

## The Villages Computer Club

**No meeting 12/27/2013**

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**Be aware, there is trouble in paradise. The thieves are having an after Christmas ball.**

**Subject: Strange vehicles cruising The Villages - an example below**

Tom and I have noticed unknown cars and pickup trucks drive slowly up and down our streets when garbage is out for pickup. I've stopped several vehicles asking them "are you lost?". I've thought maybe they are looking for "treasures" to pick up, but, after reading the below we should take this seriously. Janet

I am the homeowner whose home was burglarized yesterday in Sanibel. We were out and about The Villages yesterday and when we arrived home about 2 o'clock, we discovered our home had been broken into. They kicked the front door in WITH A SECURITY BAR in place. The security bar was worthless. The molding on the inside ripped away and they walked right in. The door was not even damaged. They targeted a safe that we had in the house. Now here's the thing. There has been only one worker in the house since we got that safe. The police have that information. However, we realized that we did something very stupid. We put that box out on the street for garbage pick-up and had some other garbage inside the box. The garbage pick-up has been rather late for the last several weeks so it sat in our driveway all morning. It was like a big advertisement that we had a safe and therefore, must have valuables in the house! It seems obvious now, but at the time we thought nothing of it! So please, be careful of what you are throwing out! They definitely targeted the safe and easily pried it open. It is clear to us by looking at the things they passed up, that they were looking for cash and gold. (small items only.) Unfortunately for me, I had taken off my wedding band and diamond the night before and left it right out on my nightstand. Needless to say, they were gone. They did not

appear to have been in the house long. They went through the master bedroom nightstands and dresser top drawers. It does not appear that they were anywhere else in the home. When they left, it appears they walked out the back door right to the country club parking lot where they were probably parked. So I read on the other threads regarding this burglary that everyone on the street watches out for each other. We do that on this street too but it didn't help. I read that it is almost impossible to kick in the door with a security bar in place. Not true. There are no neighbors nearby with kids living with them that I know of but there sure are lots of contractors on this street everyday. I believe it was one of them. We didn't run out and get a security system when this same thing happened to someone else in our neighborhood, but we will be getting one now. That and a safety deposit box at the bank.

#### CMOS BATTERY:

The CMOS battery holds the computer's basic settings when you power down your computer. It must not be allowed to die completely. If you notice an ongoing loss of time on your computer clock (bottom righthand corner of screen), it is a good indication that your CMOS battery is about to go. Replace it.

Q: I have a Gateway PC that's 2 years old. Over the past four weeks or so, the process of booting up has been interrupted just after loading the peripherals and before starting Windows 95. This message appears; NVRAM data invalid: NVRAM cleared. Press F1 to run setup, or press ESC to continue.

I always press ESC, and the Windows 95 bootup starts. How do I get rid of this irritation?

A: this problem can be solved by getting a new NVRAM battery. You can order one from Gateway for about \$10. After you obtain the battery, open the PC and follow the instructions that come with the battery. As an alternative, you could take the PC to a local Gateway store for assistance.

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#### CMOS BATTERY on other computers:

The CMOS battery is usually located on the motherboard near the power supply. It will be two small AA batteries in a casing in very old computers, or a shiny round battery about the size of a quarter in newer computers. Write down the number on the quarter-size battery and pick up a new one at Radio Shack, Office Depot, or another computer shop. They usually run about \$2.50.

**CAUTION:**Before removing the old CMOS battery, purchase a new one to have ready at the time you remove the old one as all CMOS settings will be lost if the computer is left without the battery for a long period of time.

**CAUTION:** Before removing the computer cover, power down and unplug the power cable to the computer. Take hold of the frame of the computer case to discharge any static electricity on yourself before touching ANYTHING inside the computer case.

Remove the old CMOS battery and immediately replace it with the new battery.

Close the cover, plug in the power cable and power up the computer.

If the clock continues to lose time, then you have another problem or the CMOS battery purchased was no good

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### **Download A File To The CD-Writer**

- 1. First download it to the desktop or to a folder on your own hard drive.**
- 2. Next, locate the file you downloaded and rightclick it.**
- 3. Select SEND TO: and click the drive Letter which is your CD-Writer (if you have a cd-rom/cd-writer combo, then the letter may just say cd-rom.**
- 4. A message will pop up in your startup tray saying "you have files to be written ....., click here". Click the icon.**
- 5. On the screen that comes up you'll see the file you selected and it will have a white arrow on it indicating it's a shortcut to the file. This is because the file is first copied to the Windows TEMP folder before being written to a cd. Click the file once to select it.**
- 6. Put a blank cd into the CD-writer tray.**
- 7. On the left side of the screen at the very top, click Write these files to CD. A page will come up then asking you to name the CD.**
- 8. Give the CD a name and click Next. Wait, it may take a minute before you see the blue line indicating it is being written. You will get a message stating Writing is complete when it finishes.**
- 9. Click Finish.**

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### **Downloads Organized**

1. Create a new folder on C:\ drive and name it AHOLDING TANK.

Easy to do, just go to Explore, scroll to the top and click to select the C:\ drive then click FILE...NEW...FOLDER. Name it and doubleclick. The folder has been created and can now be seen at the top of the Explore list.

2. Create a 2nd new folder on the C:\ drive and name it ADOWNLOAD.

The A in front causes it to be listed near the top of the list of folders in Drive C:\.

Open your email program, if AOL without signing online, click File...Download Manger.(Or whatever you click to set download preferences in your email program) A screen comes up with a box at the bottom that says C:\Program Files\America Online \Download. This is the default

folder set by AOL to send downloads. Change this line to read C:\A Holding Tank. Now anything you download from AOL emails will go to the A Holding Tank folder.

3.If you download a program, when the box comes up with the choices to RUN or SAVE, click, SAVE. Then click the down arrow in the top box and select C:\ drive and then doubleclick the A DOWNLOAD folder. This causes the program to go to the A DOWNLOAD folder in your C:\drive . Periodically, copy this A DOWNLOAD folder to a cd if you have a cd-writer. If you ever need to reinstall drivers or programs that you've saved to this A DOWNLOAD folder, they will be there waiting. It is also a good idea to create a sub folder for each program you download so that the install file is easy to find. For instance, AVG, AOL, McAfee, HP Printers,etc and then download the file or driver to that folder.

Should the computer's hard drive fail, I can put in my Download CD that contains my A DOWNLOAD folder and reinstall them when my computer is up and running again. If computer crashes, the Recovery disk can be used to recover all software and system files just as when the computer came from the factory. My Downloads CD can be used to reinstall other programs I've added to my computer

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#### Make Facebook Private

1. Log in to your Facebook account at facebook.com.
2. Click "Account" near the upper right corner of your profile page, and then click "Privacy Settings".
3. Select "Friends of Friends", "Friends Only", or "Recommended", review the settings to make sure you approve, and then click "Apply These Settings". For example, if you use the "Friends Only" settings, your profile information, pictures, and posts can only be seen by your approved friends. Alternatively, you can select "Customize settings" to control who can see what type of information.
4. Click "Edit your settings" under Applications and Websites in the lower left corner. Edit each setting according to the desired level of privacy.
5. Click "Back to Privacy", and click "Edit your lists" under Block Lists to block individuals and applications from searching you or sending you requests on Facebook.

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#### WEB FONTS TOO BIG:

**PROBLEM:** The size of my fonts on web pages only are suddenly very large.

#### SOLUTION:

1. Open MS Internet Explorer from the desktop
2. Click VIEW and TEXT SIZE
3. Select MEDIUM or SMALL

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**PLEASE FORGET THAT 'FORWARD' BUTTON.**

**Make your friends and family happy, don't forward messages. Just send the message itself on a new email form. IF you really think the item is special, then surely it's worth a little effort to share. Perhaps you can print this little 'bit' and post it someplace handy until you get the hang of it. Thanks**

1. First highlight (select) the part of the message you wish to send to someone else. Place your cursor at the first line of the message itself, press down the left mouse button and holding it down drag to the bottom of the message before letting go the mouse button. All the text will be highlighted (turn black).
2. Press the CTRL and the C keys on your keyboard to copy the selected message. Don't worry that you see nothing change. The message has been copied to the invisible clipboard in your computer.
3. Open a new blank email message form. Place your cursor in the message box and press the CTRL and the V keys on your keyboard. The copied message will be pasted onto the new email form.
4. Address and send, if to multiple recipients use BCC. Forget that Forward button. It places all the email addresses in the hands of unscrupulous people who sell to LIST companies.

By now, I suspect everyone is familiar with [www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) and/or [www.truthorfiction.com](http://www.truthorfiction.com) for determining whether information received via email is just that: true/false or fact/fiction. Both are excellent sites. I received the advice below from one of my correspondents today.

### **Advice from Snopes.com MEMORIZE THIS!**

1) Any time you see an E-Mail that says *forward this on to '10' of your friends, sign this petition, or you'll get bad luck, good luck, or whatever*, it almost always has an E-Mail tracker program attached that tracks the cookies and E-Mails 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' E-Mails addresses to use in SPAM E-Mails, or sell to other spammers.*

2) Almost all E-Mails 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 E-Mail is, is a way to get names and 'cookie' tracking information for telemarketers and spammers - - to validate active E-Mail 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 will be rewarded by not getting thousands of spam E-Mails in the future!

If you have been sending out (FORWARDING) the above kinds of E-Mail, now you know why you get so much SPAM!

Do yourself a favor and STOP adding your name(s) to those types of listings *regardless how inviting they might sound!*

You may think you are supporting a GREAT cause, but you are NOT in the long run. Instead, you will be getting tons of junk mail later! Plus, we are helping the spammers get rich! Let's don't make it easy for them!

**Also: E-Mail petitions are NOT acceptable to Congress or any other organization.** To be acceptable, petitions must have a signed signature and full address of the person signing the petition. For more info go to [www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) and search for email petitions.

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I am so often absolutely amazed at the talent and special gifts that some of God's beloved creatures are endowed with...click the link below to see what I mean.Jmax

Angels We Have Heard on High - very unique- From The Piano Guys

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/12/02/the-piano-guys-angels-we-have-heard-on-high\\_n\\_4373673.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=mostpopular](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/12/02/the-piano-guys-angels-we-have-heard-on-high_n_4373673.html?utm_hp_ref=mostpopular)

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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](http://www.jmaxbits.com)

3. To sign up for the non-computer newsletter, send an email to [VLGSClassifieds@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:TheVCC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

5. Fred Benson's website [www.thevillagescomputerbasics.com](http://www.thevillagescomputerbasics.com)