



Brevard Users Group



An FACUG 1st place Newsletter!

May 2002

Editors Desk:

by Jack Nash

In reference to our recent award from FACUG, this newsletter is a group effort and its success is totally due to the hard work of everybody on the team. Jim Townsend, John Williams and Ed McEwen show up at every SIG meeting and help keep your editor straight, (no small task). And of course, John takes care of the mailing each month so you get your copy on time.

In addition we all should say a Special "Thanks" to our contributors who help fill these pages with useful information each month. Specifically our gratitude to Jim Clear and Rex Cummings for the

Disk of the Month and to Jim Hally for his outstanding Newbies Column. Without this kind of help we wouldn't have a newsletter, prize winner or not.



SYMPATHY
Our sympathy and condolences
to
Jim Clear on the loss of his Mother.
Our Prayers are with Jim and
his Family.



Table of Contents

Editors Desk	1	Disk Of The Month	8
Secretarys Report	3	Heaven or Hell?	9
Treasurers Report	4	Newbies Corner	10
Windows XP Tips	4	Bytes Of Law	12
Yahoo Alert	5	Inner Peace	13
Analyze Your Computer	6	Keyboard Shortcuts	14
Senator Brutalizes Intel Rep	7		

Brevard Users Group

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The articles contained in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Group, Editor, or Publisher or any other person other than the author of the article.

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All questions, correspondence, and other items pertaining to the Newsletter should be directed to one of the Editors.

Questions involving advertising should be directed to **Advertising** at the address below.

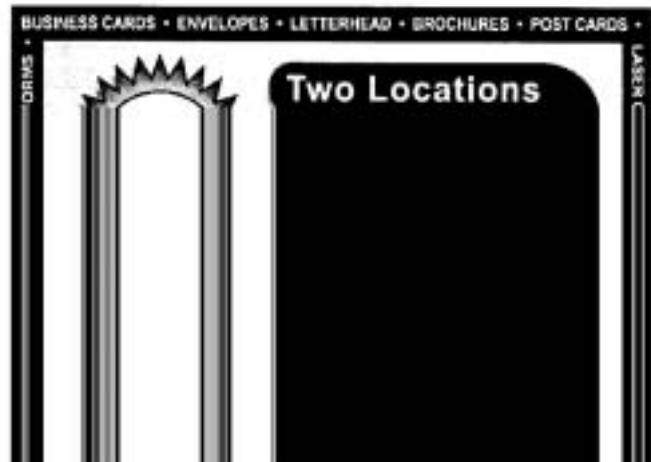
Articles or items of interest for inclusion in the newsletter should be sent to **The Editor** at:

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*THE NEXT MEETING
OF THE
BREVARD USERS GROUP
WILL BE ON
May 15th, 2002
AT 7:00 pm
IN
Melbourne Library
Visitors welcome!*

**There will be a drawing
for Door Prizes!
You must be a member
and present to win!**

Check the Web Site for next program at:
<http://home.palmnet.net/~bug/>



Wanted!

The BUG Club needs an old laptop that runs DOS, or Windows 3x. It would be used for the Treasurer's files.

This would allow the program and records of the present treasurer to be transferred to a new treasurer without the new treasurer having to fill up his hard drive, etc. to keep our records. It would also avoid the Club having to invest in new software when the officers change.

Anyone who has an old unit gathering dust in a closet they are willing to donate, please contact the President or the Treasurer.



Secretary's Report

BUG Meeting 4/17/2002

by Mary Alice Grant (acting Secretary)

George Rymer, President started the meeting at 7pm by introducing all the officers and the SIG chairman's. George announced that the BUG Newsletter won first prize from FACUG for the best newsletter. The prize was an Adobe Suite of software consisting of Acrobat, Photoshop and more worth approximately \$1,600.00. Congratulations are in store for the Newsletter Editor and all the people on his committee. Thanks guys, for a job well done.

During a question and answer period, the members learned how to remove all files within the temp folder, temp Internet folder, Netscape cache, and cookies folder. They were advised that once this was done the machine should run faster than before. It is a good idea to run defrag after cleaning out the temp folders.

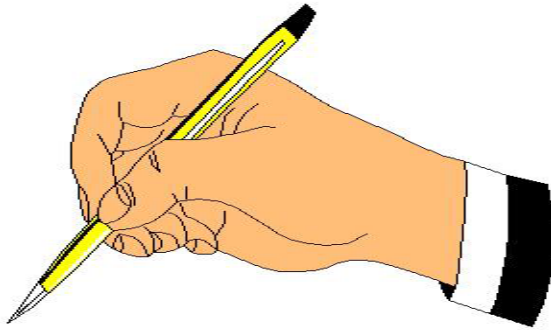
Jim Townsend gave a presentation on Windows XP. It was from a training CD that was sent to him from Microsoft when he purchased Windows XP Professional. The members and guests learned how to install new equipment and software using Win XP. Install drivers from Microsoft for updates for the programs being installed. Also, XP's compatibility with other or older software by allowing one to choose which version of Windows works best with the software for older programs, as XP separates its files instead of sharing files as most software is designed. Windows XP is the latest operating system format that Microsoft sells, and is automatically installed on all newly purchased computers. It is a more stable and user-friendly operating system.

The meeting ended with five people receiving nice gifts at 8:10pm. Have a good computing day and see you next month.

~



Memorial Day May 27 (Observed) - May 30 Traditional



Treasurer's Report

by Ted Glaser

Account Balances as of 20 APR 02

Checking Acc't	\$ 871.07
DDDW Savings	\$2148.46

New Members: Welcome Aboard!

Masset, L - #1179
 Perry, J - #1178
 Swiegert, M - #1180

The following have renewed: **Thanks!**

Barbour, R - #692
 Browne, H - #712
 Cassella, D - #1113
 Comstock, R - #998
 Geist, J - #905
 Lee, B - #311
 Macclendon, T - #1108
 MacNeill, J - #390
 Schamberg, L - #1057
 Schnelle, K - #992
 Wagner, L - #1152
 Williams, J - #973



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Computer Service & Training

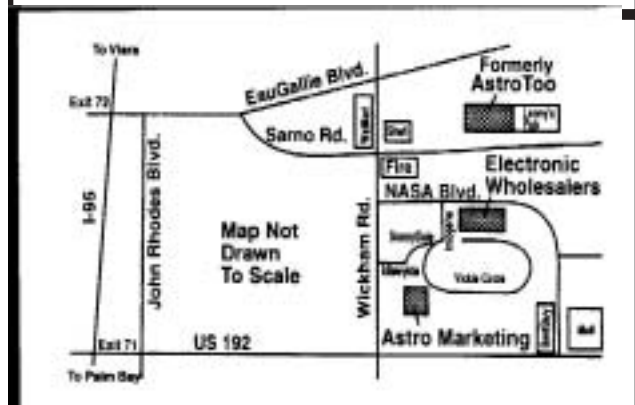
6949W. Nasa Blvd. (321) 727-9010

W. Melbourne, FL 32904 Fax: (321) 253-2292

Web Site: AstroToo.com

Email: Astro@AstroToo.Com

NEW LOCATION!



Windows XP Tips

by Tom Lassiter, Houston League of PC Users
reprinted from cswf.org of the Computer Society of W. Florida

This month's tips are all for XP. I have been waiting to give people time to get it and enough have how done so that we will start having them. As usual, tips that are for a specific version will be noted in the tip title, i.e., W98, W2000, WXP, etc.

Renaming Series of Pictures or Files (WXP)

Remember all those Christmas pictures from your digital camera, and how they came out numbered OOOOOOO1.jpg in sequence- a totally meaningless name? Let's see how to give them a name and number you can read and understand. CLICK on START and the folder where the pics or files are. CLICK on the Views button of the Toolbar and change the view from Filmstrip to Thumbnails. Select all the pics or files you want to be in the series, using SHIFT or CTRL keys in normal

Continued on page 5

Yahoo Alert

By Steve Bass

Alert to Users Groups

Some of you have Yahoo accounts or belong to Yahoo groups and may remember when they closed for maintenance for a few days? It turns out Yahoo added a “marketing” area to the account set up area of groups with 14 new categories, including “Special offers from selected 3rd parties delivered by Yahoo.” For our convenience, they signed us up for all of them.

—>> Important: Some of you are just subscribed to one or two Yahoogroup lists and aren’t registered with Yahoo. If so, you needn’t take any action. Find out if you’re registered by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/mygroups>. If you’re registered, Yahoo will recognize you; if not, it’ll ask if you want to register, something you needn’t do.

Here’s how: When you’re logged in at Yahoogroups, click on ‘Account Info’ on the top right corner of the screen. Enter your password when prompted, then below the listing of your email addresses, you’ll see a link for “Edit Your Marketing Preferences”, click on that.

You’ll see it’s set to YES (“please send me spam”) on every option. Set them all to NO. Don’t forget the two towards the bottom of the page about phone and snail mail spam. Click the button to save it.

P.S. You may feel confused by the Yahoo Registration process and have questions. Unfortunately, with over 2000 people on the lists I moderate, I don’t have the bandwidth to provide additional support. —Steve



XP Tips continued from 4

Windows selection practice. RIGHT -CLICK on the first in your highlighted list and select RENAME. Name the first one, maybe Christmas2001.jpg then CLICK in the white space next to one of the other pics. Bingo, all in the series will be renamed (Christmas2001 (1).jpg, Christmas2001 (2).jpg, etc.). Now you will recognize them the next time you see them in a folder.

Personalize Your Welcome Screen (WXP)

Remember why we call them personal computers -because you can personalize them. So, why put up with Microsoft’s Welcome screen when you can put up a cool digital photo of your choice from your scanner or digital camera. First put the picture in your My Pictures folder. Don’t worry about its size, as it will resize correctly on its own later. CLICK on START, CONTROL PANEL, then USER ACCOUNTS. CLICK your account then CHANGE MY PICTURE. Browse to select the picture you want to use and CLICK to OPEN. Now when you open the Welcome screen there it is.

Prefer the Classic Start Menu and Desktop? (WXP)

The new XP Start Menu and Desktop have a lot going for them. But if it is too much for you starting off and/or you just prefer the Classic (read old) screen, then you may have it. RIGHT -CLICK on the Start Menu and CLICK on PROPERTIES. CLICK on CLASSIC START MENU. Next CLICK the CUSTOMIZE button to show your selectable items for your START menu. This process also adds the My Documents, My Computer, My Network Places, and Internet Explorer icons to your desktop. (Don’t ask me why you have to add them manually in XP). Another way to accomplish the same thing is to RIGHT -CLICK on the Desktop and select PROPERTIES. CLICK on the APPEARANCES tab and WINDOWS CLASSIC then OK. Yes, Windows still usually gives you at least three ways to do about everything. But the third one on this you’ll have to find for yourself. [Tom Lassiter is a computer trainer and former HAL-PC board member. He may be reached atjamesl@hal-pc.org]



ANALYZE YOUR COMPUTER

by George McGinnis
Computer Society of West Florida

The Internet site called PCPITSTOP is one of the very useful sites on the Internet. By using the site you will accomplish an analysis of your computer. Unfortunately, the site is little known and little used. If you check into this site you can have a quite complete and very useful check on your computer hardware and that part of your software relating to the Internet. It checks the following: Operating system, Memory, All drives, Video, Internet connections, Windows, Security, and makes a comparison with other computers. The site is free and very easy to use. After the analysis, you are presented with the items that are in good condition, and those that need extra work. In many situations, there is an automatic “fix” for your computer’s deficiencies.

Let me give you a quick introduction to the site, and then you take it from there. First, please defragment your hard drive, and also run the scan disk program. After this has been accomplished reboot your computer. By doing this you can save having to do it later. Now disable your virus detector. Next go to the Internet site Error! Bookmark not defined.. Once there you should read over the instructions on the Home Page. Here is the fastest route to follow at this point.

1. Click on the automobile ignition key
2. Click on new member
3. Say YES to loading the utility program
4. Run the test anonymously rather than signing up as a new member
5. Follow each instruction. Read the material carefully.
6. If you have a virus detector, even though disabled, it may pop up and warn you at least twice. If this occurs allow the intrusion. No virus is being inserted

7. You will see a list of items to accomplish. First click on “Test my Computer” and follow directions.

This will take perhaps ten minutes for the program to run many tests. During this period do not touch the mouse or keyboard. When the program is finished, you will be presented with a list of items that are in good shape, and those with caution flags, or danger flags. You need to worry about either of these conditions. You can click on the problem, and in most cases there is an automatic fix for the problem. I recommend you allow the automatic fix to be accomplished in each case.

After you have done all of the above, go back to the original interface and click on Internet Connections. This program will check out your ISP connection and advise you of the speed. You should retry this connection several times because several things influence connection speeds and an average of several readings will be more meaningful.

8. Now reboot, and return to the site and repeat the program. This time the yellow and red flags are likely replaced by the “good shape” flag, and your computer will likely run faster. In my case, I had 5 red and yellow flags after the first test, and was able to eliminate all of them by following instructions to use the automatic fix.

9. After you have completed all the above tests, now return to the Home Page, and click on Internet Connections. Here you can run several tests on the speed of your Internet Connection. You can also download a program to tweak the speed of your connection. This feature is a great way to determine how well you and your ISP are working together.

To summarize, this is a very useful program and one you need to run once in a while to make certain your computer is still in good shape. There is no charge for the program if you use my instructions..



Senator brutalizes Intel rep for resisting CPRM

By Thomas C Greene in Washington

Entertainment industry lapdog Senator Fritz Hollings (Democrat, South Carolina) lashed out at Intel executive VP Leslie Vadasz who warned that the copy-protected PCs Hollings is obediently promoting on behalf of his MPAA and RIAA handlers would stifle growth in the marketplace.

“We do not need to neuter the personal computer to be nothing more than a videocassette recorder,” Vadasz said in testimony before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation Thursday.

An obedient Hollings tore into the witness, calling his testimony “nonsense”.

“Now where do you get all this nonsense about how we’re going to have irreparable damage?” Hollings demanded. “We don’t want to legislate. We want to give you time to develop technology.”

The “we” he mentions, it’s quite obvious, refers to the entertainment industry flacks and lobbyists who wrote Hollings’ pet bill, the Security Systems Standards and Certification Act (SSSCA), which would require hard drives to fail to load ‘insecure’ applications, and perhaps even operating systems at some point in future. Tinkering with one’s own personal property to defeat this Orwellian innovation would be criminally punishable.

This is of course the entertainment industry’s dream, as it seeks to hobble all equipment so that it can determine when, where and how its content can be enjoyed by consumers. Copying any content from one medium to another could be blocked on the pretext of piracy prevention, so it’s entirely possible that one would have to purchase two CDs with the same content — one for the computer and one for the stereo, say. It’s this sort of extortion the industry has relentlessly lobbied Congress to enshrine in law.

Defeating piracy is the pretext; but obliterating the consumer’s right to fair use is the true goal. But because Congress can’t quite bring itself to eliminate fair use directly and up-front, a series of laws like the DMCA and SSSCA have been devised to eliminate it practically, or ‘incidentally’.

Naturally, the hardware industry is going to resist

any law which forces it to break its products. It understands that consumers will be disappointed by equipment which fails to let them enjoy content which they’ve purchased. They see a slump in sales in the SSSCA. And they’re probably right.

The hearing was a typical Congressional dog-and-pony show designed to stroke Hollywood fat cats like Michael Eisner and Jack Valenti pursuing the Holy Grail of pay-per-use technology. No critics were invited to speak, and no harsh criticism was expected.

So when Intel’s Vadasz showed the spine to blast the entertainment industry’s pet scheme, he had to be beaten down, and Hollings was of course eager to please his masters.

Eisner and Valenti also testified, exhibiting their profound ignorance of technology and their sneering contempt for the rights of consumers, under Hollings’ admiring gaze. Hollings, apparently, is an ‘honest politician’ according to Brendan Behan’s formula: when he’s bought, he stays bought.

Hollings has also adopted the industry’s basic stance, that copying is primarily about piracy and only rarely about honest fair use, at one point calling the Internet “a haven for thievery.” But the best expression of this comes from Recording Industry Ass. of America President Hillary Rosen, who wrote yesterday that, “surely, no one can expect copyright owners to ignore what is happening in the marketplace and fail to protect their creative works because some people engage in copying just for their personal use.”

The ‘some people’ says it all. Most people are criminals, and only a tiny minority are honest and decent, Rosen assumes. This is also the official perspective of Hollywood — of Eisner, and Valenti, and Hollings. It is a perspective natural to a certain class of person. Consider that we all imagine others to be more or less like ourselves. Decent people expect others to be decent, just like themselves. Criminals expect others to be criminals, just like themselves. When Eisner and Rosen and Valenti and Hollings see a world populated by cheats and frauds and freeloading scum, what does that say about them? ® Reprint by permission of **The Register** <http://www.theregus.com/content/54/24195.html>



Disk of the Month: May, 2002

Compiled by Jim Clear & Rex Cummings

* all zip files have been converted to executable zip files.

- Humpback Whale.jpg Desktop Wallpaper Picture.

- Spinners.jpg Desktop Wallpaper Picture.

- Tropical Oasis.jpg Desktop Wallpaper Picture.

- Twin beams.jpg Desktop Wallpaper Picture.

- USS Alabama.jpg Desktop Wallpaper Picture.

- White Bengal Tiger.jpg Desktop Wallpaper Picture.

- Desktop setup text to help those who do not know how to change their wallpaper. (Desktop Setup.TXT) for Win95 or 98

- **Application Inventory 2.1** (Application Inventory.exe) by Funduc Software, Inc.
From the developer: "Application Inventory performs an inventory of software installed on your system. The program scans your hard disks for .exe files and then does an optional cross-check for windows shortcuts and registry references to those files. The scan report lists information about file size, version, and path location. Configurable include and exclude filters can be used to focus the search by path and/or string in the file version information.
System Requirements: Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP

Purchase Information: Shareware; \$15.00

- **Farkle 1.0** (Farkle.exe) by Wasted Spare Time.

From the developer: "Farkle is an easy to play, but addictive, dice game. Features include: upgrading, help file, save and open games, and many options."
System Requirements: Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP

Purchase Information: Free

- **Quote Of The Day 1.0** (Quote Of The Day.exe) by Quotesoft.

From the developer: "Quote Of The Day is just a

little program which is designed to remind you of the more important things in life, make you think or maybe just make you laugh. Quote Of The day is designed to be run every time the computer starts up, but you can certainly run it yourself at any time! Features include fully editable quotes and category database, last 10 quote history, selectable categories for display and much more! Comes with 200 quotes ready to go."

System Requirements: Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP), Visual Basic 6 Runtime Library

Purchase Information: Free

- **Spam-Killer 1.2** (spamkiller12b.exe) by DeKSoft.

From the developer: "SPAM-Killer is a program which aim is to 'kill' all the spam that you receive on your pop3 mail account. SPAM-Killer spammer recognizing is based on having two lists, one of friends and the other of spammers. This program works with the spam that you receive, and doesn't have any list with known spammer mailers, like other programs do. It is very easy to use, even for those who are not too familiar with the PCs!."

System Requirements: Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP

Purchase Information: Free

- **StupidDream Screensaver 1.0**

(StupidDream Screensaver.exe) by StrongGames.
From the developer: "StupidDream Screensaver is joke 3D screensaver. It presents a flying golden lavatory pan."

System Requirements: Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP

Purchase Information: Free

- **System Resource Monitor 1.1** (System Resource M.exe) by Nerdwareinc.com.

From the developer: "This is a simple tool that runs in the system tray and monitors CPU and RAM usage. It can load at startup and optimize RAM. System Resource Monitor also creates short historical resource utilization graphs."

System Requirements: Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP

Purchase Information: Shareware



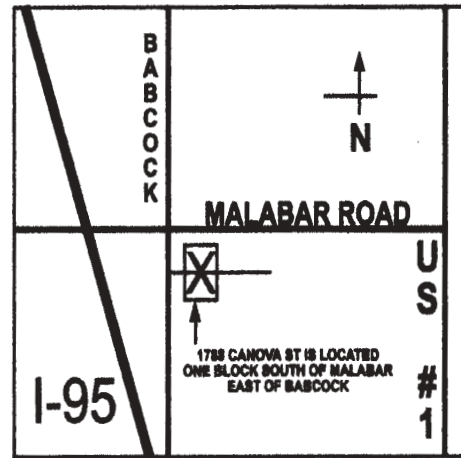
Got Ink?



HP
Canon
Epson
Apple
Compaq
Lexmark

Refill Kits
and
New Cartridges

**We Do Inkjet Printer
Service & Repair**



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952.8177

HEAVEN OR HELL?

Bill Gates died and found himself in Purgatory being sized up by God. "Well, Bill," God said, "I'm really confused about this call; I'm not sure whether to send you to Heaven or Hell. After all, you helped society by putting a computer in almost every home in the world, and yet you created that ghastly Windows 95. So I'm going to do something I've never done before. In your case, I'm going to let you decide where you want to go!"

Bill replied, "Well, thanks, God. What's the difference between the two?"

God said, "I'm willing to let you visit both places briefly if it will help you make a decision."

"Fine, but where should I go first?"

God said, "I'm going to leave that up to you."

Bill said, "Okay, then, let's try Hell first." So off Bill went to Hell. It was a beautiful, clean, sandy beach with clear waters. There were thousands of beautiful women running around, playing in the water, laughing and frolicking about. The sun was shining, the temperature was perfect. Bill was very pleased. "This is great!" he told God. "If this is Hell, I REALLY want to see Heaven!" "Fine," said God and off

they went.

Heaven was a high place in the clouds, with angels drifting about playing harps and singing. It was nice, but not as enticing as Hell. Bill thought for a quick minute and rendered his decision. "Hmrrn, I think I prefer Hell," he told God.

"Fine," God replied, "as you desire." So Bill Gates went to Hell.

Two weeks later, God decided to check up on the late billionaire to see how he was doing in Hell. When God arrived in Hell, he found Bill shackled to a wall, screaming among the hot flames in a dark cave. He was being burned and tortured by demons. "How's everything going, Bill?" God asked.

Bill responded (his voice full of anguish and disappointment), "This is awful; this is not what I expected. I can't believe this happened. What happened to that other place with the beaches and the beautiful women playing in the water?"

"Ah," God said, "That was just the screensaver."

Reprint from P. C. Communicator of Sun City Center, FL April 2002



Newbies Corner

by Jim Hally B.U.G. Member

Fonts are Phunny

Computers use the term font to describe the different shape of letters. Some common fonts are Arial, Courier and Times New Roman. They are not really fonts. They are typefaces. Typographers refer to a collection of all characters in a typeface of a given size and variation, as a font. I think programmers felt Font was a lot cooler word than typeface.

They thought it was so cool they didn't tell some of us how to pronounce it. I have heard it said as faunts, founts, funts and fants. The proper way is to use the PH sound and follow that with an Ont as in Ontario, Phont.

Conphusing

Don't forget when this all started the main goal was to get characters to display on a screen. Along came dot-matrix printers and their goal was to copy the screen to paper. It wasn't phancy just useful.

Windows comes with an adequate set of fonts, but many programs and printer drivers include fonts of their own. A big selling point of the different brands of printers was the ability to print more than a few typefaces. I remember, a friend of mine telling 12-15 yrs. ago how "crisp" a document looked when he printed it in Helvetica 12 on an Apple Stylewriter.

My old 486 with a HP 540C printer lists 62 fonts in the Font folder. My newer computer with a HP 932 attached sports a number of 217. That is almost a threefold increase. I don't know how much of that is moving from Windows 98 to ME and how much is the printer drivers. I do know that the fonts in Windows are common. In its attempt to speed up printing Windows uses "font substitutes" using built in fonts where possible. Microsoft's Arial in nearly identical to the Helvetica font found in Post script printers. So when Windows prints Arial it tells the printer to print it as Helvetica.

Sluggish Performance

If you do a little research you will see that Windows can handle as many as 1,000 fonts. Before I go any further let me point out that studies have found that performance suffers once you get over 400 or so. Phil's Fonts on the Internet boasts 15,000 fonts. A lot of that has to be some pretty obscure stuff. For what, I think most of us do, a few hundred has to be enough.

The truth of the matter is that Windows never stops at that number. Let's use the old 486 computer number of 62. If I download 1,001 fonts to the folder it will look like I have 1,063. It may say that number but in truth the last 63 are not installed and won't be until I get rid of 63 of them first.

I can't recall the specifics but one of our users installed the latest version of Createcard. At their prompting she elected to install their new fonts. The program dumped all the fonts into her Font folder and she ended up with font overload. The Lady had no idea what to delete from the fonts folder and had to uninstall the program to get rid of them. In her defense, I wouldn't have known either.

Keep in mind that these programs are creative. To use a common typeface name like Arial, you can call it Ariala by having it fill one more pixel and call it Arialb by having it fill two more. I doubt this is true but I think you get the point. You probably couldn't find the difference with a magnifying glass. I don't mean to pick on the program but how many fonts do you need. In further defense I have seen some beautiful cards.

Take a Break

Go to Control Panel.

Go over to Edit on the Menu bar.

Down to List by Similarity.

Continued on Page 11

This will give you a chance to see what ones are close to other fonts. You can look at each one by double clicking on them. A right click and down to Open will do the same. Oddly once they are open they want to stay open. ??

Somebody, Anybody, tell me the chances of you or me picking Franklin Gothic Demi instead of TW Cen Mt condensed? Get Real! Guess what? These are long file names thus using up more hard drive space.

I don't have Creatacard so there are a few questions. I don't know if their fonts load up every time you start a word processor document. If they do that it has to add some time to starting up the document, blank or otherwise. I don't know if you can load their fonts into a separate folder, by choosing something other than the fonts folder when you install the program. If this is the case I would create a folder on my HD and call it Fancy or something and drag the fonts I liked into the fonts folder.

Don't Delete Your Fonts

I bet you didn't see that coming. I have some instructions here that I would follow to the letter, to play it safe. At the end of the column I will provide a list of fonts you should NOT delete. At the next SIG meeting I will have a copy of fonts you should not delete because of use by other programs, as well as a list of Windows 98 default fonts. I wouldn't delete them either.

Make a folder on your Hard Drive and call it Myfonts.

Open the Fonts folder and copy and save it to Myfonts.

Go back to the Fonts folder and get rid of the excess fonts you probably won't use. If your

machine runs fine after deleting the fonts from the Fonts folder you are home free. I would then consider taking them out of Myfonts as well. If you have a lot of fonts this will be like going to the dentist. You hate it but it should be done. You can always view the fonts by double clicking on them, one at a time.

Do Not Delete the following

Arial (TrueType){tt for short in the list here}
Arial Bold tt,
Arial Bold Italic tt,
Arial Italic tt,

Courier 10,12,15 (VGA res),
Courier New tt,
Courier New Bold tt,
Courier New Bold Italic tt,
Courier New Italic tt,

Martlett (windows 95/98),
Modern (Plotter),
MS Sans Serif 8, 10,12,14,18,24 (VGA res),
MS Serif 8,10,12,14,18,24 (VGA res),

Roman (Plotter),
Script (Plotter),
Small fonts (VGA res),
Symbol tt, Symbol 8,10,12,14,18,24 (VGA res),

Times New Roman tt,
Times New Roman Bold tt,
Times New Roman Bold Italic tt,
Times New Roman Italic tt,

Wingdings tt,

Any font with a red A for its icon,
Any font that begins with the lettersMS.



Bytes of Law: The Return of Copy Protection

by Roland JJ Cole

Some of you, regardless of age, have been around long enough to remember all the schemes that were used to prevent a user from making copies of software. The “key disk” (a floppy with a few sectors altered in a special way) and the “dongle” (a small device that fit on your serial port) are just two of the schemes. All of them were relatively easy to break. Even before the Internet, swap meets and computer bulletin boards quickly brought out various schemes for getting around the protection. In addition, all got in the way of legitimate use, like backups and reinstallation after a computer crash.

So... a group of personal computer user groups, led by Capitol PC and the Boston Computer Society, among others, persuaded major vendors, including the stand-alone Lotus at that time, that copy protection was costing more than it was worth. It did not stop the evildoer, and it did get in the way of the honest user.

There was not much concern about copying music, because the copies (reel-to-reel tape, even cassettes) were so inferior to the originals that they were not a threat.

Now fast forward 20 years (or so - ouch!). One can make copies of music that are almost or entirely indistinguishable from the originals, and the software industry has collapsed into a few giants and thousands of tiny firms. The cost benefit ratio of copy protection has swung back the other way. The major firms appear less worried about annoying the users (think of the “prove you are honest” letters being sent to businesses around the country concerning computer software, and the reluctance of the music firms to work with any sort of reasonable online distribution), and the copies are easier to make, higher in quality, and easier to spread around the world.

The most notable of re-emergence in the computer arena is the “product activation” built into two new Microsoft products - Office XP and Windows XP. That has been covered extensively in the computer press. Next is the copy protection that music companies are building into some of the music CD’s. Of course, there is also the “serial copy management system” required by the Audio Home Recording Act (discussed in an earlier version of this column) and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act protection for copyright management information (also discussed in an earlier column).

Now there is the possibility of the most intrusive form yet. It has been said that “no one’s life, liberty or property is safe while the legislature is in session.” As if to prove the truth of that saying, Senator Fritz Hollings of South Carolina has introduced a bill called the Security Systems Standards and Classification Act (SSSCA). The essence of the act appears in Section 101(a)

“IN GENERAL - It is unlawful to manufacture, import, offer to the public, provide or otherwise traffic in any interactive digital device that does not include and utilize certified security technologies that adhere to the security system standards adopted under Section 104.”

There is an exception for devices existing at the time the bill is passed (i.e., your existing hard drive, CD recorder, etc.), and the Secretary of Commerce may create other exceptions via regulation.

But everything else is included. Note the definition of a device that must include AND UTILIZE a certified security technology in Section 109(3):

“(3) INTERACTIVE DIGITAL DEVICE -The term “interactive digital device” means any machine, device, product, software, or technology, whether or not included with or as part of some other machine, device, product, software, or technology, that is designed, marketed, or used for the primary purpose of, and that is capable of, storing, retrieving, processing, performing, transmitting, receiving, or copying information in digital form.”

Continued on page 13

continued from page 12

Most commentators suggest this not only includes hard drives, CD recorders, and other obvious “copying” devices, but also all software programs of any sort, all music of any sort, and a whole array of miscellaneous devices such as digital thermometers, digital clocks, medical devices and the like.

Some are worried that if a bill like this passes, it would mean that the open source software movement would be illegal, unless each submitted program included and used some form of security technology.

Others are worried that the prohibition on removing or altering the security technology involved will hinder research on software and recording technologies. Others are worried that the prohibition on transmitting or making available the “copyrighted material OR OTHER PROTECTED CONTENT” that a certified technology was protecting will extend protection all sorts of material, such as public domain works, public works, pure facts, and the like that were exempt from copyright in the past - thus extending the copyright act way beyond its current status, all in the guise of protecting music.

Some comment that the bill reminds one of the teacher that keeps the entire class in for recess because 2 of the 30 students were fighting over chewing gum.

Finally, the widespread deployment of security technology would enable all kinds of control that are not possible now. As a number of commentators have mentioned in regard to Microsoft’s product activation, why should Microsoft control how much of your computer has to remain the same before the software can be re-installed on it? What if widespread security technology were employed to screen out “undesirable” musicians or “undesirable” software companies (such as those involved with open source software)?

The bill has a long way to go before it, or anything like it is adapted, and Microsoft is already

back-pedaling a bit on how it will employ its product activation. But those of us who remember all the hassles of copy protection, and all the joys of freeware, shareware, open source software, and being able to up-grade our own machines at will (even if we have a purchased license for each and every program we run), should brace for another vigorous debate on how “personal” a personal computer will remain if widespread copy protection returns.

The Bytes of Law series is edited by Rollie Cole, the Legal Editor for Indy PC News, with help from various of his associates at the law firm of Barnes & Thomburg. Rollie hastens to add that this is NOT legal advice (your mileage may vary). For further information, contact him at rcole@btlaw.com

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INNER PEACE

Reprint from the P. C. Communicator of Sun City Center, FL.

One of our members sent this to the PC Communicator and I am passing this on to you

It is definitely working for me.

I think I have found inner peace. I read an article that said the way to achieve inner peace is to finish things I had started.

Today I finished two bags of potato chips, a lemon pie, a fifth of Jack Daniel’s and a small box of chocolate candy.

I feel better already.



Keyboard Shortcuts

Compiled by Jim Townsend, BUG Member

Ctrl-Alt-Del

Doesn't shut the computer down. It brings up a dialog box that allows you to selectively shut down applications. Very useful when a program gets hung.

Ctrl-Alt-Del

Do this to fast boot your machine. It brings up the same dialog box, but this time choose the explorer. When it shuts down 95 has an objection to running without it. It will restart, and you will be back to jump street again

Windows Key

Brings up the Start menu. Type U to shut down or use the arrow keys to scroll through the menu.

Control Key functions

Ctrl-Esc Brings up the start Menu

Ctrl-Tab Jumps to another area of the program

Ctrl-LMouseKey Multiple picks from list

Ctrl- LMouseKey Allows dragging of Multiple selects to another area

Ctrl-C Copies selected item

Ctrl-V Pastes from Clipboard

Ctrl-N Opens a new file in applications

Ctrl-O Invokes the File Open dialog box

Ctrl-P Brings up Printer Dialog box

Ctrl-S Invokes the Save As Dialog Box

Ctrl-Z Undo last action

Ctrl-X Cut selected item

Ctrl-Home Go to top of document

Ctrl- End Go to bottom of document

Alt Key functions

Alt On desktop brings up menu bar

Alt-Esc Brings up running programs one after another

Alt-Tab Allows selection of running programs

Alt-Shift-Tab Resizes DOS Windows full screen

Alt-Shift-Esc Brings up running programs one after another in the opposite direction

Alt-Shift- Tab Allows selection of running programs in the opposite direction

Alt-Spacebar Brings up selection box under icon in left corner

Alt-Enter Resizes DOS windows Full screen/window

Alt-Enter Brings up properties of selected icons

Alt-PrintScreen "In DOS mode it works like the old PrtScr Key, on Windows desktop it copies current window to Clipboard

Alt-letter Watch for Underscored letters on menus

Alt-F4 Exit programs/Exit Win95

Shift Key Functions

Shift-held down On Shut down dialog box will allow fast restart

Shift-arrow key Will highlight text

Shift-Home/End Extends selection to Home or End

Shift-Right Click

On hi-lighted file in Windows Explorer brings up dialog box with the "Open With" option.

Shift-Del Will cut selected text

Shift-Ins Will paste from Clipboard

Shift- Tab Sends Tab key in opposite direction

Shift-F10 Brings up the selected's context menu



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WIN 9X/ME SIG

**Meets 7:00 PM Thursdays
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Library
All Other Thursdays at Melbourne
Library
on Fee Avenue**

BUG Board of Directors

**Meets the second Wednesday of the
month at C.M. Corley's home.
Time 6:00 pm
Call 253-3050 for directions**

NEWSLETTER SIG

**Meets twice a month on the Saturdays
before and after the BUG monthly meeting.
Members interested in helping develop the
newsletter are welcome.
Place is Jim Townsend's home
call 728-5979 for directions.**

TINKERS & INTERNET SIG MEETS

**AT THE EAU GALLIE LIBRARY ON THE
3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH**

Time 7:15 PM

and on most Sundays at

Bob Schmidts house. Call 952-0199

Benefits of Membership In The Brevard Users Group

Annual Subscription to the B.U.G. Newsletter

Some Internet Service Providers give discounts to club members.

A monthly Disk-Of-The-Month containing some Freeware and Shareware software.

Seminars and Workshops.

Special Interest Groups (see back page)

Fellowship with other knowledgeable computer users. Stimulating and lasting friendships.

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**To be included in the BUG E-Mail roster,
send an E-Mail to George Rymer at:
grymer@cfl.rr.com.**

We will need your full name, E-Mail address and your BUG membership number. You will then receive notices and updates on BUG activities, special events, changes to schedules, etc.

Sponsorship Rates

	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
Full Page	\$160.00	\$ 310.00	\$ 550.00
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Brevard Users Group Directory

Meetings:

Are held at the Melbourne Library on Fee Ave. the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM.



Membership

is by application and payment of \$25.00 annual dues. Membership is for 12 months from receipt of dues and includes a year's subscription to the newsletter.

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Frank C. Miller 729-9589 Graphics

Al Buchanan 728-2789 Works 4.5

C. M. Corley 253-3050 Win 95/98

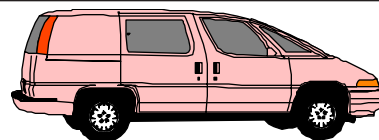
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Frank C. Miller 729-9589 Win 95

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