Amateur Computer NEWS

Volume 36, Number 07 July 2011



REMEMBER THESE DATES:

July 11, 2011 is the 17th anniversary of the death of Dr. Gary Arlen Kildall. He was the <u>real</u> "Father of the Personal Computer Revolution", the true progenitor of all things now credited to another. (See *Lest We Forget* in the September 2007 ACGNJ News).

July 29, 2011 is the 12th Annual System Administrator Appreciation Day. Send your Sysadmin a bouquet of flowers and maybe some candy. (Unless you *want* your network connection to go down at the worst possible moment). For further details, go to:

http://www.sysadminday.com



http://www.acgnj.org
Founded 1975

ACGNJ HAS SUMMER ACTIVITIES!

While some of our meetings (about a third of the club) shut down for the summer, the rest *don't*. Many of our Special Interest Groups have meetings scheduled. When you're not "catching some rays" or "riding the wild surf", maybe you might consider attending a few of them. Have you been curious about one or more of the SIGs below, but just haven't found the time to "drop in"? This could be the opportunity you've been looking for. Then, there's our annual Planning Meeting in August. In many ways, this can be considered our most important public meeting of the year. You want to affect the direction the club is taking? That's where it happens.

Have a great summer, full of fun, adventure and relaxation; and computer stuff *too*!

ACGNJ SUMMER SCHEDULE:

August 1 (Monday) Lunics 8:00 PM (No July).

July 8, August 12 (Friday) NJ Gamers 6:00 PM.

July 12 (Tuesday) Java 7:30 PM (No August).

July 13 (Wednesday) WebDev 7:00 PM.

August 10 (Wednesday) Mobile Devices 7:00 PM.

July 14, August 11 (Thurs) Computerized Investing 8:00 PM. Firefox (**No** July **or** August meetings).

July 28, August 25 (Thursday) Hardware Workshop 8:00 PM. August 19 (Friday) Planning Meeting 7:00 PM.

Please note: By its very nature, a summer schedule is even shakier than usual. Before you leave, please check the club web site (www.acgnj.org) for last-minute cancellations.

(For further details, see *Brief SIG Information* on page 3).

BUGALERT!

Please test the live links on this page, *and* the links on the other pages. E-mail me at bob.hawes@acgnj.org *only* if they *don't* work, and tell me which PDF reader and what Operating System your computer is using.

Thank you.

In This Issue

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LUNICS	Andreas Meyer		Membership	open	
NJ Gamers	Gregg McCarthy		Newsletter	Bob Hawes	
WebDev	Evan Williams	(908) 359-8070	Publicity	Gregg McCarthy	
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ACGNJ News

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ACGNJ News is published by the Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey, Incorporated (ACGNJ), PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076. ACGNJ, a non-profit educational corporation, is an independent computer user group. Opinions expressed herein are solely those of the individual author or editor. This publication is Copyright © 2011 by the Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey, Inc., all rights reserved. Permission to reprint with appropriate credit is hereby given to non-profit organizations.

Submissions: Articles, reviews, cartoons, illustrations. Most common formats are acceptable. Graphics embedded in the document must also be included as separate files. Fax or mail hard copy and/or disk to editor; OR email to Editor. **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?

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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.acgni.org/officers.html).

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Brief SIG Information

(see www.acgnj.org for additional details)

Computerized Investing features presentations and instructions on learning, selecting and using various charting and technical analysis software. The object, of course, being profitable investment. Meetings are generally "free flow", following whatever questions come from the group. Primary focus is on Telechart and Tradestation; but users of other software and platforms are very welcome.

Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org).

Firefox is an open forum for all Firefox and Mozilla techniques and technologies, to encourage the study and development of web sites of all kinds.

David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

Hardware Workshop, our newest Special Interest Group, is dedicated to repairing, refurbishing and/or recycling older computers. It celebrated its Second Anniversary in May of 2011.

Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org).

Java covers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on

developing useful/practical applets and applications. The July meeting is reserved for annual user group planning, and the August meeting is usually reserved for special projects. However, we **won't** be able to hold an August meeting this year.

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net).

Lunics is a group for those who share an interest in Linux or other Unix-like operating systems (such as BSD and Solaris). Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format.

Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org).

Mobile Devices focuses largely on current-generation cellphones and smartphones (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. We are open to all levels of user, from the novice to the developer. Come with your questions as well as your curiosity.

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org).

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NJ Gamers sessions go for *eighteen* hours, with a \$5.00 admission charge. Bring-Your-Own-Computer, Bring-Your-Own-Food, and Bring-Your-Own-Chair (if you want to be comfortable).

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com).

WebDev is an open forum to encourage the study of Website Development techniques and technologies. All available website development platforms will be considered and demo sites will be created using mostly open source code. Topics to be addressed will include content management systems (CMSs), Web 2.0, and the Semantic Web. Updated topic for July: Rebuilding ACGNJ using Plone CMS.

Evan Williams (ewilliams@collaboron.com).

Planning Meeting: This year is especially important. The club's future, indeed its very survival, could be in the balance. Plus, it's a dinner meeting, so there'll be **Free Food!** But there's a catch. If you attend, you have to bring two possible meeting topics with you. For further information, and instructions on how to RSVP, go to:

http://www.acgnj.org/pm/pma.html

36th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale



Beta .11 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.

About This Issue

This is the fifth regularly scheduled summer newsletter that I've produced "all by myself". (I also made three "off schedule" Supplements as well); but none of my previous "regular" issues contained 16 pages (our usual minimum page count). Indeed, only my End-of-Year 2008 Supplement, at 20 pages, broke that barrier; and that was only because it included reference copies of our December 2001 Constitution and By-Laws (which had never before been printed in our newsletter, just posted on the club website). In addition, it also included a reference copy of our ill-fated December 2008 By-Laws (which, based on legal advice, we revised again in May 2009). With all that blather, it's no wonder it grew so big; but this time, I'm going for the full 16 pages, and I'm accepting only serious technical content. (Well, maybe I'll wind up throwing in a little bit of frivolity along the way). So let's get down to it.

I **really** like the desktop publisher that I'm using (Scribus, running under Ubuntu Linux); but **all** of the previous newsletters I made with it had a

common problem, Their links **didn't** work for most people. Recently, I discovered a "wacky kludge" that seems to successfully work around this problem. (I'll be describing it further below, in my article *In Search of the Missing Links*). I've left my "BUG ALERT!" message on our front page, though, because I still need your input. **Please** let me know if *any* of the more than three **dozen** links in this issue *don't* work on your computer. Thank you.

Now we come to the concept of "boilerplate". About 120 years or so ago, newspapers began making printing plates that they intended to reuse in multiple editions out of steel, instead of the much softer lead they used for most everything else. (Steel **plates** were used in the making of steam **boilers**, hence the name). Over the years, boilerplate came to refer to any information that would often be reused, no matter what its physical form. So let's go to our June 2011 issue, and look at the boilerplate pages that Barbara (our Editor) used there. First, there's page 2. However, I've been using my own custom version of that in all of my newsletters **except** for End-of-June

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2008 Supplement (my first one), so I've already done that here. Then, there's SIG News (on the bottom half of page 12, and all of page 13); but I've condensed what I need of that into Brief SIG Information on page 3, so that's a no-go. Page 14 (containing Guru Corner, Discount Computer Magazine Price List and our ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION) looks good, though. So that's one. Page 15 (containing Other Local Computer Groups, Classified, Radio and TV Programs, and our Directions also looks good. So that's two. Finally. there's ACGNJ MEETINGS on the bottom half of page 16. Unfortunately, I already put that information on page 1, so that's a no-go, too; but that still leaves me with two pages that I can steal (oops, I mean borrow) and use here.

As close as I can tell, these two pages were last comprehensively updated in 2008. So they're way overdue for a thorough revision; but I didn't have time to do that now. Instead, I "took the easy way out" and **cheated**. In *Updating My Image* (my article for our May 2011 issue), I described how I copied pages out of PDF files originally made by Barbara.

and inserted them into other PDF files. I used a similar technique here. Basically, this is what I did: One at a time, I imported each of those two pages from the June 2011 PDF file into the GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program), where I cropped them to remove their footers (which now contained the wrong page numbers and dates, as far as my newsletter was concerned). Next, I re-saved them as 150 dots per inch GIF (Graphics Interchange Format) image files. Then, I imported them into image frames on two new pages in my Scribus work file, where they took up all the space except for the very bottom, where the new (and correct) footers showed through. (For more thorough details, please refer to *Updating My Image*).

"Hey!" I hear you cry. "What about the link on page 15 and the **sixteen** links on page sixteen. By turning those two pages into images, you've wiped out **every one** of those links". Well, here's the fun part: If I were trying to make my links the correct way, that would be true; but the links I've tried to make the correct way just **don't work** anyway. My "wacky kludge" **doesn't care** if the link name it's applied to

About This Issue, continued

is printed in actual text, or if it's just a **picture** of that text. It'll work either way. I'll demonstrate using the top left link on page 16, for the Princeton Macintosh User Group. I created a small text frame, just as high and just as wide as the link name on the page, and I positioned it exactly over that link name. Then, I followed the steps outlined in *In Search of the Missing Links*, and I had a working link. I did the same thing for all the other links on that page; but unfortunately, two of them gave me problems. One link under *Other Local Computer Groups*, plus the **only** link under *Radio and TV Programs*, didn't go where they were supposed to go; and I had no time to investigate further. So for now, I just covered both links with white boxes, to blank them out.

Things got more elaborate for the single link on page 15. It's on our *ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION*, and it looks **horrible**. (That whole form needs to be redone. I'm sure we'll get to it eventually). First, as above, I created a small text frame, just as high and just as wide as the link on the application, and I positioned it exactly over the old link name. Then, I

changed its background color from transparent to white, thus covering over the old name. After that, I entered the link name into that box, adjusted its font size until it just fit, colored it red, and italicized it. As a result, the link name became the best looking part of the application, but of course it still **didn't** work. Next, as above, I created **another** small text frame the same exact size as the first one, and I placed it precisely on **top** of the first one. Finally, I followed the steps outlined in *In Search of the Missing Links* for that **second** text frame, and I had a working link there, too.

Now, Scribus was designed to produce **very** high resolution output, suitable for commercial printing; and as we all know, high resolution gets *big*. Let's look at output file sizes for my seven previous newsletters: 245 **K**B, 4.3 **M**B, 1.8 MB, 2.3 MB, **6**.2 MB, 2.0 MB and 84.7 **K**B, respectively. This one came in at 3.5 MB. Fairly huge, but **not** a record breaker. Plus, it's got **forty-three** links, and *each one* of them seems to work. There's still some room for improvement; but all in all, I'm satisfied.

In Search of the Missing Links

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

We'll be talking about missing (as in defective) **Internet** links here, *not* Paleontology; and we'll also be taking a sizable digression into the subject of Titles (for the third month in a row). As I was making my plans for this newsletter (for the third year in a row, I'll be producing two summer issues "all by myself"), I thought of an experiment I could perform. So I made four PDF files, each containing only a link to the ACGNJ website. KWordLink.pdf was made with KWord, a frame-based word OOfficeLink.pdf processor. was made with OpenOffice.org, my usual word processor. ScribusLink1.pdf was made with Scribus, my usual desktop publisher, by my usual (and usually unsatisfactory) method; and ScribusLink2.pdf was also made with Scribus, but using a wacky kludge that I actually discovered while in the process of making ScribusLink1.pdf. (Note that all of the aforementioned programs were running on my main computer under Ubuntu Linux). I sent those files to Barbara DeGroot (our Editor) and John Raff (in his capacity as our club Webmaster), asking them to test all four on their regular Windows computers.

The results from **both** were surprising. Barbara replied; "They all worked for me", and John replied; "OK, All of them worked". Let me just say that I didn't expect ScribusLink1.pdf to work for either of them, because it had never worked for me, no matter which PDF reader I tried, on either my Ubuntu or Windows 98 SE systems. I hadn't set up Windows XP in quite a while, because I didn't need to. Now, though, changed circumstances determined that it was, in fact, needed again. So I put it back up, and what do you know? ScribusLink1.pdf did work for me under XP. (Insert your favorite expletive here)! In his response, John also included some additional information. He said; "I was able to open and find the "acgnj" link in 3 of the 4 files. They are mostly script text so you can look at them, search and read some of the information. The 4th, ScribusLink1.pdf the link is probably buried in some binary object". John's report that ScribusLink1.pdf was the different one (and **not** ScribusLink2.pdf, as I would have supposed) gave me something to go on, at least.

In Are You Entitled? (my article in our June 2011 issue), I mentioned using an old DOS sector editor to examine file contents. I used it again, to verify John's (See Are You Entitled? for further results. information). In KwordLink.pdf, starting near the end of sector 1 and continuing into the beginning of sector 2 (out of 17 sectors total), I found:

```
obi
<<
/Type /Annot
/Subtype /Link
/Rect [57.000000 796.000000 157.000000
    803.0000001
/Border [0 0 0]
/A \ll
/Type /Action
/S /URI
/URI (http://www.acgnj.org/)
>>
endobi
```

In OOfficeLink.pdf, near the end of sector 30 (out of

```
32 total), I found:
  <</Type/Annot/Subtype/Link/Border[0 0 0]/Rect
        [56 721.5 162.5 735.3]/A<</Type/Action
        /S/URI/URI(http://www.acgnj.org/)>>
  >>
  endobj
```

As John had reported, I didn't find any readable "link" text in ScribusLink1.pdf. Finally, ScribusLink2.pdf, starting near the end of sector 433, and continuing into the beginning of sector 434 (out of 438 total), I found:

```
obj
<<
/Type /Annot
/Subtype /Link
/A << /Type /Action /S /URI
/URI (http://www.acgnj.org)
>>
/Border [ 0 0 0 ]
/Rect [ 38.00000 731.00000 143.00000
    749.00000 1
```

```
(Continued Above Right)
```

(Continued Below Left)

```
>>
endobj
```

Some quick notes and conclusions: Each of the lines above (and those you'll soon be seeing below, too) ended in a single ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) Line Feed. (Thus confirming their Linux/UNIX origins). URI (Uniform Resource Identifier) is wide classification that can include both URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) and URNs (Uniform Resource Names). Here, obviously, they're URLs. I couldn't find any official guidance, but it just seemed right that I should start at "obj" and stop at "endobj". As we continue. I think you'll see why and agree with me. At first glance, the information OOfficeLink.pdf seems quite different from the other two, but that's just because it contained only four Line Feeds. (As opposed to thirteen and eleven for the others). Ignore that, and each file's contents seem very close. Same keywords, similar values, slightly different order. So if they're structured the same, then maybe they'll work the same. Could this mean that I've finally figured out a way to get widely reliable

links out of Scribus? I hope so. However, the subject of links will now have to be postponed for a bit, because Kword threw me a BIG negative. In KwordLink.odt, right at the start of sector 1 (out of 17 total), I found:

```
%PDF-1.4
1 0 obj
<<
/Title ( K W o r d L i n k . o d t)
/Creator ( KW ord 2.0)
/Producer (Qt 4.6.2 (C) 2010 Nokia Corporation
    and/or its subsidiary(-ies))
/CreationDate (D:20110604201752)
>>
endobi
```

More notes: PDF-1.4 is the PDF specification released by Adobe in 2001, concurrent with Acrobat 5.0. (The next version after that was PDF-1.5 in 2003, corresponding to Acrobat 6.0). There were also updates in 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2009; but lots of developers have stuck with 1.4, for one reason or another. I'd say that the 1 and the 0 are indexes,

marking the start of that first obj/endobj group. The extra spaces between the letters in "K W o r d L i n k od t" and "K W ord 2.0" are **not** really spaces at all. An actual ASCII space character is identified by hexadecimal code 20. (32 in decimal notation). Although they appear exactly the same on-screen, those are, in fact, ASCII NUL characters. hexadecimal code 00. (00 in decimal notation, too). I have seen "expanded" names like these before, but it was at least ten years ago, and right now I can't recall any other details. (Not that it matters here, anyway. For the purposes of this article, I don't care how or why these things work. I just want them gone). Qt is an advanced cross-platform framework, owned by Nokia. Their website says; "For over 15 years, 400,000 developers in over 70 industries have chosen Qt to build desktop, embedded and mobile applications".

In *Updating My Image* (my article for our May 2011 issue), I ranted on and on about the "bad Titles" that had shown up on three of the thirteen PDF files Barbara sent me since May of the previous year.

There, I referred to the insertion of those unwanted Titles as an "unconscionable act of overbearing intrusion"; and I also said that "the unexplained, and so-far unexplainable, appearance of those unaskedfor bad Titles was definitely Microsoft's fault". (For further details, please see *Updating My Image*). This time, the blame fell squarely (and exclusively) on Kword. My tentative plan had been to try out using KWord to create a newsletter. It's a Linux word processor: and also has widespread interoperability, because there are versions available for Windows, Mac and BSD (Berkeley Software Distribution, sometimes called Berkeley Unix). Since KWord is frame-based, it can also be used as a desktop publisher. (Currently, it's being marketed as a combination of both). That duality made me think it might be capable of producing an acceptable issue of ACGNJ News. (Thus getting around the Scribus link problem by getting rid of Scribus entirely). The appearance of the unwelcome Title above pretty much wrecked that idea.

Now, I can hear someone asking; "Can't you just

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delete the Title from the PDF file?" Well, you can't. Or maybe a more accurate answer is: Well, I can't. (The rest of this paragraph might seem familiar, because it's made up of pieces paraphrased from both Are You Entitled? and Updating My Image). In either Windows or Linux, if you use whatever file browser you might have (such as Windows Explorer) to display a list of files on your screen, and then you right-click on one of those file names, you'll get a menu; and one of its options will be "Properties". Choose that and you'll get a pop-up window. Many times, that window will have only one tab, called Basic in Linux and General in Windows. (I don't know if such a thing exists on a Mac, or what it might be called there). For some file types, though, there can be as many as six tabs. For a PDF file under Linux, if the tab called Document appears, it will display a line called Title, containing text that looks like it should be editable (and thus, by extension, deletable). However, I couldn't get it to change. fooled around with permissions (unsuccessfully), but then I had to give it up. Under Windows, the situation was even worse. The Properties window for a PDF file only gets one tab, General. As far as Windows is concerned, a PDF file doesn't even **have** any other properties, much less the ability to edit them. Therefore, the answer to that question above is a resounding *NO*. We'll get back to KWord in a minute; but first, let's see how my other three PDF files did in the "Title sweepstakes". In OOfficeLink.pdf, near the start of sector 31 (out of 32 total), I found:

In ScribusLink1.pdf, in the middle of sector 1 (out of 435 total), I found:

```
obj
<<
/Creator (Scribus 1.3.3.13svn)
```

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```
/Producer (Scribus PDF Library 1.3.3.13svn)
  /Title <>
  /Author <>
  /Keywords <>
  /CreationDate (D:20110604172015)
  /ModDate (D:20110604172015)
  /Trapped /False
  >>
  endobj
In ScribusLink2.pdf, in the middle of sector 1 (out
```

of 438 total), I found:

```
obi
<<
/Creator (Scribus 1.3.3.13svn)
/Producer (Scribus PDF Library 1.3.3.13svn)
/Title <>
/Author <>
/Keywords <>
/CreationDate (D:20110604165834)
/ModDate (D:20110604165834)
/Trapped /False
```

```
>>
endobi
```

Brief conclusions: Some wackiness showed up in OOfficeLink.pdf, with values given in hexadecimal strings; but at least there wasn't any Title. ScribusLink1.pdf ScribusLink2.pdf and identical except for their time/date stamps. (As you might expect, since they were created by the exact same program). Both did have a Title category, but at least neither had values. In the end, some unexpected things happened; but we still had three winners in the "Title sweepstakes". Only KWord lost.

Being a softy at heart, I decided to give KWord one last chance. So I started the program from the Ubuntu "Applications" menu. That way, it started with a new and totally empty document loaded. Then, I immediately pulled down its "File" menu and selected "Export as PDF...". From the "Write PDF" window that popped up, I saved that empty file under the name KWORDMT1.PDF. Looking inside it, right at the start of sector 1 (out of 3 total),

(Continued Above Right)

```
(Continued Below Left)
```

```
I found:
  %PDF-1.4
  1 0 obj
  <<
  /Title ( K W ord unsaved document
      (2011 - 06 - 06)
  /Creator ( KWord 2.0)
  /Producer (Qt 4.6.2 (C) 2010 Nokia Corporation
      and/or its subsidiary(-ies))
  /CreationDate (D:20110606175330)
  >>
  endobi
```

As Snidely Whiplash used to say: "Curses, foiled again!" Giving it one more "one last chance", I started KWord from the "Applications" menu again. This time, I immediately selected "Save As..." from the "File" menu, and saved it as KWORDMT2.ODT. Then, I selected "Export as PDF...", and quickly saved it again as KWORDMT2.PDF. Looking inside KWORDMT2.ODT first, I found no Title information in any of its 8 sectors. Then, I looked inside KWORDMT2.PDF, and right at the start of sector 1 (out of 3 total), I found:

```
%PDF-14
10 obj
<<
/Title (__ K W O R D M T 2 . O D T)
/Creator ( KW ord 2.0)
/Producer (Qt 4.6.2 (C) 2010 Nokia Corporation
    and/or its subsidiary(-ies))
/CreationDate (D:20110606185631)
>>
endobi
```

I can only conclude that some transcendent genius on the KWord team has decided that any time a user creates a PDF, they ARE going to get a Title, and there's absolutely **nothing** that said user can do about it. That person should feel really proud. Thanks to this egregiously intrusive "feature", I'll never be using that program; and what's more, I won't ever have a good word to say about it to anyone, either. (Also, note that the Title has actually preserved the name of the previous file, not the current one. So, over and above all of my other complaints, it's not even accurate). Having thus vented my spleen and eliminated KWord, we can get

back to the subject of links. To recap: KwordLink.pdf, OOfficeLink.pdf and ScribusLink2.pdf won the "link sweepstakes", while ScribusLink1.pdf lost. (Even though my re-test above showed that the link in ScribusLink1.pdf does, in fact, work on my computer under Windows XP, that doesn't negate the fact that it still won't work under Linux or Windows 98 SE. On the whole, despite what followers of the Great God Gates might proclaim, it still failed). Since KWord no longer exists as far as I'm concerned, and OpenOffice.org doesn't really have enough "bells and whistles" to be considered an acceptable desktop publisher, this leaves ScribusLink2.pdf as the only winner. Now, at last, I get to tell you about the wacky kludge that I discovered.

As I said way above (in our first paragraph), I learned about this while making ScribusLink1.pdf. To create my source, I'd originally opened OpenOffice,org Writer, and typed "http://www.acgnj.org" (but without the quotes) into an otherwise blank page. Then, I hit the Enter key to

activate this new link. (I could tell that it was activated because it turned blue and became underlined). At that point, when I held down the Control key and clicked on that link, it did go to the club website, just like it was supposed to. So I saved my file as OOfficeLink.odt, and I also exported it as OOfficeLink.pdf. we've already As OOfficeLink.pdf worked just fine. After that, I opened Scribus and, using a freehand swipe, I inserted an empty text frame into my new and otherwise blank Scribus page. Then, I right clicked on that frame, selected "Get Text..." from the menu that popped up, and entered OOfficeLink.odt into the "File name:" box in the "Open" window that subsequently appeared. On my formerly blank page, http://www.acgnj.org was now clearly visible. Next, I performed my usual next to last step by exporting my file as ScribusLink1.pdf; and as we've already seen, ScribusLink1.pdf didn't work. (Nor, after three years of bad link experience with Scribus, did I really expect it to).

This time, instead of shutting down Scribus as my

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final step, I kept it open; and I began a systematic search of all the Scribus menus, looking for something that might, in some way, correspond to the "Activate Links" function in Ventura Publisher. (This was really the only step used by Ventura that didn't at least somewhat line up with any of the steps used by Scribus). As you might expect, I had done this several times before, to no avail; but now, I vowed to track down and expose every obscure submenu, no matter how well hidden it was. It took me a while, but I finally found something that I'd overlooked before. If you right-click when your mouse cursor is inside the boundaries of a Scribus frame, vou'll get an unnamed menu which (depending on the frame type) can have as many as 21 entries, some of which may be grayed out due to other circumstances. When I right-clicked on the single text frame in my formerly blank Scribus page. I got a menu with 19 selections. Near the center of that list was "PDF Options".

When I hovered my mouse cursor over "PDF Options", a small sub-menu appeared, containing two further options: "Is PDF Annotation" and "Is

PDF Bookmark". I clicked on "Is PDF Annotation", and both menus vanished. When I right clicked and hovered again (to get the sub-menu back), I found a check mark in front of "Is PDF Annotation". I also saw that a **third** option had appeared: "Annotation Properties". This time, I clicked on "Is PDF Bookmark", and the menus vanished once more. When I called up that sub-menu yet again, "Is PDF Bookmark" was preceded by a check mark, while "Is PDF Annotation" was not. Also, "Annotation Properties" was gone. Apparently, my text frame could be marked as an Annotation or as a Bookmark, but not as both; and only an Annotation could be given any further properties. Therefore, I clicked on "Is PDF Annotation" again, and as expected, the menus went away. When I called up that sub-menu for a fourth time, "Is PDF Annotation" was checked, "Is PDF Bookmark" was not, and "Annotation Properties" was back. At last I clicked on that option, and a window labeled "Annotation Properties" popped up, containing a drop box marked "Type". I clicked on its down arrow, and got a list of four choices: "Text", "Link", "External Link" and

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"External Web-Link". I picked "External Web-Link", typed our club website's URL into the "Destination" box that had magically appeared, and clicked on the OK button. Then, finally, I exporting my file as a PDF, under the name ScribusLinkla.pdf.

Giddy with anticipation, I double-clicked on ScribusLink1a.pdf, and Evince (my default PDF viewer) opened up a window; but the page displayed inside it was completely blank. Whatever I might have been expecting, this certainly wasn't it. I was about to close the window in disgust when I noticed something. If I moved my cursor into the top part of that page, the mouse icon changed from its default arrow to the finger pointing hand that usually indicates a live link; and if I did click there, I was, in fact, transported to our club website. Experimenting a bit, I verified that if I clicked anywhere in an invisible rectangle about seven and a half inches wide and about one inch high, I'd go to the ACGNJ site. Apparently, I had turned my entire text frame into a link; and in doing so, I'd somehow lost all my text. This wasn't what I'd been looking for, but I

immediately recognized that this wacky result was something that I **could** work with. I'll show you how in a minute. First, though, lets read the manual.

Searching Scribus <u>Help</u> for "PDF Annotation", I got only **one** hit, which led me to the *Acrobat Reader* page. There, I found:

Annotations are non-printing notes which Scribus can optionally embed within a PDF. This is really simple. Create a text frame. Then add your notes and right click, select PDF Options and check "Is PDF Annotation".

That was accurate enough as far as it went, but it made absolutely **no** mention of links. Searching the manual again, this time for "PDF Bookmark", I **also** got only one hit, which led me to the *Scribus Python interface module* page. There, under *Functions*, I found:

isPDFBookmark(...)
isPDFBookmark(["name"]) -> bool
Returns true if the text frame "name" is a PDF
 bookmark. If "name" is not given the

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currently selected item is used.

May raise WrongFrameTypeError if the target frame is not a text frame.

Considering my knowledge of the Python programming language (which is nil), that wasn't much help (except maybe for that bit about the text frame). Searching for "web-link", "Web-Link" and "External Web-Link" turned up absolutely **nothing**. So much for the Scribus <u>Manual</u>.

About a **thousand** words ago, I said; "Now, **at last**, I get to tell you about the wacky kludge that I discovered". I should have known better than to say something like that. Anyway, "Is PDF Annotation" above took care of the wacky part; and here we'll finally (this time **for sure**) get to the kludge part. By default, Scrius image frames are opaque; but Scribus text frames are transparent. Thus, you can stack text frames on top of each other, and you can **see right through** them. You get the idea? I could create **tiny** text frames, convert them into "External Web-Links" as shown above, and stick them over the previously existing (and **non**-working) link names printed on

my newsletter pages. So that's what I did. Going back to the beginning, I started Scribus from scratch. As before, I inserted an empty text frame into my new and otherwise blank page. Also as before, I right clicked on that frame, selected "Get Text...", and then chose OOfficeLink.odt. Again, on my formerly blank page, http://www.acgnj.org became clearly visible. Then, I did something different. I made an "invisible box" by creating a small text frame, only 1.5 inches wide and 0.25 inches high. (Those values were picked so that it would be the exact same size as the text typed on the page. After all, we wouldn't want any outside overlap). Then, I inserted that "invisible box" into my page, placing it so the coordinates of its top left corner were X=0.53 inches, Y=0.6 inches. That put it right on top of the already existing http://www.acgnj.org. Then, I applied the "Is PDF Annotation" process to my "invisible box" as outlined above. When I typed our club URL into the "Destination" box in the "Annotation Properties" window, I was pretty sure that I now had a working link. So I exported it as ScribusLink2.pdf; and as we all now know, it worked.

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At this point, I can see two caveats. First: I'd better place my "invisible boxes" as the very last step in my newsletter creation process. If I were to do any text editing after those boxes were put in position. some of my printed link names might easily move out from under their boxes, thus effectively turning themselves off. Second: From now on, I'd better make sure that all link names that I type into my source files (currently made with OpenOffice.org) are **not** activated. Otherwise, a partially functioning printed link could possibly interfere with its associated "invisible box" link, potentially causing all manner of binary mischief. Currently, Barbara prints her links in red italics, with no underlining. I feel that red should be reserved for warnings and such, so I think I'll go with blue italics instead. (In this issue, though, I'll leave the "legacy links" on pages 15 and 16 in red, the way Barbara originally created them). However, I'll also go with no underlining. That way, if a link does accidentally get activated, I'll know immediately, because suddenly it will *be* underlined.

The overall tone of this article came out more critical than I'd intended, so let me make myself perfectly clear: I LOVE Scribus, my fun, fabulous, and free desktop publisher. Over the last three years or so, I've used it to print out lots of hard copies, and I've always been thrilled with the results. In my opinion, it's only in this one area (workable live links from PDF files) that it's ever fallen short of perfection. This single defect really irked me; but now it looks like I've found a work-around for it. I consider this to be more of a "wacky kludge" than a "professional feature"; but as long as it works, I'm happy. (Though the fact that mv links DO work for every PDF reader I've tested so far strongly suggests that "somebody goofed" in the design of the regular links). I think I'll send a copy of this article to the Scribus authors. Maybe one or more of them will actually read it. I'd love to hear what they think.

Digital Asset Management Software

Mike Morris, Front Range PC Users Group, CO (www.frpcug.org)
February 2011 issue, k-ByteTM newsletter

What is interesting to me is that many of today's digital imaging software applications offer both image editing and what is called "Digital Asset Management" (DAM) capabilities.

In the not-so-distant past, the only image software choice was what image editor to use (Photoshop or something else). But with the "explosion" of digital camera use, keeping track of all the images (and protecting intellectual property rights) has clearly become a significant issue. While this is certainly an issue especially for professional photographers, with digital cameras, even the most casual photographer will soon find hundreds, if not thousands of photos on their computer.

Perhaps you are thinking, as you read this, that you don't need image management of any kind, because your digital camera provides all the necessary information.

Actually, that is NOT the case. The camera provides information about camera settings (including date and time of the photo). But not included in that data

is information such as the event (e.g., parent's 50th wedding anniversary), or the names of the people in the photo. Yes, *you* may have an excellent memory, but your children and grandchildren probably won't remember or know the names of all the people in the photos of those special events (I can verify that from personal experience).

That is why image management software is so helpful—it allows you to capture that information. You have a wide range of software choices for this application:

DigiKam (http://www.digikam.org/), an image management application claimed to be designed by photographers, and is open source and therefore free. This application offers both DAM and image editing capabilities (which are significant, although not equivalent to the editing features of Photoshop or GIMP). For Windows users, you can download the Windows version from download (http://bit.ly/hWfFrt).

DigitalPro (http://bit.ly/faHwgJ), also claimed to

Digital Asset Management Software, continued

be designed by photographers, and is proprietary (\$179). This application is primarily for image management (and primarily for professional or advanced amateur photographers), not image editing.

Bibble Labs (http://bibblelabs.com/) Pro (and Lite). This proprietary application (\$199.95) offers both editing and DAM features. One major claim on their website is that this application is faster than any other. For a list of editing tools this application provides, connect to features (http://bit.ly/82JzsV).

Adobe CS3 (and later) applications. The Adobe Bridge program is bundled with the CSx (the latest release is CS5) series of Adobe products. In my case, I received it when I purchased Adobe InDesign CS3. Adobe Bridge brings DAM features to the Adobe products, all of which, as I am sure you know, are very expensive applications (full retail price for Photoshop CS5 is \$699). They are, however, designed for

professional/business use, originally commercial printing, but now expanded into electronic publishing as well. The Adobe products (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign among others), despite the many competitors, are still considered industry "standards." For more information, see Adobe (http://www.adobe.com).

Lightroom. Wikipedia (http://bit.ly/3wnGqF) has this description: Lightroom is an application from Adobe that is "...designed to assist professional photographers in managing thousands of digital images and doing post production work. It is not a file browser like Adobe Bridge, but rather an image management application database which helps in viewing, editing, and managing digital photos, the same way photographers used to do in the non-digital world." Full retail price is \$299. See (http://adobe.ly/6dBIz) for a list of features.

Google Picasa. For the casual computer user or the casual photographer, it offers simple image organizing features and a few simple editing

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features. It is free, and "automatic." After you download and install the program, it will, when you first launch it, catalog virtually all the images (with a few minor exceptions) on your computer. See http://picasa.google.com/linux (Linux), and http://picasa.google.com/index.html## (Windows).

Most, if not all major camera makers provide some software with their cameras that include some basic image organization and image editing features.

There are many other choices, some of which you can find in the Wikipedia comparisons at: image viewers (http://bit.ly/asWUi), image organizers (http://bit.ly/CNnwr), and graphics editors (http://bit.ly/10xtOU).

I ended up with Adobe Bridge "by default." Since I make no claim to being a professional photographer, or even (yet) a knowledgeable amateur, I would very probably have picked a free application (such as DigiKam) for "Digital Asset Management" if I didn't already have Bridge.

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For me, Picasa does not have enough features. However, I expect it will be sufficient for many digital camera users.

I have not tried to compare in detail either editing features or DAM capabilities of these programs. I have, however, scanned through the DigiKam manual (http://bit.ly/hZaFX9). My conclusion is that if you download and install DigiKam and GIMP, you will have a very powerful, very feature-rich set of image editing and image management tools.

Thanks to FRPCUG member Bert Broekstra for his comments on DigiKam, and for finding the DigiKam manual link.

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Linux Software of the Month: April 2011

Geof Goodrum, Washington Area Computer User Group, VA (www.wacug.org)
April 2011 issue, The Cursor

The software described below can be downloaded at the links provided or copied onto a USB flash drive at the WAC meeting. However, please check the online package management tool included with your GNU/Linux distribution first, as installation is often just a click away.

Free Pascal v2.4.2. http://www.freepascal.org/. Modified GNU Library General Public License source code and packages for Debian and RPM-based GNU/Linux distributions by the Free Pascal Development Team. Originally named FPK-Pascal, Free Pascal is a 32 and 64 bit Turbo Pascal and Delphi compatible Pascal programming language compiler for DOS, Linux, Win32, OS/2, FreeBSD, AmigaOS, Mac OS X, Mac OS classic and several other platforms (the number of supported targets grows all the time, although not all of them are on the same level as the main ones). The Free Pascal compiler is available for several architectures, x86, Sparc (v8,v9), ARM, x86 64 (AMD64/Opteron) and Powerpc. An older version (the 1.0 series) also supports m68k. The compiler is itself written in Pascal and is able to compile its own sources.

Hedgewars v0.9.15. http://www.hedgewars.org/. Free

GNU General Public License source code and executable packages for Debian, Ubuntu, Fedora, ArchLinux, and openSuSE Linux by Andrey Korotaev et al. Hedgewars is a turn-based strategy, artillery, action and comedy game, featuring the antics of pink hedgehogs with attitude as they battle from the depths of hell to the depths of space. As commander, it's your job to assemble your crack team of hedgehog soldiers and bring the war to your enemy. Features: Hilarious and devastating turn based combat for up to 6 players; Both local and network multiplayer, with optional AI opponents; Battle on an infinite number of randomly generated maps, with over 20 environments; Utilize 47 (and counting) devastating weapons including the piano strike and explosive robotic cake; Play the game your way, with 18 different game modifiers, tweak almost every aspect of the match; Customize your team, with over 120 costumes, 30 graves, 12 forts, 100s of flags and unique voice packs; Huge battles with up to 48 hogs; Play both singleplayer and multiplayer minigames; plugin your own custom maps, costumes, and other artwork. Requires $Qt \ge 4.5$, FreePascal $\ge 2.2.4$, SDL $\ge 1.2.5$, SDL net \geq 1.2.5, SDL mixer \geq 1.2, SDL image \geq 1.2, SDL $ttf \ge 2.0$, CMake $\ge 2.6.0$, lua = 5.1.

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Linphone v3.4.3. http://www.linphone.org/. Free GNU General Public License source code and executable packages for Debian and Ubuntu Linux by Simon Morlat. Linphone is an audio and video Internet phone with GTK+ and console interfaces. It uses the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and is compatible with most SIP clients and gateways. It can use various audio and video codecs such as Speex, GSM, G711, ilbc, amr, Theora, H263-1998, MPEG4, H264, and snow. This version improves Mac OS X integration with desktop menus, better sound system handling, and binary bundle generation for ease of installation. It also improves memory usage and fixes a few SIP bugs.

WordPress v3.1. http://wordpress.org/. Free GNU General Public License scripts by the WordPress Development Team. WordPress is a software script that, together with PHP v4.3 or greater, MySQL v4.1.2 or greater, and a web server (e.g. Apache; Nginx), provides a point and click menu-driven framework for a standards-compliant, professional looking web site that is easy to maintain with no knowledge of web programming required. WordPress is the most widely used framework for self-hosted blogging web sites, and is highly customizable with thousands of widgets, themes and plug-

ins, both free and commercial. New features include the admin bar, which provides easy access to common administrative tasks from the front-end for logged in users; internal linking, which lets you easily search for and link to existing content within your site from within the WYSIWYG editor; a standard set of post formats, enabling the creation of tumblelog type sites; archive pages for custom post types; advanced taxonomy; and custom field queries.

Kernel Source v2.6.38. *http://www.kernel.org/*. Free GNU Public License source code for all platforms by the Linux community.

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Getting to Know Your Keyboard Function Keys & Keyboard Shortcuts

Constance Brown, Canton/Alliance/Massillon User Group, Ohio (www.camug.org)
November 2010 issue, The Memory Map

Introduction

One computer input device that almost everyone uses is the keyboard, even though touch screen devices are available. Most of us use only the letter and number keys and forget the other keys such as function buttons, arrows, Ctl, Alt, the Windows key and others. Let's take a closer look at some of these neglected keys. The most popular keyboard is the QWERTY, so called because the top row of letters on the left spells that "almost" word! Most cell phones with texting keyboards offer this same layout although a few do not and some offer a choice.

Arrow And Backspace

Often we forget the arrow keys that allow us to navigate all over a document without erasing any text. Backspace erases anything left of the insertion point and delete erases to the right of the insertion point. But the arrow keys erase nothing.

Insert

Another important key is Insert. Normally it is active. Suppose you have omitted the second "p" in the word Mississippi and it looks like this: Mississipi. Normally you can click between the p and the I and type the missing letter p. Occasionally I have experienced the misfortune of finding that every new letter I try to insert

actually also removes a letter to the right. In those cases, I have had to press the Insert key to turn it back on so I was allowed to insert rather than re-type.

Print Screen

Another interesting key is Print Screen. It takes a snapshot of everything on the screen at the time when you press the key. Of course there is nothing to indicate to you that this has happened. So try this. After pressing the key, open your favorite word processing program. Then select Paste by R-clicking on the blank document or holding down Ctrl and touching the letter "v" once or by clicking on Edit and selecting Paste. (Some non-Microsoft programs have no paste options visible but will accept the paste command of Ctrl plus "v"). Amazingly you will find that a picture of your desktop will be inserted into the word processor and can be formatted the same as any other picture using the commands available in your program.

A Few Function Keys

Let's look at a few of the function keys. These may have different jobs depending on the program you are using.

Open New - MSWord Document

Alt + Ctl + F2 will open a new document in Microsoft Word. But so will the simpler Ctl + n.

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Change Case - MSWord

Here is a wonderful discovery. As you probably know, you can change a word from lower case to upper case by highlighting it, opening the Font Command and selecting Upper Case. For example, it is easy to change October to OCTOBER without retyping it. What about changing a word you have typed in upper case letters back to lower case? Just take the word you have written (I will use OCTOBER again as my example), highlight it and press Shift + F3. It changes from OCTOBER to october. Of course I will have to change the first letter to upper case. But this would be far less time consuming than retyping a long sentence or paragraph to change it to lower case! I wish I had known this yesterday when I forgot to remove the Caps Lock as I worked on a slide in Power-Point!

F5 - Browser

The F5 key has a special function in all the modern browsers. Press it to refresh the page.

SHIFT + F10 - WINDOWS PROGRAMS

Shift + F10 is the same as right clicking in a Windows program. Try it on your desktop and you will find the familiar right-click menu that gives you access to properties where you can personalize your computer.

F11 - Browser

Having problems with your browser opening in a small-sized screen? Touch F11 and it will open full screen. Touch it again and it will return to the small size.

F12 Combinations - MSWord

You can use Shift + F12 to save a Microsoft Word document, but Ctl + s does the same thing and requires less stretching. Ctrl + Shift + F12 prints a Routine Continued document in Microsoft Word, but Ctl + P does it also.

Conclusion

Some function keys will do different jobs depending on what program is running when they are pressed. Some have no function assigned in Windows, but may have a function assigned in a program you are running. For a more complete discussion of function keys, you may want to visit either of the following websites:

www.compukiss.com/basics/function-keys.html www.computerhope.com/issues/ch000306.htm

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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 29.95	
Computer Gaming World	14.95	28.95 41.95	
Computer Shopper1	16.97	32.95 47.95	
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 27.95	
Microsoft System Journal	21.95	39.95	
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PC Magazine (22/44/66 Issues)	25.97	48.95 68.95	
PC World	16.95		
Wired	6.00	12.00 17.00	

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ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

		Dues		
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irst Name		Last Name		Phone
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City		State	Zip	URL
What topics wo	uld you like to see cove	ered at club meetings?		
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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	

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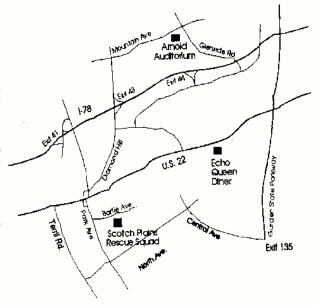
Radio and TV Programs

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

Review, Software 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.



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

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.