Jmax Bits Newsletter 2 9 2012

The Villages Computer Club will meet at 1 p.m. Friday Feb 10th at Lake Miona 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.

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The Villages Computer Club

On Monday, February 13th, 1:00 PM at Laurel Manor, Art Fenn will lead a meeting on iDevices (iPad, iPhone). It's open to all, so bring your iFriends.

Everyone will have a chance to share their favorite Apps. We will also discuss some operational and connectivity issues.

There will be a Q&A time when you can get all your questions answered.

So if you already own an iDevice or you are thinking of buying one, this meeting is for you.

Paul Rabenold

TVCC.Pres@gmail.com

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I hope you've taken advantage of Fred Benson's website   at www.thevillagescomputerbasics.com

Today I just learned about Free SKYPE from Fred.

Free Skype On-line Training.

There is a great website that has a number of free on-line training courses. Below is a video that walks you through that site and an introduction to the Skype On-line Training. Click Here to go to that site to learn Skype.
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Email Trackers - You are helping them increase their lists when you forward an email.

My philosophy - If it's not worthy your taking the time and making the effort to copy OnLY the message and copy it to a clean email form, then it's not worth my time and effort to search for your message through all the previously forwarded addresses. Plus I do not want to add all of the addresses on that email to the Email Trackers lists. Let them BUY their lists. Don't give them addresses for free!. Jmax

E-Mail Tracker Programs --
very interesting and a must read! (if you don't already know)

The man that sent this information is a computer tech. He spends a lot of time clearing the junk off computers for people and listens to complaints about speed. All forwards are not bad, just some. Be sure you read the very last paragraph.

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He wrote:
By now, I suspect everyone is familiar with snopes.com and/or truthorfiction.com for determining whether information received via email is just that: true/false or fact/fiction. Both are excellent sites.

Advice from snopes.com   VERY IMPORTANT!!
1) Any time you see an email that says "forward this on to '10' (or however many) of your friends", "sign this petition", or "you'll get bad luck" or "you'll get good luck" or "you'll see something funny on your screen after you send it" or whatever -
-- it almost always has an email tracker program attached that tracks the cookies and

emails of those folks you forward to. The host sender is getting a copy each time it gets forwarded and then is able to get lists of 'active' email addresses to use in SPAM emails or sell to other spammers. Even when you get emails that demand you send the email **on if you're not ashamed of God/Jesus ---** that is email tracking, and they are playing on our conscience. These people don't care how they get your email addresses - just as long as they get them. Also, emails that talk about a missing child or a child with an incurable disease "how would you feel if that was your child" --- email tracking. Ignore them and don't participate!

2) Almost all emails that ask you to add your name and forward on to others are similar to that mass letter years ago that asked people to send business cards to the little kid in Florida who wanted to break the Guinness Book of Records for the most cards. All it was, and all any of this type of email is, is a way to get names and 'cookie' tracking information for telemarketers and spammers -- to validate active email accounts for their own **profitable** purposes.

You can do your Friends and Family members a GREAT favor by sending this information to them. You will be providing a service to your friends. And you will be rewarded by not getting thousands of spam emails in the future!

Do yourself a favor and **STOP** adding your name(s) to those types of listing regardless how inviting they might sound! Or make you feel guilty if you don't! It's all about getting email addresses and nothing more.

You may think you are supporting a GREAT cause, but you are NOT!

Instead, you will be getting tons of junk mail later and very possibly a virus attached! Plus, we are helping the spammers get rich! Let's not make it easy for them!
ALSO: Email petitions are NOT acceptable to Congress of any other organization - i.e. social security, etc. To be acceptable, petitions must have a "*signed signature*" and full address of the person signing the petition, so this is a waste of time and you are just helping the email trackers.

Tips for Handling Telemarketers

Three Little Words That Work!!

(1)The three little words are: 'Hold On, Please...'

Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt.

Then when you eventually hear the phone company's 'beep-beep-beep' tone, you know it's time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task.

These three little words <u>will help</u> eliminate telephone soliciting..

(2) Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end?

This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone.

This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a 'real' sales person to call back and get someone at home.

What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is to immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine that dialed the call, and it kicks your number out of their system. Gosh, what a shame not to have your name in their system any longer!!!

(3) Junk Mail Help:
When you get 'ads' enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these 'ads' with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away.

When you get those 'pre-approved' letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope.

Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular 44 cents postage, 'IF' and when they receive them back.

It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage was around 50 cents before the last increase and it is according to the weight. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk

mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes.

One of Andy Rooney 's (60 minutes) ideas.

Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express. Send a pizza coupon to Citibank. If you didn't get anything else that day, then just send them their blank application back!
If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you send them.

You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs them 50+ cents.

The banks and credit card companies are currently getting a lot of their own junk back in the mail, but folks, we need to OVERWHELM them. Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and best of all they're paying for it...Twice!

Let's help keep our postal service busy since they are saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, and that's why they need to increase postage costs again. You get the idea!

THIS JUST MIGHT BE ONE E-MAIL THAT YOU WILL WANT TO SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS BUT DO **NOT** FORWARD. RATHER "COPY" & PASTE INTO A NEW MESSAGE FORM & USE BCC SO THAT NO EMAIL ADDRESSES CAN BE FORWARDED.

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Importing addresses to your Kindle Fire

Use at your own risk but if it works for you, please let me know details. Jmax

This is from a blog on Amazon re importing addresses from your email programs to your Kindle Fire.

"I exported my contacts from Outlook as CSV...inported that into GMail...then, exported from GMail in VCard format, copied via USB into Fire, went into Fire Contacts and imported...it will do a search of your docments on the Fire, but it only will search for VCard format...kind of a round-about way, but "free"...there are other programs you can buy to

**sync Outlook with Fire, but you pay for the PC side of the program.
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Is it an AOL problem or a broadband connection problem?

**Question: When routinely visiting the Internet all of a sudden the AOL title bar
changes to include (not responding)
after the normal AOL 9.1 - Connected, Signed-On. Upon occasion it rectifies itself
after a brief interval.
On other occasions I have to reboot, Using Windows XP & AOL 9.1.**

**If you're using broadband, either cable or dsl and you try to sign onto AOL before
your broadband's modem is completely up and running, you'll get the message
(not responding) Or if the modem is going bad and not keeping your
computer connected you will get the (not responding on the AOL title
bar)meaning connection to the internet has failed.**

**If the modem completes the connection, then the (not responding) would
disappear from the AOL title bar because it would then be connected to the
internet via the broadband modem.**

**If for whatever reason the broadband modem fails to connect, the AOL would fail
to be connected. If you reboot, this may give the broadband modem the time it
needs to complete it's connection and the reboot would appear to have solved
the problem when in fact, you just gave time for a slow modem to connect.**

**BYPASS AOL to determine if it's an AOL problem or if it's a broadband modem
problem.**

**The next time you get the (not responding) on AOL, simply click the big E
(Internet Explorer) and bring it up...if it connects to your home page, then click on
the AOL program again on the task bar to see if the (not responding) has
disappeared and AOL has connected.
If AOL still has the (not responding) but you can go to other websites using such
as www.aol.com, then you do have an AOL problem which may be momentary,
but if repeated often or lasts longer than a few minutes, it's time to followup on
the AOL problem.**

**But if the AOL (not responding) disappears as soon as you can connect to a
website with Internet Explorer, then it was a modem connection problem and not
an AOI problem.**

**By opening Internet Explorer and going to a web site, you have bypassed the
AOL program. In order for AOL to connect, the Internet Explorer MUST be able to**

connect. In order for IE to connect, the modem must connect your computer to the internet.

If you do find that Internet Explorer is NOT connecting either, then it's time for a call to your broad band service. From their end, they can tell if your modem is connecting or failing to connect.

But always check the modem to be sure it's lights are all lighted up before doing anything. Sometimes it may take 2-3 minutes for the modem to connect if your broadband service is having an overload of customers or if your modem is failing.

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AOL PFC Backup And Restore

AOL's One-click Fix replaces your Personal Filing Cabinet with a backup copy to repair corrupt data. Over time, data on your computer may become damaged and unstable. If you experience problems with your Personal Filing Cabinet version of the AOL software you are using, try this:

Restore the Filing Cabinet from a Backup Copy. When you restore your Filing Cabinet (Personal Storage), the backup copy of your Filing Cabinet replaces your current Backup Copy.

Note: the Filing Cabinet Backup Copy if used to replace the present Filing Cabinet will be from the date it was backed up..so data after that date will be missing.

The AOL software automatically backs up the Filing Cabinet every four weeks. You can use this backup copy to restore the Filing Cabinet. When you restore your Filing Cabinet (Personal Storage), the backup copy of your Filing Cabinet or Saved on My PC folder replaces your current backup copy of your Filing Cabinet or Saved on My PC folder replaces your current pfc.

 You must be signed off of the AOL® service in order to back up your Filing Cabinet.

To back up the contents of your Saved on My PC ...

1. **click Settings on the AOL menu.**

2. **Select E-Mail Settings**

3. **Click Manage Mail**

4. **Select Backup**

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Emails from You to You that You didn't send

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.
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Asterisk On Blank Web Page

Attempts to access web pages results in a blank page with an asterisk in the top left corner of the page.

If its the first-time happening in weeks/months, its usually a temporary loss of network connectivity either in the PC or router which is now PARTIALLY fixed (in other words, part of your Windows networking software might be confused, the router may be in a bad state). Its not worth troubleshooting for a one in 1,000 sessions problem.

The answer is reboot your PC, router, and modem (dialup, cable, or DSL). After rebooting everything there should be a 100% fix rate.

For a Linksys router this is the procedure:
1. Shut down the computer
2. Unplug the router's power cord
3. Turn off the modem, in this order
4. Wait 30 sec
5. Turn on the modem, wait for the 3 lights
6. Plug back in the router's power cord, wait for lights
7. Turn on the computer.
You should now be able to go to web sites.

If the problem continues after the rebooting, usually there is some software blocking web traffic (misconfigured firewall, security software that doesn't like the bits and blocks traffic, or malware). Perform normal troubleshooting. Run anti-spyware and anti-virus software.
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Browser Speed Check

To check how fast your browser works

Into your browers address bar type 'http://spdtst-dlls.tx.centurylink.net/' without the quotes and click Go.

1. Select the server nearest you...e.g. The Villages would be Miami
2. Write down the download speed and the upload speed
3. Run twice to get a good average speed.
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We all need to watch this video

[Click here: Learn Sarver Heart Center's Continuous Chest Compression CPR | College of Medicine](#)
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And we need to pray about this

[Click here: 10 Ways the Obama Administration Has Alienated Catholics | CatholicVote.org](#)
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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

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