replies; "I'm a greedy slob. It's my hobby". Surely, that's one of the best explanations ever given for being a greedy slob. (And just for the record, I didn't call you "Shirley" just then).

Now, on to new stuff: My second favorite line is from *Little Boy Boo*, a 1954 Foghorn Leghorn cartoon written by Tedd Pierce and directed by

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Robert McKimson. In it, Foghorn is trying to impress the "widow hen" by taking care of her son, the "little boy genius". While playing hide and seek, Foghorn hides in a feed box attached to the side of a barn; but using a slide rule, the kid makes some calculations, goes out to the middle of a field, digs a hole, and out pops Foghorn. Flabbergasted, Foghorn goes over to the feed box, but decides: "I'd better not look. I just *might* be in there." Truly, a wise decision in the face of an impossibility.

My number one favorite piece of dialog is from Hare Brush, a 1955 cartoon written by Warren Foster and directed by Isadore "Friz" Freleng. This cartoon features a very long set-up, in which Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd switch places. My line comes right as the set-up finishes, when Bugs (who now thinks he's Elmer) is being released from the sanitarium. The chauffeur of his limousine says; "I brought your hunting clothes along, sir. It's Wednesday, you know". That line is absurd enough in its own right. After all, who picks up a guy from the sanitarium, gives him a gun, and sets him loose in the deep woods? However, it's *true* genius lies in its real-

world results. At this point, the cartoon is *more* than half finished. Yet with just those eleven words, we're transported out to the woods, where the action is. (This cartoon also has *another* distinction. Unfortunately, we won't be able to get to that until next month).

Actually, there's another "line" which I like even more than any of those three; but it doesn't really count as a line because it *isn't* spoken by any of the characters. It just appears written on the screen. It's from *Rabbit Fire*, a 1951 cartoon written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. This is the first film in the Jones/Maltese "hunting trilogy", starring Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck *and* Elmer Fudd, the other two films being *Rabbit Seasoning* (1952) and *Duck! Rabbit, Duck!* (1953). (Like *Ali Baba Bunny* above, *Rabbit Seasoning* is also on the "50 Greatest" list).

In *Rabbit Fire*, a lot of the action is based on the question of what "season" it is, with Daffy arguing for Rabbit Season and Bugs arguing for Duck Season. Near the end, Bugs and Daffy race over to a tree, on to which several layers of posters have been

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A Skeleton In My Closet, continued

To me, that "ELMER SEASON" makes perfect sense. After all, if you have intelligent animals who speak and walk upright, and yet you *still* have seasons for hunting them, why *not* a season for hunting Elmers? That's why that clearly displayed but *never* voiced "ELMER SEASON" is my favorite cartoon "line" of all time.

Links

Ali Baba Bunny (1957):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMMo_exy9LE Little Boy Boo (1954):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0D6DZuTPsA Hare Brush (1955):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCPjrBbCVWU Rabbit Fire (1951):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANuKtbdOP_E Rabbit Seasoning (1952):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6-lmm7T4_Y Duck! Rabbit, Duck! (1953):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIULVX4gFoM

(The recordings of *Rabbit Fire* and *Rabbit Seasoning* listed above are both *very* primitive, made by using a video camera to take pictures of a computer's screen; but in each, it *is* possible to follow the story. However, you're welcome to search for even better versions if you want. They just *might* be out there). See you next month.

Bluetooth - Not a dental diagnosis or a rare tooth problem.

Phil Sorrentino, President, Sarasota PCUG, Florida Newsletter: Sarasota PC Monitor (www.spcug.org) president (at) spcug.org

Bluetooth is the name given to a technology that uses short-range radio links, and is intended to replace the cable(s) connecting portable and/or fixed electronic devices. The vision is that it will allow for the replacement of the many propriety cables that connect one device to another with one universal radio link. Its boasts such key features as robustness, low complexity, low power and low cost, and it was designed to be operated in noisy frequency environments.

Bluetooth is a communications standard for interconnecting electronic devices and is defined by the Bluetooth specification. Bluetooth uses a form of data packet switching, a technology that is used to transmit digital data via a wireless communications link. Bluetooth operates in the unlicensed ISM (Industrial, Scientific and Medical) 2.4GHz frequency band, and avoids interference from other signals by hopping to a new frequency after transmitting or receiving each packet. Here is a little history, for you tech history buffs, to show how long

Bluetooth has been around. Work on Bluetooth was started in 1994 by two Ericsson Corporation engineers, and the Bluetooth 1.0 specification was released May 1998. Version 1.0, with a data rate less than 1 Mb/s, had many problems, and manufacturers had difficulty making their products interoperable. Bluetooth 2.0 was released November 2004 with a faster data transfer rate (approx. 2.1Mb/s). And finally, Bluetooth 3.0 was released April 2009 with a date rate of up to 24Mb/s with improvements and new features and is the current standard.

Bluetooth uses a radio technology called frequency-hopping spread spectrum which chops up the data being sent and transmits chunks of it on up to 79 different frequencies. Bluetooth provides a way to connect and exchange information between devices such as Smartphones, laptops, personal computers, printers, Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, digital cameras, video games, and others.

Bluetooth is an open, wireless protocol for exchanging data over short distances between

Bluetooth, continued

devices, creating a personal area network (PAN). It was originally conceived as a wireless alternative to the old serial RS-232 data cables. Bluetooth is a network and thus can connect many devices, unlike RS-232 which was strictly serial point-to-point. Bluetooth is primarily designed for low power consumption, with a short range. Three ranges are defined in the standard, 100 meters (Class 1), 10 meters (Class 2), and 1 meter (Class 3). Because Bluetooth devices use radio (broadcast) communications, they do not have to be in line of sight of each other. Bluetooth makes it possible for these devices to communicate with each other and transfer information as long as they are in range.

Both Bluetooth and Wi-Fi are examples of wireless technology that use the unlicensed 2.4GHz frequency spectrum. Both have many applications in today's offices and homes such as: setting up networks, printing, connecting cooperating devices, and transferring data files among computers and smart devices. Wi-Fi is intended as a replacement for cabling for general local area network access in work areas. Bluetooth is intended as a replacement for (Continued Above Right)

communicate with other Bluetooth devices. While some desktop computers and most recent laptops come with a built-in Bluetooth adapter, others require an external adapter, usually in the form of a Bluetooth Dongle. Bluetooth allows multiple devices to communicate with a computer over a single adapter. For Microsoft Windows platforms, Windows XP Service Pack 2, Vista, and Windows 7 all have native support for Bluetooth. (Previous

cabling among equipment in close proximity. Wi-Fi

is intended for use in equipment as a wireless local

area network (WLAN). Bluetooth is intended for use

A PC uses a Bluetooth adapter in order to

as a smaller, personal area network (PAN).

Some of the more common applications of Bluetooth are: Wireless control of and communications between a mobile phone and a hands-free headset. (This was one of the earliest applications).

versions required users to install their Bluetooth

adapter's own drivers, which were not directly

supported by Microsoft.)

Wireless communications with PC input and Output devices, the most common being the mouse,

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keyboard and printer.

Replacement of traditional wired serial communications used in: test equipment, GPS receivers, Medical equipment, bar code scanners, and traffic control devices.

Between game consoles such as Nintendo's Wii, and Sony's Playstation and their respective controllers.

Between video camera and remote monitor in Baby Monitor Systems.

Between Garage Door Opener Motor and Remote Garage Door Opener Controller.

As you can see from this list, there are many reasons for computer devices to communicate with each other. Here is a quick computer communications concept tutorial. When any two devices need to communicate, they have to agree on a number of things before the communication can begin. The first point of agreement is physical: Will they talk over wires, or through some form of wireless signals? If they use wires, how many are required; one, two, eight, 25? Once the physical attributes are decided, additional questions arise, such as how much data

will be sent at a time? For instance, serial ports send data 1 bit at a time, while parallel ports send several bits at once. And, how will they speak to each other? All of the devices in an electronic network need to know what the bits mean and whether the message they receive is the same message that was sent (i.e. checksums at the end of a message).

This means developing a set of commands and responses commonly known as a Protocol. Bluetooth is essentially a networking standard that defines these two levels, physical and protocol. Bluetooth protocols simplify the discovery and setup of services between devices. Before any communications can take place between Bluetooth devices, they have to be paired. In order to pair two Bluetooth wireless devices, a password (or PassKey) has to be exchanged between the two devices. A Passkey is a code shared by both Bluetooth devices, which proves that both users have agreed to pair with each other.

A very brief description of Bluetooth pairing is as follows: Bluetooth Device A looks for other Bluetooth devices in the area. Bluetooth Device A

Bluetooth, continued

finds Bluetooth Device B. Bluetooth Device A prompts you, the user, to enter a password (or PassKey). Bluetooth Device A sends the Passkey to Bluetooth Device B. Bluetooth Device B sends the Passkey back to Bluetooth Device A. At this point, Bluetooth Devices A and B are paired and able to exchange data. Data between the devices will be accomplished wirelessly, over-the-air, a great boon to those who dislike the "rats nest" of wires typically

found behind electronic devices.

So, although dentists probably cringe when they hear the term, with all the computer devices you may have or are thinking of getting, there's probably a Bluetooth in your future.

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ABC's of Digital Photography

A Review of a meeting presented by Gary Stanley (www.gary.stanley.net) at the Quad Cities Computer Society (located in the Quad-Cities area of Iowa and Illinois).

Newsletter: Q Bits (www.qcs.org) joseph85 us (at) yahoo.com

Gary Stanley returned to the QCS to share his lifelong interest in Photography and the tips to help make our photography more useful, and endearing. Photos tell a story. He was here to help us tell ours. His first digital camera was a 1/3 megapixel one that used a 3.5 disk for storage. Today he uses a wide range of digital cameras on his travels around the world.

He has wonderfully condensed some photographic principles that we all can use. First off he related that sales people will emphasize megapixels. Some of today's point and shoot cameras have 14 megapixels. A 5 megapixel camera is all you need. The large capacity megapixels cameras are needed only for large size blowups of your photos. Most of us will never need this resolution. We usually will print 8 x

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10 prints at the most and 5 megapixels will sustain that quality. In fact, the Flixr photo web storage site highlights that the most used camera for its site is the iPhone4 which has a 5 megapixel lens.

Point and shoot digital cameras have automatic settings by default. Gary explained that these settings will give you OK pictures. But for a better outcome, it is preferable to select the program mode so that you can fine tune the camera to fit your photographic perspective.

One of the essential features of creating a good photo is to understand and manage the white balance in it. Note the lighting conditions before you take your shot. Is it outdoors in the sun or indoors under incandescent or florescent light. Select the appropriate setting. If you take an outdoor shot with an incandescent setting the picture will turn out blue. If you pick the florescent setting in an outdoor shot the picture will have a purple cast. Make sure that your camera is set properly.

He suggested that you take your photos at a 90 degree angle to the sun; this will add depth to your

subject. Also view your subject through the lens. Will it look better in a vertical or horizontal mode? Conform to your subject and it will improve the quality of your shot. For example: get down on the same level of kids and animals. Enter their world and your pictures will come to life.

One of the more interesting settings is the camera timer which is usually prefigured at 2 seconds and 10 seconds. The 2 second mode allows for a perfect shot with a tripod. Press the shutter button down half way to allow the camera to calculate all of the configurations. Now you can lift your finger from the trigger and walk away from the camera as the still camera takes the shot a second later. The 10 second mode allows one to take the picture and also be a part of it.

On the photo walk in LeClaire, he reminded the participants to always check their settings before they began their work. Also take many pictures, unlike the old days they are free. Professional photographers usually get a good photo with a 200 to 1 ratio. Let creativity be your guide.

ABC's of Digital Photography, continued

When we are finished with our photo set we need to transfer them, edit them and store them. Gary recommended that we transfer our photos by removing the memory card from the camera and placing it in a card reader or your computer. This saves the battery life of your digital camera. Using a USB inadvertently with a low battery can risk losing your photos entirely.

When you transfer them it is important to select them all on the memory card with a Control-A, then right click on a photo, select COPY from the menu. Next, on your computer create a folder for your images, right click in that folder and select PASTE from the drop down menu. This method places your photos in three places until the process is finished: on the memory card, the computer memory clipboard and the hard drive. Always a good fail safe method.

There are many free photo editing software packages on the Internet, however Gary recommended Windows Live Photo Gallery from Microsoft. Paid image editing software offers more advanced options. Good choices in this category are : Photoshop Elements, and Paint Shop Pro Photo X3.

Gary emphasized that we need to back up our precious photographic moments to an external hard drive. He mentioned they are very reasonably priced, as low as \$49. There are several brands: Seagate, Western Digital, and Maxtor. He has a Western Digital MyBook external drive that has a feature that he likes. It backs up your data as soon as it is created on your computer. For him photographic backups are essential as he has over 70,000 photos that he has taken over the years and doesn't want to lose them. Likewise, we wouldn't want to lose those memories either.

Gary offered a delightful presentation filled with humor, insight and detail. An enjoyable evening and learning experience all in one. Be sure to visit his Blog: *gary-stanley.blogspot.com* as it will have many of the presentation details on the internet from this meeting. Also visit his fine photo gallery online, a wonderful collection:

www.pbase.com/gary_stanley

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He ended the night with a "special" Internet photographic slide show which featured creative pictures of Paula Sands holding one of his landscape pictures in a photo gallery as well as a Time magazine cover featuring himself. These were created with three clicks on the Internet. Go to www.writeonit.org or www.loonapix.com. On these fake picture sites, you create the picture display, browse your computer to select your own image,

then right click the finished product to save it to your computer.

He said:

"Birth Certificates show you were born."

"Death Certificates show you died."

"Photos show that you lived."

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The Tip Corner

Bill Sheff, Novice SIG Coordinator, Lehigh Valley Computer Group, PA Newsletter: The LVCG Journal (www.lvcg.org) nsheff (at) aol.com

Firefox Search Engine

Firefox has an add-on called CyberSearch which is similar to Google Chrome. If you have Firefox try it out. It works like the Google Chrome Bar and makes surfing a lot easier. How to download it:

Step 1- Download and Install Firefox if you don't have it:

http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/personal.html

Step 2- Download and install the CyberSearch addon. Go to:

https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/7931

Click the green button that says "add to Firefox" to download the add-on.

Next, restart Firefox (close and then reopen). CyberSearch is now installed, and you now have Google search capabilities.

Super boost the "Awesome Bar" with quick search results that appear while you type! This is another addition to the Firefox arsenal.

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The Tip Corner, continued

Ballooning

If you have too many programs open at the same time and you are not sure of which icon is for which program, just hover over an item and a balloon should come up telling you what the program is. Oh! You already knew that. :o)

Switching

An easy way to switch between open programs is to hit ALT+TAB. A small box will pop up with icons for all the currently open programs (even settings windows that don't display on the tool bar - like display properties for instance). Hold down ALT, then simply hit TAB until the window you're looking for is highlighted.

Notice that as you tab, the title bar information is displayed below the icons. To go backwards hold down the ALT & SHIFT key while hitting TAB.

Color Calibration in Windows 7

Okay, we are not graphic artists – well maybe some of us are – but sometimes we do work with print media or color-sensitive documents. So it might be worth a few moments to calibrate your monitor what

you need on the screen, and since every monitor is a little different it's always a good idea to calibrate! Here is how:

Click Start and in the search box, type "dccw.exe" without quotes. This will bring up the Color Calibration wizard. You'll need to be prepared to use the buttons on your monitor to properly adjust stuff like brightness and contrast, but the end result in consistency in colors and shade which will benefit anyone who wants what he sees is what is printed.

Using PowerPoint to Create a Crawler Line of Text

You can use the Crawl In animation to create a ticker-like effect on your slides. This is good for having information continuously scrolling before you actually start your presentation. What info? Well, for example, your name or materials to be required, whatever. First, you create the text box with the text you need to crawl across the screen. Remember, crawls are usually a single line of text. Next you need to position the text box completely off and to the left of the slide. If you leave even a part of the text box on the slide you do not get a

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complete crawl to finish. It just disappears and then starts over.

For the animation in versions prior to 2007 go to Slide Show menu, Custom Animation choice. In the newer versions click the Animations tab of the Ribbon, click the Custom Animations button.

With the pane displayed select the text box then click the Add Effect button, Entrance category, More Effects choice. When the Add Entrance Effects dialog box opens choose Crawl In and click OK.

With that done we need to make adjustments to the settings. Click the down arrow to the right of the animation listing in the Custom Animation pane. Choose Timing from the list. When the Crawl In dialog box opens On Click? Choose With Previous? this starts the animation as soon as the slide starts.

Don't set the delay until you test it out. Some believe that about 20 seconds works well, it's readable but not overly slow.

To permit the crawl to go more than once you need to set a Repeat value. Choosing End of Slide lets the crawl continue as long as necessary. Moving over to the Effect tab of this dialog box, you'll want to change the direction to "From Right". Click OK.

Previewing your work should reveal a beautiful crawling line of text. However you may have to adjust the gap in text between run throughs. What you have to do is to create a duplicate of the text box after all the animations were set. If you only want the one statement then leave the text box as an exact duplicate, if not then change out the text for your second statement. I found that this works best when the text is about the same length.

For the new text box go back to the effect's timing options and set a delay time of 10 seconds (assuming that you have a 20 second animation).

Lastly, you need to line the text boxes up vertically, so that it looks like one continuous line of text. If you want them to crawl through at different locations then move them accordingly. That should do it.

Editing a Document Within the Print Preview Window If you are print preview a MS Word document and suddenly see a mistake, what do you do?

Close the Print Preview window, taking you back to

The Tip Corner, continued

the document where you fix the mistake and go back to the Print Preview window to double check the "look" yet again? That's what I used to do.

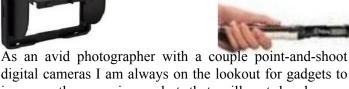
Is there a better way? That's why I am here. You can edit in the Print Preview window. While still in Print Preview click on the Magnifier button on the toolbar, (in Word 2007 Uncheck the Magnifier checkbox on the Ribbon). If you want a closer view of the text, be sure to zoom in prior to using the Magnifier button.

The mouse pointer in the document changes to an editing cursor instead of the magnifying glass. Click in the document wherever you need to edit and make your changes. When done, turn on magnifying by clicking the Magnifier button. This returns you to the usual document navigation in Print Preview.

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Three Gadgets for Your Digital Camera

Sharon Walbran, President / Editor, Twin Cities PC Users' Group, MN Newsletter: The Digital Viking (http://www.tcpc.com) SQWalbran(at)yahoo.com



digital cameras I am always on the lookout for gadgets to improve the experience, but that will not break your pocketbook. Here are three gadgets under \$20.00 that solve issues with digital cameras, and are worth exploring.

<u>Delkin LCD Shade.</u> LCD displays are great for giving (Continued Above Right)

flipped up the LCD can be read even in bright sunlight. The side wings fold in and the shade folds down to neatly cover the LCD and protect it from scratches and damage. The side wings are delicate and could easily break. In the closed position the shade has a small footprint so there is no added bulk from this device. The price varies but can usually be purchased for around \$10.00.

Quikpod Compod Extendable Handheld Tripod. If you've ever been on a trip and wanted to take a photo of yourself and another person but hesitated to hand your camera over to a stranger, then this is the gadget for you. This device is about a foot long with a diameter of about an inch and easily fits in a purse or a backpack. On one end is a screw that attaches securely to the bottom of your digital camera. Then from the end nearest you, you can release a chrome knob that extends the Compod to as long as 38.5 inches. To take a photo of yourself or yourself and others, turn on the self-timer on the camera, strike a pose, and take the shot. The Compod can also be used to take a photo over a crowd of people. It has a solid, steady feel even at a considerable extension. Aiming the camera in the precise location takes some practice. The Compod is just one of several products in this category. One of the other products is the Quikpod Convertible Tripod and more accurately called a tripod,

you a preview of the picture you are about to take and then, after the picture is taken, showing the picture you took for review. Unfortunately, in the bright sunshine, the LCD display is almost impossible to see. The Delkin Popup LCD Shade 2.5", sold through Amazon.com, is a good solution. This simple, lightweight plastic shade attaches to the body of the camera with adhesive. When

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because the rod converts to a 3-legged tripod, The Compod is available from Amazon.com for under \$20.00. Joby Gorillapod. Taking photos in low light demands the use of a tripod because no one can hold a camera steady enough at such a low shutter speed. Sometimes finding a flat surface to place a tripod on is difficult. The Gorillapod screws into the bottom of the camera and then, with its flexible spidery legs, can be twisted to secure the camera to a fence post or the branch of a tree to hold it steady. The Gorillapod comes in different sizes to fit compact digital camera and the heavier SLR Cameras. Higher end and more expensive models now come with a level bubble so you can check that the camera is level when it takes the photo. Of course, the Gorillapod can be set up as a conventional tripod as well. It's lightweight and fits into a purse or backpack. The Gorillapod is available from Amazon.com, Target.com, Adorama.com, and numerous other sellers. The model for the compact digital camera usually sells for under \$20.00.

These are just a smattering of the gadgets available. In a future article I'll review additional gadgets after I've put them through their paces.

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Product Review: Mikogo 4

David Green, Treasurer, Danbury Area Computer Society, CT Newsletter: DACS.doc (www.dacs.org) dgreen (at) dacs.org

For about a year now, I have been using Mikogo to provide screen sharing to support my monthly virtual SIG meetings. Some of you may remember that we had started using Dimdim, but had some stability problems. Mikogo 3 has proven to be rock-solid, is full featured, and is free for both private and commercial use, supporting up to 10 participants. (The paid version supports 25 participants.)

Recently I acquired a new notebook running Windows 7 64-bit, installed Mikogo 3, and ran into a conflict with the assistive technology program that I need to use - a full-blown machine lockup. I went to their website and found that the release 4 beta was available. I tried it and it resolved the conflict with my assistive utility. It even fixed the 'flicker' problem I had with version 3 when running on my XP desktop. So I upgraded to version 4 all around.

There are some enhancements in 4, as well as a change in installation. Previously the host of the conference needed to install the mikogo-host.exe and start a session. Participants would then go to the

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Anyone running the host version may become the presenter, and remote control may be given to a participant. The entire desktop may be shared, or only a specified application's window. There is a session recording feature that I have not yet tried.

There is a free audio conferencing capability, but the call-in number could be a toll

call, so we use the free Skype group calling function instead. Skype to Skype calls

are free, and group call supports up to 15 participants. Problems: I have only run into one problem so far. Some participants have had a problem joining a Mikogo 4 session when they are using the on-the-fly download of version 3. According to the blog this is an intermittent problem. The easy fix is to use version 4 on all machines. Mikogo lists itself as being "cross platform" as it supports Windows and Mac. The Linux community has pointed out that lack of native Linux support means that 'cross platform' is overstated. It is unknown as to whether there will be a native Linux release, but the site says that Mikogo will run within WINE, the Windows

Mikogo web site and 'join a session' by providing a session number and then accepting a small download. This has changed. Participants now have a choice of downloading and installing either mikogo-host.exe (which lets them initiate sessions or become presenter for a session initiated by someone else, or download mikogo-client.exe which lets them participate as a viewer only.

The host version is under 5.3MB in size; I suggest using it and being done with it. It runs 'as is', just creating a configuration file in the same folder where it keeps your preferences.

The host only runs when you request it, it is not a resident service. A user must launch it; it does not provide un-attended remote access as is the case with say Remote Desktop or LogMeIn.

Mikogo 4 supports a 'white board' whereby the presenter or a participant may highlight, box etc. areas of the presenter's screen. This is handy for drawing attention to a portion of the screen such as when asking a question. It supports file transfer.

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environment that runs within Linux.

Discontinued feature: Version 3 had a feature where a presenter could permanently 'reserve' a 9-digit session ID and submit it to the participants well in advance. The problem was that people were using "simple" IDs such as 123-456-789 or 111222-333, and then complaining when "strangers" joined their session. This mechanism has been discontinued. A presenter may truly reserve a session ID by scheduling a session - but it has a finite lifespan. Mikogo will not assign a scheduled ID to an ad-hoc session

If you have need for screen sharing or provide remote support, whether for a SIG or to support family or clients, give Mikogo 4 a look. The beta version has now expired, and there is a link on the home page for the Mikogo 4 download at www.mikogo.com.

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SIG News

LUNICS (Linux/Unix)

Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/lunics.html

LUNICS is a group for those who share an interest in Unix and similar operating systems. While we do quite a bit with Linux, we've also been known to discuss Solaris and BSD as well. Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format. See our web page for further information. (We meet on the first Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Main Meeting

Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/mainmeet.html

We meet on the first Friday of the month, at 8:00 PM. Each December, this meeting includes our Annual Business Meeting and Officer Elections. *No* meetings in July or August.

Layman's Forum

Matt Skoda (som359@aol.com) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/laymans.html

This SIG discusses issues of interest to novice users or those planning to get started in computing. Watch our Web page for updates and announcements. We meet at the same time as the Hardware Workshop. (On the second Monday of the month, at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July and August.

Hardware Workshop

Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org)

This group is dedicated to repairing, refurbishing and/or recycling older computers. Ten people attended the first meeting, so there is still a market for this type of event. Although we looked at some of the older equipment stored in he back room, most of our time was spent in talking about ast experiences and planning for the future. Hopefully, we can establish a viable long-term schedule of projects, and keep the interest of those who attended this inaugural meeting. If you have a hardware problem, bring it in and we can all help fix or demolish it. (No guarantees either way.) We meet at the same time as the Layman's Forum. (On the second Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Java

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net)

http://www.redlich.net/javasig/javasig.html

This SIG covers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on developing useful/practical applets and applications. (We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM).

Mobile Devices

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org)

The Mobile Devices SIG focuses largely on currentgeneration cellphones and smart phones (such as Blackberry, Android, iPhone) which bridge the gap between basic cell phones and traditional computers, and how they can help you manage and organize your life. Our membership ranges from those who have recently acquired their first, basic cellphone to those who develop applications for today's modern smart phones, iPods, and ultra-portable computers. While we expect to spend much of our time investigating the built-in features and specialized applications available to modern smart phones, if you bring your basic (or multimedia) cell phone, iPod, or other mobile device with questions on how to use it, where to find applications, or what features they have, we are always happy to help! Meet and greet and plan where this event goes. Bring all your ideas, PDAs, fancy phones, etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the even ones), at 7:30PM). \square

WebDev

Evan Williams (webdev@acgnj.org)

This SIG is an open forum for all Website Development techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All languages will be considered and examined. The current project is a CMS for the club. Anyone interested in starting a new project, come to the meeting and announce/explain. Provide as much detail as possible. WebDev should be an all-encompasing development and examination forum for all issues, applications, OS, languages and systems one can use to build Websites. We currently

have two web development language SIGs: .NET and Java; but other languages and OS need to be investigated, examined and tested; Windows, Linux, UNIX, DEC, Vax, HP etc. Intel-PC, Motorola - MAC etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the odd ones), at 7:30 PM).

Investment Software

Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/sig_investment.html

The Investment SIG continues with presentations on how to use analysis programs TC2000 and TCNet. Large charts are presented on our pull down screen and illustrate the application of computer scans and formulas to find stocks for profitable investments. Technical analysis determines buy points, sell points and projected moves. Technical analysis can also be used on fundamentals such as earnings, sales growth, etc. We're no longer focusing on just Telechart. If you are using (or interested in) Tradestation, eSignal, VectorVest, or just in learning how to select and use charting and technical analysis, come join us!! (We meet on the second Thursday of the month, at 8 PM).

NJ Gamers

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com)

http://www.NJGamers.com

www.lanparty.com

The Friday Night Frag starts at 6:00 PM on the second Friday of each month, and keeps going until 12 Noon on Saturday - 18 hours for 5 bucks!

BYOC - Bring your own computer.

BYOF - Bring your own food.

And if you don't like sitting on metal folding chairs...

BYO chair!

Firefox

David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

This SIG is an open forum for all Firefox and Mozilla techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All browsers will be considered and examined. All members and guests are invited to check out the design concepts and voice their opinion. (We meet on the third Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM).

C/C++ Programming

Bruce Arnold (barnold@ieee.org) http://acgnj.barnold.us/index.html

This is a forum for discussion of programming in general, beginning and intermediate level C, C++, C-Win programming, hardware, algorithms, and operating systems. We demonstrate real programming in a non-intimidating way, presenting complete code for working programs in 3-5 sheets of paper. (We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

Window Pains

John Raff (jraff@comcast.net)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/winpains.html

Intended to provide members with Windows oriented discussions, Microsoft and Linux style. Directed to more technological level of attendee, but newbies are welcomed. (We meet on the third Friday of the month at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

37th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale



Beta .12 Release.

\$8.00, including postage.

(\$7.00 if you pick up a copy at a meeting).

Get yours today!

Back Issues Still Needed

Our collection remains incomplete. Below is a list of missing newsletters. Anyone who lends us one of these (or supplies a good clear copy) will receive the next CD as our thanks.

1975: #2 and #3 (dates uncertain).

1976: January.

1984: August.

1985: June, July, August, September.

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Guru Corner

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

Software				
HTML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385		
ColdFusion	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385		
CSS	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385		
Java	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
C++	Bruce Arnold	908-735-7898		
	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
ASP	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
Perl	John Raff	973-560-9070		
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
XML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
Genealogy	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
Home Automation	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
	Operating Systems			
Windows 3.1	Ted Martin	732-636-1942		

Discount Computer Magazine Price List As described by the DealsGuy

	1 yr	2 yr 3	yr
Computer Games	\$10.95	20.95 29.9	95
Computer Gaming World	14.95	28.95 41.9	95
Computer Shopper1	16.97	32.95 47.9	95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	15.95	30.95	
Mac Addict	10.97		
Mac Home Journal	15.97	29.97	
Mac World	12.95		
Maximum PC	9.95	18.95 27.9	95
Microsoft System Journal	21.95	39.95	
PC Gamer	12.95		
PC Magazine (22/44/66 Issues)	25.97	48.95 68.9	95
PC World	16.95		
Wired	6.00	12.00 17.0	00

These prices are for new subscriptions and renewals. All orders must be accompanied by a check, cash or Money Order. Make payable to Herb Goodman, and mail to:

Herb Goodman, 8295 Sunlake Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33496

Telephone: 561-488-4465, e-mail: hgoodman@prodigy.net

Please allow 10 to 12 weeks for your magazines to start. For renewals you must supply an address label from your present subscription to insure the correct start of your renewal. As an extra service I will mail a renewal notice about 4 months prior to their expiration date. I carry more than 300 titles at excellent prices — email for prices.

ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sign up online at www.acgnj.org/membershipApplication.html and pay dues with PayPal.

			Dues				
	US/CANADA				STUDEN		CITIZEN
1 Year	\$25				\$20		er 65) 20
2 Years	\$40						
3 Years	\$55					:\$	45
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		GROUP OF NEW				PLAINS, N	J 0707
AMATEUR	COMPUTER	GROUP OF NEW	Renewal			CHONON II	J 0707

Other Local Computer Groups					
Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, A-10, Washington Rd, Princeton, (609) 252-1163, www.pmug-nj.org	Linux Users Group in Princeton: 7 pm, 2nd Wednesday, Lawrence Branch Mercer Library, Rt#1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrence NJ http://www.lugip.org	New York PC: 3rd Thurs, 7 pm, PS 41, 116 W 11th St. For info call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC, http://www.nypc.org			
Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: Meetings & Workshops at Jem Electronics, 6622 Castor Ave, Philadelphia PA. www.cesop.org/	Brookdale Computer Users Group: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Brookdale Community College, Bldg MAS Rm 100, Lincroft NJ. (732)-739-9633. www.bcug.com	NJ Macintosh User Group: 8 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Allwood Branch Library, Lyall Rd, Clifton NJ. (201) 893-5274 http://www.njmug.org.			
PC User Group of So. Jersey: 2nd Mon., 7 pm, Trinity Presb. Church, 499 Rt 70 E, Cherry Hill, NJ. L. Horn, (856) 983-5360	Hunterdon Computer Club: 8:30 am, 3rd Sat, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington NJ. www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org, (908) 995-4042.	NY Amateur Computer Group: 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, Rm 806 Silver Bldg, NYU, 32 Waverly Pl, NYC. http://www.nyacc.org			
Morris Micro Computer Club: 7 pm 2nd Thurs., Morris County Library, Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ, (973) 267-0871. http://www.morrismicro.com	Central Jersey Computer Club: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, College of NJ. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909.	NJ PC User Group: 2nd Thurs, Monroe Rm at Wyckoff Public Library, 7 pm. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432, www.njpcug.org			
Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat, 12 noon Main Meeting, groups 8 am-3 pm. Upper Moreland Middle School, Hatboro PA. (215) 764-6338. www.pacsnet.org	NJ Computer Club: 6:15 pm, 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug, North Branch Reformed Church, 203 Rt 28, Bridgewater NJ. http://www.njcc.org	Princeton PC Users Group: 2nd Monday, Lawrenceville Library, Alt Rt 1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (908) 218-0778, http://www.ppcug-nj.org			

Classified

FREE TO MEMBERS. Use our classified ads to sell off your surplus computer stuff. Send copy to Classified, ACGNJ NEWS, P.O. Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076 or e-mail to the editor, bdegroot@ptd.net. Classified ads are free to members, one per issue. Non-members

pay \$10. Send check payable to ACGNJ

Inc. with copy. Reasonable length, please.

Member of Personal Computer User Groups 1-800-876-WPEN http://www.apcug.net

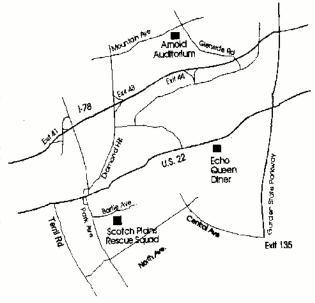
Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI 99.5 FM, NY, Wed. 8-9 p.m.

Software Review, The Channel, Saturday Learning 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

PC Talk, Sunday from 8 p.m. to The Association of 10 p.m., 1210 AM Philadelphia.



Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey

Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey

Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district.Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)

Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound

Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey

Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building.