

# Nybbles & Bytes



[www.neopc.org](http://www.neopc.org)

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Have an Enjoyable and Safe Holiday



“Christmas in July” Time to renew your membership

Letter from the Editor -  
David A. Vydra



This month I have inserted a new column. “Bulletin Board” is for quick (when possible) notes from the Forum Moderators. The moderators have all been asked to submit short blurbs when they encounter articles of interest from all areas of computer use and/or their area of expertise. Of course, we still have the “Members Podium” which is open for all members to submit articles about their computing experiences.

Also, with the September 2010 edition of “Nybbles and Bytes” I will be completing my tenure as the Editor. While I would continue to provide “Through the Gates” articles to the incoming Editor I will no longer edit. Today we are looking for a volunteer to undertake the duties of Editor. Anyone willing will need a version of Microsoft Publisher. The best option would be version 2007. I have templates available for all of the column headers as well as for the newsletter.



***Through the Gates:***

***Enter to the Trove of Bills Treasures and Travails***

***A monthly column dedicated to revealing some of the unknown or lesser known features or foibles of the Microsoft line of products.***

***By: David A. Vydra***

*“Besaball ha been berry berry good to me!” Yeah, right! A line from an old movie that hardly pertains to any of us these days. Perhaps, a few of you had experienced the glamour. Yet, it goes without saying that*

*berry berry good also requires berry berry hard work. It is likely that besaball was not your forte but, you did have success in another arena. Can you recall how much hard work was required to reach the pinnacle?*

*This brings us to the question of Microsoft. Has Microsoft been berry berry good to you? Right, I can almost hear the clamor from here. Microsoft develops, sells and rakes in the cash. Develops again, sells and rakes in the cash. Develops even more, puts on sale and rakes in the cash. It does not seem to be equitable does it? There is a common mantra; "For all the money I've spent on Microsoft products, they should be giving me free software by now..." I'd be rich! Well, I have been to Redmond and visited the Microsoft campus. It is huge with many, many buildings and thousands of employees. At the least, it is expensive to run an operation such as this. Free software? Well, unfortunately, that's not going to happen. But, Microsoft does have a lot of Windows software that is free for the taking. Microsoft has a lot of free software just waiting for you to find it. You just have to know where to look. I will list a few that are well worth having by the average user.*

*Starting with my absolute favorite; there are some amazing vistas awaiting you.*

### **WorldWide Telescope**

*The WorldWide Telescope from Microsoft Research offers a rich visualization environment that essentially provides you with a virtual telescope. This package brings together amazing imagery from the Hubble Space Telescope and approximately 10 earthbound telescopes. The images are stitched together seamlessly, allowing you to pan around outer space and zoom as far into any one area as the data will allow. The user interface makes galactic exploration easy, right from your computer. WorldWide Telescope for Bing Maps is now available. Through integration with Bing Maps Street View you can see street-side panoramas, then look up and see what is in the sky above you. You can easily scroll backward and forward through time to finally answer the nagging question "What was that I saw in the sky last night?" You can find WorldWide Telescope at: [www.worldwidetelescope.org/Home.aspx](http://www.worldwidetelescope.org/Home.aspx)*

### **SyncToy 2.0**

*As its name implies, SyncToy is a synchronization tool designed to assist you in maintaining duplicate copies of files you might keep on a laptop and a desktop or a desktop and a network drive. With the widespread availability of inexpensive external hard disks, SyncToy is also a great backup tool. SyncToy is intuitive and it sports a straightforward user interface. In fact, the first time you use it, the opening screen prompts you to select a pair of folders you want to use and then for simplicity, the folders are designated as the Left Folder and the Right Folder. There are five synchronization methods to choose from, but since there is no built-in scheduling capability, you must perform the operation manually. Even so, SyncToy 2.0 is extremely quick and efficient and is a great tool.*

*There are files from all kinds of sources that we want to store and manage. Files are created by our digital cameras, e-mail, cell phones, portable media players, camcorders, PDAs, and laptops. Increasingly, computer users are using different folders, drives, and even different computers (such as a laptop and a desktop) to store, manage, retrieve and view files. Yet managing hundreds or thousands of files is still largely a manual operation. In some cases it is necessary to regularly get copies of files from another location to add to primary location; in other cases there is a need to keep two storage locations exactly in sync. Some users manage files manually, dragging and dropping from one place to another and keeping track of whether the locations are synchronized in their heads. Other users may use two or more applications to provide this functionality.*

*SyncToy is a free PowerToy for Microsoft Windows, is an easy to use, highly customizable program that helps users to do the heavy lifting involved with the copying, moving, and synchronization of different directories. Most common operations can be performed with just a few clicks of the mouse, and additional customization is available without additional complexity. SyncToy can manage multiple sets of folders at the same time; it can combine files from two folders in one case, and mimic renames and deletes in another case. Unlike other applications, SyncToy actually keeps track of renames to files and will make sure those changes get carried*

over to the synchronized folder. [www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=c26efa36-98e0-4ee9-a7c5-98d0592d8c52&DisplayLang=en](http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=c26efa36-98e0-4ee9-a7c5-98d0592d8c52&DisplayLang=en)

### **Paint.NET**

Paint.NET started as a computer science project at Washington State University. But it was such a good image and photo editing product (as well as an exceptional example of the .NET Framework technology in action), Microsoft hired the two developers, Rick Brewster and Tom Jackson, and has allowed them to continue improving the application and offering it as a free download. Paint.NET has a great user interface and it's easy to use. It provides all the essential image editing features you need, plus layers, special effects, and support for a wide range of image formats. Paint.NET also has quite a following on the Internet, and you can find lots of help, tutorials, and plugins -- and it is supported on Windows 7! <http://www.getpaint.net/>

### **Virtual PC 2007**

Windows 7 supports Windows Virtual PC and Windows XP Mode. However, if you are running Windows Vista or Windows XP, you can still download and use the free Microsoft Virtual PC 2007 package, which will allow you to run multiple operating systems at the same time on the same physical computer. Virtual PC 2007 is easy to install and easy to use. You can install your own copies of Windows in Virtual PC 2007, but at the time of this writing, Microsoft has several preconfigured [VHDs](#) (virtual hard drives) containing sample copies of Windows XP and Vista that you can download and install in Virtual PC 2007 for testing purposes.

### **Microsoft Security Essentials**

Microsoft Security Essentials provides real-time protection for your home PC that guards against viruses, spyware, and other malicious software. I have been using MSE since last October. To this point, it has not been a problem on any front. There are many venues (Security Testers, Magazines and experts) that check the various security suites, fee based or free, for viability, usefulness, effectiveness and overall value. Initially, the usual naysayers and some of the experts panned MSE because it was free. While MSE will not compare with a full Kaspersky suite, it has more than held its own and surprised many of the experts. The latest ratings place MSE on the same field as many of the other free products. It is almost always at or near the head of the class. One caveat though; you should be a responsible user and not run willy-nilly through unknown web sites or open strange email. No security product will save you from being careless in every case.

Microsoft Security Essentials is a free\* download from Microsoft that is simple to install, easy to use, and always kept up to date so you can be assured your PC is protected by the latest technology. It's easy to tell if your PC is secure — when you're green, you're good. It's that simple.

Microsoft Security Essentials runs quietly and efficiently in the background so that you are free to use your Windows-based PC the way you want—without interruptions or long computer wait times.

\* [http://www.microsoft.com/security\\_essentials/](http://www.microsoft.com/security_essentials/)

### **Windows Live Essentials**

Windows Live Essentials\* includes free programs from Microsoft for photos, movies, instant messaging, e-mail, blogging, family safety, and more. Get them all in one download and get more done with Windows. Whether you have been required to upgrade to Windows Live Mail from Outlook Express or have not wanted to bother with all this new stuff you owe it to yourself to take a look around. There is more to Live Essentials than email and “windows dressing”.

\*See what it is all about: <http://explore.live.com/windows-live-essentials?os=win7>

Portions of this column may have been garnered from several publicly available sources, verified and edited for content. Where an article is used in its entirety without editing, the author and source are acknowledged.

## **Take a Note!**



Tidbits of useful information. As I find them.

## NEOPC Forum!

I see that many parts of the Forum have had multiple visits. We are here for each other and the Forum is a great way to keep in touch and be of assistance. Many problems have been solved in all of the various sections. I hope that you are all taking advantage of the help that is provided. To this end, may I suggest that you visit the Forum for about 10 minutes every day. There are many postings which can be enlightening. By all means, if you have a vexing problem, post it in the proper section of the Forum. However, before posting, use the search feature to see if there is already a solution. It takes a little understanding of the how, but with practice it gets easier. Perhaps we can even get Dick to post a tutorial in the Forum Tips section of About NEOPC.

One more suggestion we hope you will use. Before you pose the actual problem/question, provide the following data:

My computer is a: (Dell, HP, Compaq, Toshiba) (Laptop/Desktop)

I am using: Windows (98, XP, 2000, etc. Service Pack 1, 2, 3)

I have a: (60, 120 etc. GB HDD)

I have: (1, 2, 4 MB of memory)

My Production applications are: (Word, Excel, Word Perfect, Open Office, etc.)

For security I use: (Norton, Kaspersky, AVG etc.)

I am using: (Indicate peripheral attached products including the problem peripheral)

Use this as a header for every time you have a need for a solution and it will save a lot of back and forth. You can copy and paste the above to NotePad, amend the sections to your situation and save it to you Desktop. It will be handy whenever you have a problem for us and can easily be copied and pasted to the beginning of your post.

## Rescue my PC!

*Using rescue CDs to ferret out malware is a great idea, in theory at least. Getting them to actually work is another story. Malware is sophisticated enough to manipulate the host computer's operating system to help it hide. That's why rescue CDs are becoming the go-to malware detection and removal technology.*

## What is a rescue CD?

Anti-malware rescue CDs are bootable operating systems that take control of a computer's hardware. Since the computer's operating system is inactive, so is any installed malware. That's where we get the upper hand; malware can't activate any defense to avoid being detected by the anti-malware program installed on the rescue CD. Make sure to use rescue-CD applications that can download and incorporate the latest signature files without needing to rebuild the CD. One mistake you can make is to not give much thought to whether the network connection is hard-wired or Wi-Fi. Do not assume rescue CDs will be able to update using either. That's not always true. In some cases, rescue-CD apps will not recognize the wireless network adapter

## What are your options?

### AVG Rescue CD

Base: Linux (77 MB)

Configured to create either a bootable CD or USB drive

Signature Update: Online update or downloaded signature file

### Avira AntiVir Rescue System

Base: Linux (47 MB)

Signature Update: Downloaded signature file

### BitDefender Rescue CD

Base: Linux (228 MB)

Signature Update: Online update or downloaded signature file

### F-Secure Rescue CD

Base: Linux (155 MB)

Signature Update: Online update or downloaded signature file.

### Kaspersky Rescue CD

Base: Linux (103 MB)

Signature Update: Online update

There are others with the same capabilities. I have only included those which are the more predominant or have more beneficial features. Avira's AntiVir Rescue System is consistently on top when it comes to malware detection. A close second is BitDefender Rescue CD. BitDefender Rescue CD outclasses the entire group when it comes to features. It has many third-party apps such as ChkRootKit, Nessus Network Scanner, Partition Image, and GtkRecover. One additional convenient feature is the inclusion of the Firefox Web browser.

### Create a rescue flash drive

Most rescue CD applications require converting an .iso file to make a bootable CD. With netbooks becoming popular, using a rescue CD is not a likely option. One way to resolve that is to use something like UNetbootin. It is an application that will create a bootable flash drive from any of the above rescue-CD .iso files. I have to admit though, it's a cumbersome process.

Thankfully, AVG Rescue CD has an alternative answer. Simply download the **rescue file** specifically developed for flash drives, extract the contents of the file to the flash drive, and click on makeboot.bat. That's it. You now have an AVG Rescue Flash Drive. If you are using a rescue CD, the CD drive has to be moved to the top of the boot list in the BIOS. If you are using a netbook, more than likely the USB drive will already be first on the list and not a problem. However, for systems other than a netbook, you will have to place the USB at the top of the boot list. This may only be possible on newer systems or those with upgraded BIOS's. You may want to verify this prior to investing the time.

## The Presidents Desk -

Lee Gerber



## POP-UP ADVERTISEMENTS OFFERING ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE POSE THREAT TO INTERNET USERS

12/11/09—An ongoing threat exists for computer users who, while browsing the Internet, began receiving pop-up security warnings that state their computers are infected with numerous viruses. These pop-ups known as scareware, fake, or rogue anti-virus software look authentic and may even display what appears to be real-time anti-virus scanning of the user's hard drive. The scareware will show a list of reputable software icons; however, the user cannot click a link to go to the actual site to review or see recommendations.

The scareware is intimidating to most users and extremely aggressive in its attempt to lure the user into purchasing the rogue software that will allegedly remove the viruses from their computer. It is possible that these threats are received as a result of clicking on advertisements contained on a website. Cyber criminals use botnets to push the software and use advertisements on websites to deliver it. This is known as malicious advertising or malvertising.

Once the pop-up appears it cannot be easily closed by clicking “close” or the “X” button. ***You must close the browser without clicking on anything.*** If the user clicks on the pop-up to purchase the software, a form is provided that collects payment information and the user is charged for the bogus product. In some instances, whether the user clicks on the pop-up or not, the scareware can install malicious code onto the computer. By running your computer with an account that has rights to install software, this issue is more likely to occur. Downloading the software could result in viruses, Trojans, and/or keyloggers being installed on the user’s computer. The repercussions of downloading the malicious software could prove further financial loss to the victim due to computer repair, as well as, cost to the user and/or financial institutions due to identity theft. The assertive tactics of the scareware has caused significant losses to users. The FBI is aware of an estimated loss to victims in excess of \$150 million.

Be cautious—Cyber criminals use easy to remember names and associate them with known applications. Beware of pop-ups that offer a variation of recognized security software. It is recommended that the user research the exact name of the software being offered.

Take precautions to ensure operating systems are updated and security software is current.

If a user receives these anti-virus pop-ups, it is recommended to close the browser or shut the system down. It is suggested that the user run a full, anti-virus scan whenever the computer is turned back on.

If you have experienced the anti-virus pop-ups or a similar scam, please notify the IC3 by filing a complaint at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).

### **Phishing and Smishing Schemes**

Be leery of e-mails or text messages you receive indicating a problem or question regarding your financial accounts. In this scam, you are directed to follow a link or call the number provided in the message to update your account or correct the problem. The link actually directs the individuals to a fraudulent website or message that appears legitimate where any personal information you provide, such as account number and PIN, will be stolen. Another scam involves victims receiving an e-mail message directing the recipient to a spoofed website. A spoofed website is a fake site or copy of a real website and misleads the recipient into providing personal information, which is routed to the scammer's computers.

### **Tips**

Here are some tips you can use to avoid becoming a victim of cyber fraud:

Do not respond to unsolicited (spam) e-mail.

Do not click on links contained within an unsolicited e-mail.

Be cautious of e-mail claiming to contain pictures in attached files, as the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from known senders. Virus scan the attachments if possible.

Avoid filling out forms contained in e-mail messages that ask for personal information.

Always compare the link in the e-mail to the link you are actually directed to and determine if they actually match and will lead you to a legitimate site.

Log on directly to the official website for the business identified in the e-mail, instead of "linking" to it from an unsolicited e-mail. If the e-mail appears to be from your bank, credit card issuer, or other company you deal with frequently, your statements or official correspondence from the business will provide the proper contact information.

Contact the actual business that supposedly sent the e-mail to verify if the e-mail is genuine.

To receive the latest information about cyber scams, please go to the FBI website and sign up for e-mail alerts by clicking on one of the red envelopes. If you have received a scam e-mail, please notify the IC3 by filing a complaint at [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov). For more information on e-scams, please visit the FBI's New E-Scams and Warnings webpage at <http://www.fbi.gov/cyberinvest/escams.htm>.

### **FRAUDULENT GRAND JURY SUMMONS CONTAINING MALWARE**

04/17/08—The IC3 warns consumers of recently reported spam e-mail containing a fraudulent subpoena notifying recipients they are commanded to appear and testify before a Grand Jury. The e-mail attempts to appear authentic by containing a court case number, federal code, name and address of a California federal court, court room number, issuing officers' names, and a court seal. Recipients are directed to click the link provided in the e-mail in order to download and print associated information for their records. If the recipient clicks the link, malicious code is downloaded onto their computer.

The e-mail also contains language threatening recipients with contempt of court charges if they fail to appear. Recipients are also told the subpoena will remain in effect until the court grants a release. As with most spam, the content contains multiple spelling errors.

If you receive this type of notification and are unsure of its authenticity, you should contact the issuing court for validation.

Be aware; if you receive an unsolicited e-mail, especially from an unknown sender, it is recommended you do not open it. If you do open the e-mail, do not click any embedded links, as they may contain a virus or malware.

**If you have received an e-mail similar to this, please file a complaint at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).**

### **Hot Off the Wire**



Breaking news from last month:

*Portions of this article were excerpted from various news sources including; Network Daily News and Dark Reading.*

Last week, Microsoft in cooperation with National Cyber Forensics Training Alliance (NCFTA), launched the Internet Fraud Service Alert.

Basically, the service creates a trusted and effective mechanism for participating researchers to report stolen account credentials discovered online – such as username and password log-in information for online services or compromised credit card numbers – to the appropriate institution responsible for that account. Through a centralized alerting system powered by Microsoft technology developed specifically for this program, Internet Fraud Alert will quickly inform companies about compromised credentials, allowing them to take the appropriate action to protect their customers.

#### **How It Works**

Every year, millions of people become victims of Internet fraud and the problem is growing. To help protect consumers from this increasingly-common crime, Microsoft has joined forces with the National Cyber-Forensics & Training Alliance (NCFTA), to develop the Internet Fraud Alert.

Internet Fraud Alert creates a trusted and effective mechanism for participating researchers to report stolen account credentials discovered online – such as username and password log-in information for online services or compromised credit card numbers – to the appropriate institution responsible for that account. Through a centralized alerting system powered by Microsoft technology developed specifically for this program, Internet Fraud Alert will quickly inform companies about compromised credentials, allowing them to take the appropriate action to protect their customers.

Phishing and malicious code attacks pose a serious threat to consumer identity and credentials. The number of brands being exploited by phishers is at an all-time high. Consumers remained vulnerable and banks and merchants re-

mained exposed to significant financial loss. Through Internet Fraud Alert, the security community will be empowered to quickly and easily notify stakeholders so they are able to protect their customers and prevent potential financial losses. Microsoft is donating the tool to NCFTA which is a non-profit charged with creating a collaborative effort to more-or-less provide a central clearing house.

## Intel

A few pages ago we mentioned the size and scope of Microsoft as a company. Another Corporation that falls into this mold is Intel. Intel, which has begun a process of migrating from Windows XP to Windows 7, cited the new operating system's performance, security, manageability, and productivity advantages as reasons to upgrade. However, with more than 80,000 employees, it ran a beta deployment using 3,000 of these. During the course of the test, Intel determined that roughly 25% of its Windows XP-era apps would require remediation. This left 75% which installed and had no problem with execution.

For Intel, it was important to establish a controlled workflow, where software versions could be consolidated, tested, and remediated. (The process would be simpler for an individual or SOHO/SMB.) It really boils down to a couple of steps.

First, if an application fails to install or run correctly in Windows 7, try running it in Application Compatibility Mode. Go to the Control Panel, double-click Troubleshooting, and select "Run programs made for previous versions of Windows." Picking the troubled app from a list allows Windows 7 to emulate certain APIs used in operating systems as old as Windows 95. Beyond what Intel terms self-service remediation, the company used two safety net solutions. Primarily, Windows Terminal Services, which works best for large enterprises which takes advantage of many server features. The more interesting answer, which Intel also incorporated, is for individuals or SOHO/SBMs to engage Microsoft's Windows XP Mode—an actual copy of Windows XP running in a virtual machine on Windows 7. The point here is to enable seamless integration. When you set up an app in Windows XP Mode, you bind it to the virtual environment. From then on, whenever a customer starts that piece of software, the virtual PC loads on its own in the background; what's happening underneath the app is transparent.

In Intel's case, 25% of apps written for Windows XP weren't able to launch or install properly in Windows 7. Of that small percentage, most were successfully addressed with remediation through Application Compatibility Mode. Fewer than 10 of the 1,000+ tested titles required one of the safety net options. The message to all should be clear: a vast majority of software—even the older stuff—is Windows 7-ready. Applications that aren't, can be made to run seamlessly in Windows 7 using tools Microsoft bundles with the operating system. Ask Intel, they checked.

On another level, Intel recently announced full implementation of its Spring Peak notebooks. You may already have or soon will be hearing about them. I had the opportunity to have one in my hands. All I can say is; they are really, really cool! There are 3 models; a 13" and two 15". There is also a docking station available that compliments all three of the models. You will not see these on shelves at your neighborhood big box nor will they be on their web sites. Springpeak is an Intel initiative that is only available through their dealer partners. I am one of these partners so if you shoot me an email, I can send you a brochure.

## Webmaster Bulletin -

Dick Rose



## MY FAVORITE GENEALOGY SOFTWARE

I have been using Brother's Keeper software by John Steed for about twenty years to date. This software is available as "shareware" for all these years and it has been maintained (updated) almost monthly, FREE, through all this time. The only charges I have experienced relate to major upgrades traditional in keeping with the variations in the Operating Systems from DOS through the numerous Windows Operating System generations. Through all these years the product has been reliable and friendly. I promote it wholeheartedly.

In the early days of my exposure to the Brother's Keeper software, and in keeping with the exposure to the Internet and the Listserv email experience, I established a BK5-L listserv feature in 1995. I started this service on a network other than Rootsweb (emcee.com) and when Rootsweb became so popular I established BK-L there. The 'archives' at BK-L on Rootsweb show the first message traffic in 1999. By the way, the 'archives' is searchable and if our disciplines have held true the results will all be Brother's Keeper software oriented. This software is furnished in numerous languages and is used worldwide. My BK-L list has 557 members subscribed and we average 103 messages per month pertaining to the use of the software and hints and tips on how best to capture and display our family histories. You are free to enlist this service by merely sending a message to [BK-L-Request@Rootsweb.com](mailto:BK-L-Request@Rootsweb.com) with the word "subscribe" in the subject and the only word in the body of the message.

I mentioned the Rootsweb Listserv Archives above. If you haven't been there before I suggest you give it a try, not only for the Brother's Keeper software, but for your surnames as well. A strong research tool: <http://listsearches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/?list=LISTOWNERS>

If you wish to pick a new hobby, one that will really wrap you in intrigue, select Genealogy. This hobby is one of the most active subjects on the internet and one that will enhance your knowledge of your own Family history. The investigative nature of the hobby will fascinate you to no end - and I mean no end - once involved you will never reach the end of your lineage research. Above all, when you decide to get involved, before you start gathering the family history, decide to set up the database collection software. Here is where I recommend Brother's Keeper software - you can download it FREE from the Internet at [www.bkwin.com](http://www.bkwin.com) or [www.bkwin.net](http://www.bkwin.net) as "shareware" and start gathering your data for entry into the database. With that you can start enjoying your new hobby. Bill Frank, President of Computer Assisted Genealogy Group (CAGG) or I can assist you along the way. As a matter of fact, the computers in the Computer Lab at the Fairview Senior Center are all equipped with Brother's Keeper software. We teach the use of this software in our curriculum. I guarantee you will begin an enjoyable new hobby with this action.

I mentioned "shareware" above: Brother's Keeper is a Shareware product protected by Copyright. It is NOT public domain or free software. Shareware is a method of distributing software, whereby copies may be passed around and each user may determine whether or not the program is suitable for him or her. After you have tested this program for yourself, and if you find it to be useful for you, you are requested to send the registration fee to the author of the program, John Steed. The author of the program is not paid any fee when you buy a CD from a user group or a company selling Shareware. The only way the author gets paid is when you register. If you want to encourage programs of this type, please register by sending \$45 and the registration form which can be printed from the main screen by picking HELP, and the How to Register or register at [www.bkwin.com](http://www.bkwin.com).

Registered users will receive the current version, a printed manual, technical support, a password to turn on all features and they are entitled to use the program, and all future upgrades to the program. They will also receive substantial discounts on future versions. Minor upgrades are made frequently to the program, so you may wish to check to see if a new feature that you desire has been added. On the Internet, go to this web site: <http://www.bkwin.com> or <http://www.bkwin.net>

**Bulletin****Board**

*A few notes from members for the membership!*

Dick Rose says:

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY**

Again this year we are presenting you with our special "Christmas In July" membership opportunity. If you are a current member and wish to extend your membership for one or more years, July is when you should do so. Our normal membership year is based on the time of your entry and twelve months forward. The renewal fee is normally \$25.00 any time you renew. If you prepare your check and send it to us postmarked in July the renewal amount is only \$20.00 per additional year, regardless of the expiration month. Yes, we will accept more than one year at that rate per additional years if you wish to do so. This bargain is only good during the month of July so please don't ask us to acknowledge this rate if you neglect to get it to us in July.

Keep in mind that membership in NEOPC by one member of a household shall include all members of that household as one voting member.

This offer is extended to members renewal, a new membership is still at the normal rate as shown in our brochure obtainable on our website at <http://www.neopc.org/membership.htm>.

Renewals send to: NEOPC Membership, 4273 Grannis Rd., Fairview Park, OH 44126.

**INTEREST WANING**

An attempt to gather enough members who might be interested in learning more about the Yahoo Group concept failed to materialize on June 15th. After setting up all the necessary equipment Bill Frank and I were disappointed to have only four members in our first Yahoo Group Workshop. As a result future such workshops have been cancelled. If you are sincere about participating in such an effort please let Bill or me know personally. We can perhaps schedule at another time and place.

**Web Site**

I thought you might like to know that our Forum usage has started to show improvement. Since the first of the year 68 different members have logged into the Forum. That represents 48% of the 141 total memberships eligible to use the feature. We certainly would like to see more of you using the Forum.

We thought the Contest would draw more attention to the feature, however the average was 39 contestants each of the four months. Robert Davis, Tony Kurkov, Jim Monica, and Pat McNea were the monthly winners.

Why not give it a try, and while there snoop around and see all the neat stuff that was brought to light and responded to - this is a real winner for our Club - and really shows off the advantage of belonging.

## NEOPC - General Meeting Presentations

### Date

### 2010 Programs

- July 14 “Microsoft Excel 2010 Updates” by Bill Jelen / Mr. Excel. Bill's talk includes new features in Excel 2010, how to create hundreds of tiny charts on a single page, how to create pivot tables from multiple worksheets, how to process millions of records with the new PowerPivot add-in...and more.
- August 11 “Digital Photography” by Mike Volker. Mike’s talk includes digital photography - what it is, how to catalog and save the photos, how to enhance the photos and more...
- September 8 “Web Browsers” by Dennis Lewis. Dennis’s talk includes Explorer, Firefox, Chrome and others.

### Proposed Programs

- October 13 “E-readers for E-Books” by Shawn Walsh. Shawn’s talk on e-readers includes the new Apple “Ipad”- Tablet, Kindle and others.
- November 10 "E-Mail Etiquette and Online Communication" by Janet Anderson. Janet will help us improve on our written communications and e-mail etiquette.
- December 8 “How to Evaluate Medical Information on the Internet” by West Shore Hospital Staff.

JPM 6/22/2010

**Be sure to join us at the regular meeting on July 14th! Mr. Excel, Bill Jelen will amaze you with his many feats of prestidigitation. More to the point, Putting Excel to work for you!**




## Coming Events

*July 2010*

Event Date	Event
07/01	CHRISTMAS IN JULY - again this month we honor the Club holiday by having an unusually great program at our General Meeting as well as having unusually great refreshments - Strawberry Shortcake. As part of our celebration we also have a special rate of dues for renewal of membership. Members only - send \$20 (five dollars less than our normal renewal rate) post marked in July and we add one year to your expiration date. Send to NEOPC Membership, 4273 Grannis Road, Fairview Park, OH 44126.
07/13	Northeast Ohio PC Club ***MORNING Fundamentals Special Interest Group*** (SIG). Fairview Park Senior Center 9:30 - 11:30am. Fundamentals of computer use - OPEN FORUM - Any and all topics discussed - Bring a question, bring a topic - Guests always welcome - Always coffee. Always free and open to the public. Second Tuesday of the month.
07/13	NEOPC LUNCH BUNCH - Join our monthly luncheon group after the Fundamentals meeting on the second Tuesday of each month. We roam around the Westside to different restaurants. Let Dick Rose know if interested in joining our friendly gathering by email at neopc@cox.net by Sunday, July 11th to be included in the count for reservations. He'll let you know where each month's gathering will take place by separate email. It is not mandatory that you attend the prior meeting to participate, but we would enjoy seeing you then as well.
07/14	Northeast Ohio PC Club (NEOPC) General Meeting, Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH. Agenda: 6:30pm- Social (Special "Strawberry Shortcake" and Beverages); 7:00pm- Club Announcements; 7:15pm-Main Program "Microsoft Excel 2010 Updates" by Bill Jelen / Mr. Excel. Bill's talk includes new features; how to create hundreds of tiny charts on a single page; how to create pivot tables from multiple worksheets; how to process millions of records with new Power Pivot add-in and more... Don't forget...during the July period the NEOPC Club has "Christmas in July" membership renewal-so bring your check and see Dick Rose.
07/19	Computer & Microsoft Study Group, Meetings are usually held on 3rd Mondays and the times vary during the day or evening at the Middleburg Heights Public Library. The Library is located at 15600 E. Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130. The next meeting is on July 19, 2010, will be held from 7-9 p.m. We discuss Microsoft Office products. Always free and open to the public; whether or not members of Northeast Ohio PC Club. If you need additional information, contact Eve Sachs, Special Interest Group Leader, E-Mail: <a href="mailto:eveneopc@wowway.com">eveneopc@wowway.com</a> .
07/20	Yahoo Groups Summer Workshops - MEETING CANCELLED - Lack of Interest
07/27	Yahoo Groups Summer Workshops - MEETING CANCELLED - Lack of Interest
07/27	Northeast Ohio PC Club ***EVENING Fundamentals Special Interest Group*** (SIG). NO MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE