

Jmaxbits Newsletter 9 20 2012

Important Message from Paul Rabinold, President of The Villages Computer Club

Hello All VCC MEMBERS

I need your help. The Villages Computer Club has on our schedule a presentation by a representative from Microsoft. He will discuss the future direction of Microsoft with new technology and also what the release of Windows 8 means to computer users in The Villages. The session is scheduled for November 2nd. We need to reserve a place for the meeting so we need to get an idea of how many people will attend. This is where your help comes in. Would you attend this presentation? Please help us out. Send email to villagescomputerclub@gmail.com with a YES or NO re attending the Microsoft presentation.

Thank You Paul Rabenold

Friday Sept. 21, 2012 La Hacienda Time 1:00 PM

We have another great VCC Workshop planned where you can visit any of our tables each covering one or more subjects and staffed by knowledgeable technical support people.

Please join us. There will be refreshments, 50/50 and door prizes.

The subjects for this workshop are:

- **General Questions – Windows 7 – Peter Cronas**
- **General Questions – Carl Bell**
- **Android – Ted Wright**
- **IPad – Art Fenn**
- **Photo editing with Picasa and Photoshop Elements - Jack Casto**
- **G-mail, Yahoo Mail – Richard Woods**
- **Facebook/Skype and some other software goodies – Paul Rabenold**

- Kindle & AOL – J Maxine Miller & Virginia Mauldin

Sign up to be on the VCC email list at the VCC home page:

<http://www.villagescomputerplus.com>

For more information on the VCC, please reference the club's web site (above).

Guests are always welcome as long as they have a village ID card.

For information, email Paul Rabenold at

TVCC.Pres@gmail.com

Monday is world cancer day... Pray for a cure for cancer!!!

You won't BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING. WATCH VIDEO AND CHECK YOUR CARDS. Check your newer credit cards for the Wi-Fi Symbol on it.

<http://youtube.googleapis.com/v/ILAFhTjsQHw%26sns=em>

A review of changes to SmartComputing Magazine

To all with some computer interests:

a few years ago SmartComputing Magazine sent a team to introduce itself to us and sign us up, and give the VCC (Villages Computer Club) credit for each person that subscribed.

In those days it offered *unlimited calls* to their *help line* at no charge, as long as you were a paid subscriber. Staffed with an American person to handle your problem. Promise!

Sometime after that they cut that out, and said from now on you now could only get ONE free help session during each subscription year. All additional help calls would cost you, at least \$27 or something like that. One time when I called in I was asked, did I really want to use up my 'free' help call for that (a small questions about something) - or would I rather research it and save the call for "something important".

Then it also offered an online version of the magazine. I switched over because there was a saving on the subscription, but I found that I'd rather pay a bit more and get a hardcopy.

My MAIN reason for keeping subscribed was their Q&A Forum that came with the subscription. I learned to solve a lot of my problems, or dig up answers. Even dug up things for some of my friends.

I'd not visited the site for a while - imagine my surprise and disgust after I logged on ---- to find nothing but a portal to advertising stuff.

For some time, the hardcopy had been getting glitzier and more advertising oriented. I thought, well they need to make money in this tough time. Then, they still posted the price of the item they were "reviewing". That changed a few issues ago.

Now it all glitzy photos, and a wonderful write-up, and no price - the typical way to show higher-end merchandise. Most computer-types know their pricing, and if they look at something and it's high priced, they tend to search other shores - they probably won't proceed to the website...

My Google search for *Smartcomputing Q&A Forum* found a site that wants to mimic SmartComputing Q&A, but I'm not so sure if it will come close.

Margaret (VCC member)

Emails sent under your email address that You didn't send

Or you get emails from friends and family asking "Why did you send this email to me?" And you KNOW you didn't send it.

This is sometimes due to someone who has your name in their address book having one of the worms that can hide itself and then use that email address book to send itself to everyone in the address book. It chooses a name in that address book to be listed as the SENDER so that it can remain hidden. That is why you received the email from yourself to yourself. Your name is in that address book.

This is what I've done and what I've advised many others with the problem to do that usually solves the problem. First of all, change your AOL password. Then send a generic message (blind copies) to everyone in your address book such as the one below.

**"Dear Friends and Family,
Someone who has my name in their address book has a virus (worm) which is able to send itself to everyone in your address book. In order to stay hidden, it also uses one of the names in the address book as the Sender. This one has chosen my email address. I have just received an email from myself to myself which I did not send....this is what the virus is able to do.**

Please update your anti-virus program and run a full scan on all files.

Thanks,"

You probably won't hear from the person who has the virus...but they'll probably find it and get rid of it. And you won't get anymore of those emails...you may get some emails from a few saying, "I run my anti-virus program all the time. So, I know it's not me." Ignore those.

GMail Account Setup

- 1. Open your browser and go to www.google.com**
- 2. Near the top, click GMail**
- 3. Click CREATE AN ACCOUNT**
- 4. Complete the profile questions. Put a check in the Make Google my Home Page box**
- 5. Copy the weird word patterns. This proves you're not a 'computer'.**
- 6. Put a check in I agree to terms & services. Do not put a check in the box that says Google may use my account information to personalize +1's on content and ads on non-Google websites. [About personalization.](#)**
- 6. Click NO without putting a check in either of the HOME PAGE options.**

Your account has been created.

When you sign in, you must add @gmail.com to the user name you've created.

Example: jmaxpjp2@gmail.com

Acronym Finder

So many people use abbreviations of all kinds of words or phrases, especially since they've learned texting on cellphones. These acronyms are too often used in emails as well.

1. Go to [Click here: Abbreviations and acronyms dictionary: Find definitions for over 4,219,000 abbreviations, acronyms, and initialism](#)

2. Type the acronym into the box at the top of the page.

3. Click Find.

APC Backup Reset

When power fails and the APC sounds the alarm, it will need to be reset.

APC Back UP- flashing red light and cricket sound

1. Shut down computer
2. Press power button on UPS
3. Wait awhile
4. Press power button on UPS
5. Turn computer back on
6. Sound goes away
7. Bottom green light stays lit

What is a boot disk? Why do I need one?

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/help/videos/backing-up-and-restoring-your-computer>

Win 7 - create a system repair disc (includes boot disk)

1. **Open Backup and Restore by clicking the Start button , clicking Control Panel, clicking System and Maintenance, and then clicking Backup and Restore.**
2. **In the left pane, click Create a system repair disc, and then follow the steps. If you're prompted for an administrator password or confirmation, type the password or provide confirmation.**

Note

If you're prompted to insert a Windows installation disc, it means that the files needed to create the system repair disc can't be found on your computer. Insert a Windows 7 installation disc.

To use the system repair disc

1. **Insert the system repair disc into your CD or DVD drive.**
2. **Restart your computer using the computer's power button.**
3. **If prompted, press any key to start the computer from the system repair disc.**
 - o **If your computer isn't configured to start from a CD or DVD, check the information that came with your computer. You might need to change your computer's BIOS settings.**
4. **Choose your language settings, and then click Next.**
5. **Select a recovery option, and then click Next.**

Tip

Print these instructions and keep them in a safe location with your system repair disc.

Sooner or later, your computer is going to crash - when you least expect it, and probably when you need it most.

While your system is working properly turn it on and prepare a boot disk

Win XP & Vista

Creating an XP or Vista boot disk is much more involved and so it is recommended that you have the RECOVERY Disks that came with your computer, or that you create a set of the disks while setting up the new computer and keep those in a safe place just in case a crash occurs and you have to reinstall the applications or do a full format and recovery. IF

your XP will not power up so you can get to the Recovery disks stored in a partition of your C:\drive, you're going to need something to power up. Here is a link to the microsoft site which tells how to get replacement disks, how to create a boot disk, etc.

[Click here: How to obtain Windows XP Setup disks for a floppy boot installation \(www.microsoft.com/kb/310994\)](http://www.microsoft.com/kb/310994). IF your computer has no floppy drive, use a flash drive or cd-rom disk instead.

Win 98

Create a Windows Startup Disk.

- A. At control panel, click the Add/remove Programs icon.
- B. Click the Windows Startup Disk tab
- C. Follow instructions given to create disk.
- D. Date, name and store in a safe place.

Creating a Boot Disk

1. An emergency boot disk.

- a. Select START (Win95/98) and then RUN
- b. At the prompt, enter `FORMAT A: /S`
- c. When prompted, insert a *high density* disk in the A: drive and press ENTER.
- d. When the formatting and installing is complete, a prompt will appear asking you to enter a "Volume Label", enter something meaningful such as "Boot Disk: - limit is 11 alphanumeric characters.

It makes no difference to a boot sector virus whether a floppy disk, CD or Flash Drive is Bootable (has on it the necessary system info to start your computer.) or not, contains only data files, or even has no files. To this type of virus, the boot sector is what's important. Here's how they work. At boot, if a virus infected floppy, flash drive or CD is in it's drive, the PC's BIOS reads the boot sector (or a virus written there) into memory first, even before the operating system (or an antivirus program) loads into memory.

At that point, a virus can spread from an infected disk to the hard disk. The process is almost instantaneous: The virus program in the disk's boot sector gets read, then it takes control of memory--and most boot-sector viruses infect the hard disk immediately. If the disk is not bootable, the boot process may halt, usually with a Non-System Disk message, but the virus is in memory nevertheless and can spread, usually by copying to the hard disk's boot sector or to its MBR (master boot record).

By infecting those areas of the hard disk, this type of virus loads into memory every time you turn the PC on, even before the operating system loads. This gives the virus an opportunity to restart the cycle by copying to more disks as they pass from user to user.

A TRUE STORY FROM... "THE HOUSTON HERALD" HOUSTON , TEXAS

Last Thursday night around midnight, a woman from Houston, Texas was arrested, jailed, and charged with manslaughter for shooting a man 6 times in the back as he was running away with her purse.

The following Monday morning, the woman was called in front of the Arraignment Judge, sworn-in, and asked to explain her actions.

The woman replied, "I was standing at the corner bus stop for about 15 minutes, waiting for the bus to take me home after work. I am a waitress at a local cafe. I was there alone, so I had my right hand on my pistol in my purse hanging on my left shoulder. All of a sudden I was spun around hard to my left. As I caught my balance, I saw a man running away with my purse.

I looked down at my right hand and saw that my fingers were wrapped tightly around my pistol. The next thing I remember is saying out loud, "No Way Punk! You're not stealing my pay check and tips." I raised my right hand, pointed my pistol at the man running away from me with my purse, and started squeezing the trigger of my pistol.

When asked by the arraignment judge, "Why did you shoot the man 6 times?

The woman replied under oath, "Because, when I pulled the trigger the 7th time, it only went click."

The woman was acquitted of all charges. She was back at work the next day!

Jmax

Jmax's Website <http://www.jmaxbits.com/>

Jmax Bits Newsletter is now posted each Monday & Thursday on the website. You have the option for a .pdf or a .rtf file.

1. For help with a computer problem, put HELP in the subject line and give me info about the computer you're using, if you know it.

2. To view or print Jmax Bits Good Services List in the Villages area, click link www.jmaxbits.com

3. To sign up for the non-computer newsletter, send an email to VLGSClassifieds@aol.com. Put SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. To send an Ad, place AD in the subject line.

4. The Villages Computer Club's web page: [Click here: Welcome To The Villages Computer Club](#)

To add your name to the VCC announcements list, send email to TheVCC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

5. Fred Benson's website www.thevillagescomputerbasics.com