The Villages Computer Club

The Villages Computer Club will meet at 1 p.m. Friday Feb 3rd at La Hacienda Recreation Center. There will be a presentation by Fred Benson on *How to Best Learn Computer Programs*.

Following the presentation will be refreshments, 50/50, door prizes and a problem-solving session. If you have a computer problem you can't resolve, fill out the problem report form found at thevillagescomputerclub.com   and bring it to the meeting.

Thank you to everyone who joined the club and paid their $5 membership dues. We all are looking forward to a good year of presentations and workshops. We always welcome feedback from the club membership. Our membership representatives are Gregoire Robert, Harry Martin and Margot Zoeller.

If you have any questions, email Paul Rabenold at TVCC.Pres@gmail.com.

****

Friends of Computer Plus

Computer Plus will meet Thursday February 2, 2012
at
Laurel Manor Recreation Center at 1:00PM.

The presentation will be ALL About Android Phones and Tablets !!!!
We will talk about APPS or applications, Settings, Using Wireless vs
3G / 4G connections etc. Please come and share about your favorite
"app".

As always, friends and neighbors and all Village residents are welcome to attend the meeting.

For more information contact Pete Rosendahl at 352-409-7247 or email m.come at
pjrdbs@msn
.
Thanks, Pete Rosendahl
****

A new service in and around The Villages.

Todd Casey Golf Cart Repairs - 352-256-2068
Todd is experienced in cart repairs, accessories,etc.
I had him to my house today to check out my cart and install a roof shelf in my
cart so I no longer have to try to stuff everything into my golf bag. He was
prompt and I felt his prices were reasonable. Jmax
****

****

Format New Hard Drive

Most new hard drives come with written instructions for formatting. Always follow these instructions if they are available.

1. Right click MY COMPUTER. Select Manage.
2. Click Disk Management
3. Click the Letter that is the new hard drive.
4. Click non-allocated to bring up the wizard. Press Next a couple of times.
5. Click New Partition. Turns green all.
6. Click new logical drive. Select NTFS
7. Click Quick Format if **new** drive. Click Next. Takes only few minutes to format new hard drive.

Note: Click <u>Primary</u> ONLY if you're going to install OS.

You can daisy change several external hard drives to the same Firewire by plugging #2 to #1,etc.

There are two options to change a hard drive from FAT32 to NTFS. You can use the Convert.exe command from a DOS prompt in Windows or you can delete the existing FAT32 partition or volume and create a new NTFS partition in Disk Management.

Western Digital recommends deleting the existing FAT32 partition and creating a new NTFS partition. Using the Convert.exe command may cause data corruption or loss.

 ****
******

BAD SECTORS ON HARD DRIVE

Bad sectors are much less of a problem with the newer hard drives........a sector is a physical location, in which data can be stored, on the various "platters" within the hard drive........and the sectors are defined when the manufacture performs a low level format to the drive before shipment......

Over time, the magnetic properties of the coating on areas of the disk may gradually deteriorate...... and when this happens, the read/write heads of the disk have difficulty writing a pattern to the disk that can later be read from the disk........

These sectors that do not hold data well are called "Bad Sectors"...... SO....... it is advisable to run ScanDisk periodically to determine if there are any bad sectors........... if there are, ScanDisk will mark those sectors as bad and your system will no longer try to write data to those sectors........

NOTE: If you are seeing more and more "bad sectors," this could be an indication that the hard drive is starting to fail.......... if in formatting a floppy disk it reports bad sectors, throw it away. It's not worth taking a chance on trying to repair and use it again.

In Windows 95 & 98, the ScanDisk program can be found at Start>Programs>Accessories>System Tools.

Windows XP does not have ScanDisk listed in its System Tools list. To find Scandisk,
1. Doubleclick MY COMPUTER and rightclick the C:\ drive or the letter of the drive which you wish to scan and press Properties.
2. Click the TOOLS tab and select Error-Checking. You will get a message that it can't do a scandisk now and will ask if you'd like to schedule it for the next time you power up your computer. Select YES.

When you defrag, you put fragmented pieces of files back together again, thereby reducing the amount of fragmentation......... defrag does not necessarily increase your free hard disk space........ although if a fragmented file is e.g. spread into 3 clusters, and defrag allows that file to be located in 2 cluster, you have then picked up 1 more cluster of free space.........

Speed of individual file access is probably the biggest advantage of defragging..... when your computer requires a file, it will be retrieved faster if your computer does not have to search many locations on your hard disk......

Bad Sectors on your hard drive come from dirt dust (Specks). Even Cigar/Cigarette Smoke. They can also come from loosing power on your computer or shutting the computer off while using a program, or if you are using Windows 95/98, by shutting off the computer improperly.

To Check for bad sectors in Windows XP:
Click START...All Programs...Accessories...Windows Explorer...click + to expand My Computer.
Rightclick the C:\ drive.
Click Properties...Tools...click Check Now...Select Options...click START.
****
****

MEMORY and HARD DRIVE SPACE

On your computer there is both Memory and there is also Hard drive space.

To check the amount of memory you have, rightclick MY COMPUTER on your desktop and select Properties. On the screen that pops up, near the bottom will be the amount of memory(RAM – random-access-memory) in your computer. Each time you restart your computer, this total amount of memory becomes available for your use again.

Hard disk space is a whole different monster.

As you add stuff to your computer, the amount of free space available to you becomes smaller. If you delete stuff, the amount of free space is increased.
To see how much Total space, used space, and free space you have on your computer, doubleclick MY COMPUTER. On the screen that comes up there will be one icon labeled C:\ drive(unless you've change the name of your hard drive to a different letter).
Rightclick the C:\drive and select Properties. This will bring up the "hard drive Pie image" which tells you clearly how much total space is on your hard drive, how much of this has already been used (has data written to it) and how much is free waiting for you to store data on it.
****
****
Hard Drive Lost
(from Smart Computing 4/2008)

IF the hard drive appears in Windows' Device Manager and seems to be working,
1.   Right click My Computer on the desktop and select Manage.
2.   Click Disk Management under Storage.
3.   On the right side of the screen, rightclick the drive and select Change Drive Letter And Paths.
4.   Click Add,and select Assign The Following Drive Letter.
5.   Either accept the default letter offered or choose a new letter.
6.   Click Ok
****

HARD DRIVE SPECS

If you want to buy a hard drive but are confused by all the specifications, remember that the key number is average access time. This is the time it takes from the issuance of a command to access a single sector to the time when the drive's head reaches the sector. But beware, some ads quote seek time that is not the appropriate measurement. Access time is seek time plus latency (the time it takes for the chosen sector to come around to be positioned under the read/write head).
 ****

HOW BOOT–SECTOR VIRUSES SPREAD

Win XP
Creating an XP boot disk is much more involved and so I recommend that you have the RECOVERY Disks that came with your computer, or create a set of the disks 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. In most computer's setup that has the XP operating system and stores the Recovery

Disks on a partition (D:) of the hard drive, instructions are given for creating Recovery CDs. **IF you did not do that and do not have a SET OF RECOVERY DISKS for your computer, then TODAY is the time to create those Recovery CDs…before you need them.**

IF you created a set of Recovery Disks but you can't find them, you can recreate the disks if you have an HP or Compaq computer, using the small free download program

The Power of Words

This is absolutely beautiful and hope you can take the time to watch it………

It's Not What You Say, but How You Say It.

This is a Wonderful, Thought-Provoking, One Minute Clip

It's Not a Joke, It's Not Religious, It's Not Political.

Please Enjoy This One Minute Clip; It Is Truly Special. It Has a Meaning For All Of Us.
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=Hzgzim5m7oU&vq=medium

****

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