

COMPUTER ^{User} _{News}

Monthly Publication of the Kentucky-Indiana Personal Computer Users Group

April 2005
Volume 24, No. 4

Program Director	3
New Microsoft Anti-Spyware is a Winner	4
DVD and CD Burning Software	6
Ask the Expert - Bluetooth ...	7
Follow-ups and Updates	8
Screen Capture Tools	9
The Computer Corner	10
Reviews	11
FireFox	12
Directory	14
Calendar	15
SIG Directory	16
SIG Scene	17
Access	18
Advanced Users	18
Digital Photography	19
Genealogy	20
Hands On	20
Hardware	21
Intermediate	21
Investing	22
New Users	22, 23
Real Estate	23
Technical Market Analysis	24
Utilities	24
Visual Basic	24
Webmasters	25
Windows OS	25
Help!	26
Membership Application ...	27

High-Speed Broadband Internet

Presentation

by

Glenn Noriewicz

of

Insight Communications

on

April 5, 2005

General Public is invited to attend.
Free Program Starts at 6:30 PM
Directions - Page 3

www.kipcug.org

KIPCU G

Advertising Rates for Magazine

Ad size	Rate
Per 1 col. inch (2.25" wide)	12.00
Half Page (3 col x 5")	140.00
Full Page	250.00
Member's Std. Bus. Card	100.00 for 4 consecutive insertions (No Discounts).

NOTE: Magazine is published electronically in addition to its printed edition. Advertising materials not supplied in electronic form will **not** be included in the electronic edition.

Ad sizes must be in full column width and in one inch depth increments.

Discount	Rate
Three consecutive insertions	10%
Twelve consecutive insertions	20%
Special discounts offered to KIPCUG members (In addition to other discounts)	Call

All Advertising must be paid for at the time of submission or on approved PO. Rates are for **electronic (TIF PDF)** copy in gray scale. The submission deadline for advertising materials is the first of the month for the next month's publication. **Send all advertising materials to: KIPCUG Address - Attn. Editor**
Call (502) 499-5222 or send email to: editor@kipcug.org.

Magazine Submissions

Articles should be submitted as a Word document and submitted one month in advance. If graphics are included, they should be submitted in TIF file format whenever possible. All graphics must be converted to TIF or PDF file formats before publication.

KIPCUG Supporters

Please support them with your business

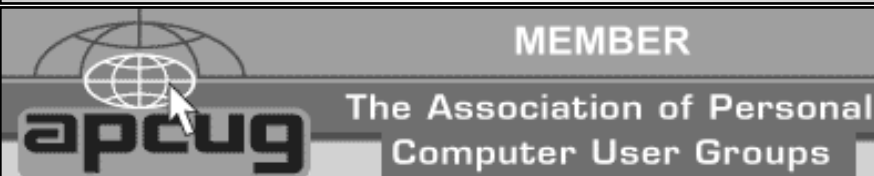
The vendors listed have contributed hardware or software to KIPCUG to assist in production of the organization's monthly newsletter. We encourage you to support these vendors who are helping to support our organization.

Lexmark
Adobe

Optra R+ Laser Printer
PageMaker 6.5

Contributing Staff Writers

Ralph Langdon Brian Miller



KIPCUG is a member of APCUG, an international association of computer user groups. Information is available at www.apcug.org

KENTUCKY-INDIANA PERSONAL COMPUTER USERS GROUP, INC.
291 N. HUBBARDS LANE
SUITE B-26-318
LOUISVILLE, KY 40207

EDITOR
SUSAN MOORE
REVIEW EDITOR
JOE ROTHSTEIN

This magazine is published monthly by the Kentucky-Indiana Personal Computer Users Group, Inc. and is intended principally for its membership. All articles in this publication are copyrighted by KIPCUG unless otherwise stipulated.

Express permission is granted for qualified User Groups to copy the materials in this publication provided appropriate credit is given to KIPCUG, Computer User News and the author.

Requests from individuals or organizations other than User Groups for permission to reprint should be made to the Editor.

Advertising materials must be submitted four weeks prior to publication. Editorial submissions must be submitted three weeks prior to publication.

All editorial materials submitted become the property of KIPCUG, and may be used by the organization in any way deemed appropriate by the magazine staff and the Board of Directors of KIPCUG.

The editors reserve the right to make any changes deemed necessary to any editorial matter submitted or to refuse publication of any material submitted.

Direct all magazine correspondence to the Editor at KIPCUG, 291 N. Hubbards Lane, Suite B-26-318, Louisville, KY 40207 or to editor@kipcug.org.

Over the Program Director's Shoulder

By Ralph Langdon, KIPCUG

April

Are you still using dial-up service to get on the internet? Or, are you using a telephone DSL service that isn't always what you expect?

Well, come to the April 5 KIPCUG General Meeting to find out what Insight Communications has to offer in the way of Broadband Cable service. You should see some really impressive up-load and download speeds that can make your Internet visits much faster, more enjoyable and more productive. With the ever-increasing amount of information available and the higher concentration of bits and bytes, we all may need to increase our speed just to keep up with what's going on in the Internet world.

Glenn Noriewicz, Digital Products Specialist from Insight Communications will be our main presenter. We are also expecting a technical specialist to answer any of those complicated questions that some of our computer geeks may ask.

We are not sure what we will have in the way of door prizes yet, but we have been discussing some very interesting things like a cable modem and/or self-install kits. Of

course, if that is not your cup of tea, there is also our own KIPCUG membership attendance drawing which is now up to Two Hundred and Sixty Dollars (\$260)! Do you realize that would pay your KIPCUG dues for over seven years! Wouldn't you hate to have your name listed in the next Computer User News because you were not there when your name was drawn?

WERE YOU THERE?

ON MARCH 1

THE NAME DRAWN WAS

C. M. WILKINSON

AND HE WAS NOT IN

ATTENDANCE.

NEXT MONTH

THE PRIZE WILL BE

\$260.

WILL YOU BE THERE?

Since this is the Kentucky-Indiana Personal Computer Users Group, please note that Insight does provide cable service on both sides of the Ohio River. So Y'all come!

Speaking of telephone companies that you may have had some difficulties with, Insight Communications also provides telephone service over their cables that connect to all parts of the world.

the latest versions of TurboTax software just in time for getting our taxes done, or well ahead of time if you are one of those who wait 'til the last minute to do your taxes.

A couple of years ago, Intuit got some bad press and ill feeling because of something they added to their tax software. Leanne went to great lengths to explain this situation. It seems that several million more tax returns were being filed than copies of software were being sold. What would you do if this were your business and livelihood? Well, Intuit decided to add some software to prevent multiple uses of their products. There were unfounded rumors that it was actually a form of spyware. Leanne assured us that that was not the case and that Intuit has exactly zero interest in what you have in your computer. They maintain vast amounts of information in their computers from customers who use their online tax and accounting software and could not afford to lose the loyalty

Back to Basics

Topic

Presented by

Tom Scanlan

March

Intuit brought March in like a Lion! Leanne Brown, District Sales Manager, brought us up-to-date on

MEETING DIRECTIONS

Christ Church United Methodist
4614 Brownsboro Road

From I-264 (Watterson X-Way) take the US-42/Brownsboro Road exit number 22 turning left onto Brownsboro Road if you were traveling East on I-264 (turn right instead if you were traveling West on I-264). Continue for about 0.6 miles turning left at the traffic light at Blankenbaker Lane and turn left into the Church parking lot. Look for the signs.

Maps are at www.ccum.net and www.kipcug.org

Over the Program Director's Shoulder (cont.)

of those customers.

In addition to bringing us up to date on TurboTax's latest improvements, Leanne answered numerous questions that our members had about various aspects of the programs and taxes. She also discussed Its Deductible and gave a brief demonstration of how it works and why it can save you valuable dollars on your taxes.

Since Leanne is with Intuit and not just TurboTax, she also asked for questions about Quicken and QuickBooks. Numerous questions ranged from the relatively simple items to complex things like figuring interest on discounted bonds and maintaining depreciating records on multiple rental real estate holdings. If you have ever tried to handle such problems without a computer you can really appreciate the benefits such software provides the user.

In addition to Leanne's knowledge of Intuit's various software programs, she also brought along an ample supply of door prizes for the

benefit of our members ranging from QuickBooks, Quicken, and TurboTax programs to slightly wrinkled (that should read interestingly packaged) Tee shirts. I didn't know you could get a tee shirt into that shape and that amount of space! I think I counted over twenty door prizes. That means that your odds of going home with nice memento of the evening's event were good.

Finally, we gave Leanne the chance to make one friend and the certainty of making numerous enemies by drawing the name for our membership attendance prize. ALAS! The name drawn was not in attendance. That means that our April 5 drawing will be for Two Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$260)! Will you be there to collect if your name is drawn?

Future Meetings

For September we have booked Mr. Gene Barlow (formerly from

Partition Magic).

Gene Barlow has been a key figure in the user group community for the past 25 years. Gene will demonstrate 3 exciting products.

MoveMe: This is a clever utility from Spearit Software to help users easily transfer all of their application programs, settings and data files from an old computer to a newer computer.

SecureClean/WipeDrive/Media Wiper: Gene will demonstrate three wiping utilities from WhiteCanyon Software and show you how easy it is to prevent personal and private information from getting in the hands of the wrong people.

True Image: Gene's main topic will be Backing Up Your Hard Drive with True Image, a drive-imaging utility from Acronis Software.

Gene and his wife Linda visit about 100 user groups each year. He is one of the most interesting presenters you will hear. Don't miss this meeting.

New Microsoft Anti-Spyware is a Winner

By Ira Wilsker, APCUG

WEBSITES:

<http://www.microsoft.com/security>
<http://www.safer-networking.org>
<http://www.lavasoftusa.com>
<http://www.pestpatrol.com>
<http://www.trendmicro.com>
<http://housecall.antivirus.com>

Spyware, typically a type of malware transmitted over the Internet, may now be a greater threat to com-

puter users than viruses, Trojans, and worms. Spyware comes in a variety of types, some of which spawns pop-up ads, some of which hijacks your browser, others that can dial out on your phone line to high cost overseas pornography websites, and possibly the most dangerous are those spyware types that log your keystrokes and capture your personal information for the purposes of identity theft.

There are several fine anti-spyware products available for free or for a price. In recent columns, I have written about my personal favorites, Spybot Search and Destroy (www.safer-networking.org), Ad-Aware (www.lavasoftusa.com), and others. Both Spybot and Ad-Aware have free versions available for personal use that have been well regarded by the computer press. In tests I ran and wrote about almost two years ago, a commercial prod-

New Microsoft Anti-Spyware is a Winner (cont.)

uct, PestPatrol (www.pestpatrol.com) outperformed both Spybot and Ad-Aware by detecting and removing more threats. PestPatrol was recently taken over by Canada's huge Computer Associates (CA), for inclusion in its new suites of Internet security software. The inclusion of anti-spyware utilities into security suites is now becoming the norm, with one of the top rated security suites, PC-cillin Internet Security Suite 2005 (www.trendmicro.com) now including an excellent spyware detector and killer, in addition to its firewall, antivirus, anti-spam, and other utilities.

Recently Microsoft, a company that has been publicly chastised for the insecurities of much of its software, purchased a small anti-spyware company, Giant Company Software, and has released a public Beta version (pre-release) of its Microsoft Windows AntiSpyware software. Available for free download at www.microsoft.com/security (click on "Get rid of unwanted software - Spyware" at the top of the page), the file is about 6.4 megabytes in size, which will download in about a minute on a broadband connection, and about 15 minutes at dialup speeds.

I recently had the opportunity to try Microsoft's AntiSpyware in a real-world environment, with a rough comparison of capability with my prior favorites, Spybot and Ad-Aware. One of my daughters had a computer that was badly infested with viruses, Trojans and spyware. Some of that malware initially prevented me from running the excellent new version of Housecall (housecall.antivirus.com), which would typically be my first step in

recovering an infected computer. I first downloaded, installed and updated Spybot, which detected and removed 43 pieces of spyware. This was followed by a download of Ad-Aware, which after being installed and updated, detected another 51 suspicious items (this behavior is typical, as no product is totally effective). I was then able to run the new Beta of Housecall, which detected and deleted over 20 viruses, worms, and Trojans, as well as 14 more spyware items. At this point, I was fairly confident that my daughter's machine was clean, as it was now running smoothly without apparent software problems. As a lark, I downloaded, installed and ran Microsoft's AntiSpyware, and was surprised when it detected over 30 more pieces of spyware. Just to be fair, some of the spyware it detected was isolated files left behind after Spybot, Ad-Aware and Housecall removed the major components, but I was quite impressed at the thoroughness of Microsoft's search and detection capabilities.

The current Beta of Microsoft's AntiSpyware expires in July, but Microsoft should have the full version available before then. Microsoft has already announced the personal version of AntiSpyware will be free, but there will be a fee for a commercial version.

Once installed, Microsoft's AntiSpyware checks for updates, and runs very quickly. It shows all of the files detected, as well as a description of the spyware found, along with an indication of the threat level of the spyware. A memory resident portion of the code is loaded every time the computer boots, which continuously protects

the computer from new infestations. I also noticed that Microsoft is releasing updated spyware data for its software on a very frequent basis, as there were two distinct updates in the three days I had access to my daughter's computer.

In the good old days of computing, with the now antique 300 speed modems, viruses existed, but were scarce. As computing power, access, and availability increased, the threats from viruses increased to where antivirus software continuously updated became a necessity. The threat of hackers trying to break into our computers was low, but is now endemic, requiring that all users, including those with dialup Internet access, now must have a firewall to protect themselves from cyber-intrusions. Spyware has switched from a nuisance generating popup ads and planting tracking cookies on our computers, to a significant personal threat today. According to the Federal Trade Commission's recent report on Identity Theft, 12% of the victims were acquired through the Internet. In recent weeks spyware has become even more common and sophisticated, which will likely result in a much higher Internet rate in the next FTC report.

It is absolutely vital now for all Internet users to have antivirus software, a firewall, and anti-spyware software installed and updated, in order to maximize our protection from those intent on doing us harm via our computers. The Microsoft AntiSpyware would be an excellent choice for the spyware portion of that triad.

DVD and CD Burning Software

By Ira Wilsker, APCUG



At present, virtually all new desktop computers, and most new notebook computers come with a DVD burner. Almost all DVD burners also burn CDs, and with the price of DVD burners plunging, CD-only burners are approaching obsolescence. As I type this, one of the local office supply stores has a decent 16x dual-format (both "+" and "-" formats) DVD burner (also burns CDs at 48x speed) for \$59.95 without a rebate. The price of blank DVD media is also approaching that of blank CD discs, despite DVD discs having about seven times the capacity, confirming that DVD will be the dominate media well into the future.

Most new computers and DVD burners come with a version of software typically referred to as "LE" Limited Edition, "LT" Light Edition, "SE" Special Edition, or some other often less than full featured software bundle. The software included with the burners is adequate for most basic tasks, but often lacks the power and full features available on the complete versions of the software. Concerns about burning hardware - software compatibility are virtually moot, as burners and software have become substantially compatible, meaning that almost all

new burning software will work with almost all new DVD and CD drives.

If a user wants to edit DVD video, edit audio, backup a hard drive to DVD or perform additional sophisticated tasks, the typical software bundled with the drives is often lacking those advanced features. A quick review of local stores shows that there are several titles of burning software available from such companies as NTI, Roxio, Nero, Sonic, InterVideo, and others. Software can be purchased ala' carte, where separate burning, editing, and backup titles can be purchased individually, or the software can be purchased in a suite containing multiple functions, often at a significant savings to the user.

In the trials I conducted, one particular suite stood out above the rest, NTI's "CD & DVD MAKER 7 TITANIUM".

I have tried several of the suites available, and all did an adequate job as advertised on their boxes. All performed the basic burning functions on CDs and both formats of DVD very well, and all offered some form of video editing. Most contained some form of backup utility to enable the user to make backups of his hard drive to CD, DVD, external drive or other media. Some offered audio editing and dubbing, CD ripping,

slideshows and other features. For most users, any of the suites would be adequate.

In the trials I conducted, one particular suite stood out above the rest, NTI's "CD & DVD MAKER 7 TITANIUM" (www.ntius.com). This suite, which retails for about \$80 (street price around \$60), was one of the easiest to use, most compatible with a variety of drives, and most comprehensive suite available at any price. It can perform almost all of the tasks that DVD and CD burners are capable of doing. Using a USB2 external TV tuner connected to my TV cable, I was able to use this software to view and record shows. While trying to burn more MP3 music files to a CD then the single CD would hold, the Titanium's disk spanning feature offered to organize the music, and burn it to multiple CDs.

In the years I have been writing this column, I have been a strong proponent of frequently backing up hard drives. One of the clichés used to explain this concept is referred to as "Murphy's First Law of Computing - A properly backed up hard drive will never fail, but a hard drive not backed up will always fail at the most inopportune time." Titanium contains a full version of NTI's renowned "Backup Now" software. I have used Backup Now for a few years, and have been very happy with it. It is capable of backing up hard drives to almost any media, from CDs, to DVDs, to an external hard drive (my personal choice). Backup Now can perform full backups, selective

DVD and CD Burning Software (cont.)

backups, or incremental backups. My recommendation is to do a full backup periodically, and frequent incremental backups. This process is fast and efficient, because incremental backups only backup files that are new or modified since the last backup. If a restore is needed, files can be selected individually, or entire directories can be restored. In the event of a catastrophic hard drive failure, a full restore will write all of the files to the new hard drive.

Some of us take too much video with our digital camcorders. In

order to make the video reasonably viewable, it must be edited, and Titanium has a fully functional video editing utility, which uses a storyboard format to edit videos. With a little practice, a user can produce professional appearing DVDs complete with titles, special effects, and other details to improve the viewing pleasure.

Sometimes the audio on a CD or video is not as we want it. This software has a wave editor, which uses an oscilloscope type image to easily enable cutting, inserting,

fading, echoing and other audio editing to provide the audio desired.

For the professional appearance, Titanium also has a jewel case and label maker which can produce professional appearing inserts for standard jewel cases, and print labels directly to the disc or appropriate label paper.

For under \$80, NTI CD & DVD MAKER 7 TITANIUM is a very worthwhile addition for any user of a DVD or CD burner.

Ask the Expert - Bluetooth

By Joe Schmitt, Bits & Bytes Online, Tampa Bay Computer Society (www.tampa-bay.org) and APCUG Editorial Committee

What is this "Bluetooth" I keep hearing about and do I need it?

Whenever something like a mouse or keyboard is connected to your computer, there are protocols and standards in place so that the computer can talk to the keyboard and it operates properly. The same scenario also applies to anything that connects to a computer or other electronics around your home. Your TV needs to know how the cable signal is formatted so that you get the sound and video. Bluetooth is a wireless protocol that allows electronics to communicate. Bluetooth goes beyond your computer to integrate electronics across a wide

spectrum. Bluetooth operates on two levels. The first is that all Bluetooth devices operate on the same radio frequency and speak the same language. Secondly, they all share the same procedures in exchanging data and verifying the data is received. That is sort of like being able to speak the language and know the customs so no one misunderstands.

Bluetooth is a standard developed and employed by close to 1,000 different companies. This protocol would allow you to take a cell phone, get into a car with a Bluetooth radio and transfer the call to the stereo so your hands are left free. Later you could take that same phone and possibly transfer contact information from the phone to a computer. This is just one example. Bluetooth can be found in phones, keyboards, PDA's and even stereo head-

phones. It could potentially show up anywhere you have a wire to connect two devices now.

Is this something you need? Just like anything else with computers, the answer depends on whether or not it meets your needs. Do you need a Bluetooth keyboard or mouse? Not if the wires don't bother you. Could you use it to link your PDA or Pocket PC to the computer? Yes and that might be the most likely scenario that Bluetooth would aid you in. If you are the type of person that likes portable gadgets as much as your computer, Bluetooth may be something to take a serious look into. For more information on the standard itself and some of the products that use it, check out the following sites: www.bluetooth.com and www.bluetooth.org

Follow-ups and Updates

By Ira Wilsker, APCUG

This weekly column will be a little different than those I have written over the past few years, in that it will be updating some of the information from previous columns. In technology, probably much more than other fields, change is constant and rapid, and yesterday's hot topic may now be in the trash bin of history almost as quickly as yesterday's hot new technologies appear in the bargain bin of our favorite stores.

RECALLS

Microsoft recently "recalled" the power cords on about 14 million, or about 70% of all of its popular Xbox video game consoles because they may pose a fire hazard, or may burn users. In typical "Microsoft-ese", the software giant explained that it was not really a recall in legal terms. According to Microsoft, there have been a total of 30 such incidents reported, seven of which resulted in minor burns, and 23 incidents with minor damage to carpet or entertainment center furniture. The defective power cords are only on game consoles manufactured prior to October 23, 2003. According to Microsoft, only about one in ten-thousand of the machines manufactured prior to October 23, 2003, will have a defective cord and pose a threat. Microsoft will replace the power cords of effected Xboxes for free. Owners may contact Microsoft toll free at 866-271-0450, or go to the official Xbox website at www.xbox.com and click on the link for "Power Cord Replacement for Xbox" link.

Microsoft recommends that Xbox users owning the covered consoles unplug and cease using the consoles until the replacement power cords arrive.

Philips has recalled about 15,000 of its flat panel monitors sold under the Hewlett-Packard (HP) brand name; with the HP model number HP L2035 Flat Panel Monitor, with serial numbers ranging from CNP352Y001 to CNP423Y1HS. The monitors were manufactured between December 2003, and June 2004. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, www.cpsc.gov, "a ground clip inside the back plastic panel of these monitors can be incorrectly installed, posing a risk of electrical shock to consumers." The CPSC has reported one minor shock, which did not result in an injury to a user of these monitors. Owners of this monitor should unplug the monitor and use a different computer (or monitor) to determine if their monitor was recalled. HP has a toll free number available at 800-254-2280, and a website online at www.L2035recall.com with the recall information. If affected, the owners will receive instructions on how to get their monitors tested, repaired or replaced at no charge.

Owners of Psion notebook computers need to check their AC power adapters to see if they were recalled. There have been nine reports of these power supplies overheating, but no injuries have been reported. Recalled adapters were sold with Psion Teklogix netpad, netBook and NETBOOK PRO notebook computers. The

recalled adapters are labeled with the name "Sunpower (UK) Ltd," the part number 9NA0180300, and date code D/C: 034810. Users should cease using the adapters right away, and call Psion at 800-387-8898, or check the website at www.pSIONteklogix.com. A free replacement power supply will be provided to replace the recalled devices.

PHISHING SCAMS

Sadly, a recurrent topic in this column has been "PHISHING" scams. This occurs when computer users respond to an authentic looking but phony email or website apparently from a major financial service company or retailer. The user is then instructed to enter account numbers, social security numbers, PIN numbers and other personal information which may then be utilized to financially drain the individual, and make him a victim of identity theft. Phishing may be one of the most rapidly growing forms of Internet fraud, claiming countless victims.

Unfortunately, a new variation of the scam has recently appeared. In this scam, somewhat reminiscent of the infamous Nigerian 419 scams mentioned in earlier columns, the victim receives an email apparently from a major bank that a new account has been opened in his name, and a large deposit has been made. The victim is provided with a phony bank account number and PIN to access the account. The user is then directed to an authentic looking website purportedly that of the bank, where they are

Continued on Page 27

Screen Capture Tools

By Gabe Goldberg,
gabe@gabegold.com and APCUG
Editorial Committee

Screen Capture Tools Put Windows Data At Your Beck and Call

When you have a problem with your car, you bring it to the repair shop. When you're sick, you visit the doctor. But computer problems sometimes show up as nasty messages plopped in the middle of the screen. So it's hard to capture information needed to research and fix the problem. And someone trying to help you via email or phone may ask questions about system settings or application options which may be tedious to record and communicate. A previous article describes information that's useful for solving problems. [<http://www.aarp.org/computers-howto/Articles/a2004-07-12-get-answers>]

But sometimes the best information is a picture of what happens or what's wrong.

The good news is that all Windows versions provide basic tools to capture the entire screen or just the active application window.

You may have tried to use the PrintScreen (or PrtScr on some keyboards) key and not seen anything happen. This is because that key doesn't really *print* anything, it simply copies the entire screen (or just the active window if you press Alt-then-PrintScreen keys) to the Windows clipboard (an invisible Windows area for storing temporary data). Here's a tip: if you're capturing the entire screen and you'd like to timestamp the image, move the mouse cursor over the time shown at the right side of the Windows taskbar. That will pop up the date, which will be included in the captured image.

While you can't see the clipboard, you can paste the captured image from it into a word processing or graphics program from which you can print or save it. Open an application you like -- Microsoft Paint or its equivalent (included with Windows), Microsoft Word, or any graphics program. Position the cursor where you want to place the image and press Ctrl-V (Ctrl and V keys simultaneously). The image will appear. If you like, you can add descriptive information such as the date, the nature of your problem, your Windows version, applications that were running, etc.

You can now print the image from the application (click File and Print); you're also close to being able to save or email the captured image! To save it, within the application click File and Save As. Specify a location (hard drive, floppy disk, USB key, etc.). Programs may offer different choices of file-type for saving. Common choices are JPG (good for photographs, can be compressed), PNG (new/free standard format, good for non-photos), GIF (commonly used, produces relatively small files, limited to 256 colors), and BMP (produces large files, Windows-only format, usable if files won't be transmitted). Once the file is saved, you can attach it to an e-mail.

But Windows' built-in screen capture is primitive and inflexible. That's led many people and companies to develop tools providing more functions. Searching Google for "screen capture" produced about 227,000 choices! Many of these are free, available for download. You can find good choices at Web sites such as Tucows Downloads [www.tucows.com]. Some are shareware -- free to try, priced to continue using. A modestly priced choice that is powerful and easy to use is CaptureWizPro from

PixelMetrics [www.pixelmetrics.com].

Costing \$30 and requiring a one-megabyte download, it provides a small toolbar that allows capturing any part of the screen, not just the full screen or the active window. The toolbar can be docked anywhere on the screen edge. It will hide until you mouse near it, then several selection tools (area, frame, scroll, etc.) allow precisely selecting what to copy.

Area selection allows simple selection of a rectangular section to copy. Frame selection displays rulers that show the selected area's size in pixels and inches; the frame border opens fast, remembers its position and lets you interactively prepare applications below it. Scrolling selection tools solve a nasty problem: how to capture an image that doesn't fit on the screen. You can select a scrollable area, energize Full AutoScroll, and the image will scroll before your eyes as CaptureWizPro collects it.

Once an image is captured, you can copy it to the clipboard for saving as described above, or you can do many more fun things with it: save it directly to a disk file, print it directly, make an on-screen PostIt-style note out of it (to keep visible something needed for reference), e-mail it directly, manipulate it with a built-in editor, etc.

CaptureWizPro installation offers a friendly list of tips for use. It also does something I wish more applications did: allows printing a one-page guide including capture basics, Q&A, and suggested uses. The tool is handy for recording configuration changes, comparing results of testing applications, sending information to people who don't have the same applications as you, creating

Continued on Page 26

The Computer Corner

By Joe Shipley, Phoenix PC Users Group NEWS, www.phoenixpcug.org and the APCUG Editorial Committee

Protecting Your Computer During the "Flu and Virus" Season

With all the viruses and other malware around, I have accumulated a group of software that I consider to be necessary 'protection' for any computer that connects to the Internet.

The software I recommend consists of:

Ad-Aware

<http://www.lavasoft.com/>

Spybot Search & Destroy

<http://www.safer-networking.org/en/mirrors/index.html>

CWS shredder

http://www.intermute.com/spysubtract/cwshredder_download.html

Zone Alarm

http://www.zonelabs.com/store/content/catalog/products/sku_list_z_a.jsp

AVG Antivirus

<http://free.grisoft.com/freeweb.php/doc/2/lng/us/tpl/v5>

Pop-Up Stopper

http://www.panicware.com/product_psfree_download.html

All of these programs are FREE. Millions of people are using them. For Ad-aware alone, there have been more than 90 million downloads just from Download.com.

Once these programs are on your system, you need to make sure they are updated. AVG and Zone Alarm have automatic updating; the others need to be updated by clicking a button.

Ad-Aware and Spybot specialize in removing spies and malware from your system. They each will remove some bad things the other does not, so I use them both.

When running Ad-Aware, first do an update to check for the newest definition files. After updating, run the program. If the program finds items which need to be removed, you'll see a display of the items suggested for removal. If there are no check marks in the boxes to the left of the item name, right-click in the frame and choose the "Select All" option. This will check all the items for you. Click on "Next" to move the items to a quarantine area. Once quarantined, the items are removed and will refrain from causing you any problems. If you remove something you really need, you can go to the quarantine area and recover the item to have it restored.

Upon installation of Spybot, the program will search for updates and give you the opportunity to download them. Do so. Updates are good. After updating, run the Immunizer to make sure you block about 2,000+ bad sites. Once updated, go to "Search & Destroy" to begin searching for more than 24,000 (as of this writing) spies, malware, Trojans and other bad things, which if found, will be

removed from your system.

One of the features included with Spybot that I recommend is called "Tea Timer." This feature advises you every time a change is proposed for your startup files. Viruses, worms and Trojans will often insert instructions into the startup files. By utilizing Tea Timer, you can determine if a change to these files should be permitted or not. The logic of whether or not to allow a change is simple: if you just installed some software and you're prompted for a change, it's probably ok. But if you're prompted for a change and you did not just install new software, just click NO. When in doubt, keep it out. You can always add it in later.

CWS shredder can be used to remove a specific group of web search files that can hijack your browser to take you to certain websites and use specific search engines, whether you want to or not. The shredder removes those web search hijackers.

Zone Alarm is a terrific firewall that advises you of every attempt made by your computer to access the Internet, and of each attempt by the Internet to access your computer. At first, it may seem like an annoyance, but once you catch on to the rhythm of how it works, it will greatly reduce the number of unauthorized Internet accesses without your consent. The program runs in the background, and gives you the chance to let it learn which Internet sites are acceptable and which aren't. For example, the first time you go to do

Corner (cont.)

online banking, you may see a message asking you if you want to go to a specific site. If you say "NO," you won't be able to reach your bank's web site. Don't be alarmed. Try your bank again, and when you're prompted to see if you really want to go to the bank's site, then check the box "Remember this site" and click on the "Allow" button. The next time you want to go to the bank's site you'll get right in.

AVG Antivirus is a good antivirus program, self-updating, and will scan email as well as perform a regular antivirus scan. You can even setup automatic virus checking to have your system scanned when it's convenient for you. With AVG you can, as Ron Popeil says, "Set it and Forget it!"

The last component of my protection package is Panicware's Popup Stopper. This handy Popup blocker actually works. And if your bank's web site uses popups which are being stopped, you can hold down the control key to temporarily disable the stopper to let you receive popups you actually want. You can also open the control center and disable the stopper at any time if the handy control key feature doesn't do the job for you.

So this flu season you can get added protection by using the software described above, and minimize your downtime.

Reviews

By Joe Rothstein, KIPCUG

Donated software, for your review, has become very difficult to obtain.

Because of this, we would like to request that, when you purchase programs of your own, you give us your evaluation. Our membership would greatly appreciate your views - in 500 to 1000 words - which would be published in our Computer User News.

Please send to: KIPCUG Review Editor, Joe Rothstein at joesr@iname.com. For questions, email or call Joe at 451-3874.

Many thanks for your help.



Call about KIPCUG Special

**DSL Light
DSL Standard
DSL X-2
Dial-Up with
5X Acceleration**

**Available in Kentucky and
Southern Indiana
6MB DSL and \$199 DSL-T1's
Available in Southern Indiana**

**502-815-7000
(7 Days a Week)**

"Possibly the best tech
support in the business..."
PC Magazine

www.kipcug.org

The logo for New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, featuring a stylized globe with latitude and longitude lines above the text "New Horizons" in a large, serif font, with "Computer Learning Centers" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it.

New Horizons[®]
Computer Learning Centers

- **Microsoft Office classes**
 - Windows, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Outlook
- **Photoshop, Pagemaker, Illustrator, Flash, CoreIDRAW**
- **Windows 2003, Cisco, A+ Net+, MCSE, MCSA, MCAD**
- **Web-Based Courses & Libraries Available**

502-426-8519

www.newhorizonslouisville.com

Firefox

By Linda Gonse, Editor, Nibbles & Bits, Orange County IBM PC Users' Group www.orcopug.org and APCUG Editorial Committee

Firefox: A program popularized by open source programmers



The latest version of Firefox, an open source program, formerly Mozilla, and before that, Netscape Navigator, was released to popular acclaim near the end of 2004 from www.mozilla.com. Many people, tired of security problems and perpetual patching of Internet Explorer, have begun to make the switch to Firefox. I was one of them. It was an easy transition to import my bookmarks, favorites, and other items, and set up housekeeping in it.

But, it was a real surprise to find free "themes," a change of appearance for Firefox. Feeling the exhilaration of discovery, I downloaded Nautipolis, Red Cats, Gray Modern, and Littlefox, and others; finally settling on Littlefox. Then, I discovered "extensions." Extensions are little programs, originally called applets, that run from within Firefox. Their specialized capabilities add to the functionality of Firefox and quickly become features you just can't live without. There are about a dozen I use, including: Weatherfox, QuickNote, Titlebar Tweaks, SpoofStick,

CopyPlainText and Tabbrowser Extensions.

One extension that makes my online life simpler is called QuickNote. It allows me to copy and paste from browser pages into a tabbed notepad available right in the browser. It saves me from opening Word or Notepad and working back and forth from one of them to the browser window.

Fascinated with the free extensions, I tracked down QuickNote's creator, Jed Brown, to ask him to tell me how he got started and why he wrote the program. Also, QuickNote had earned five stars as a popular Firefox item, I wondered if Jed thought it might end up being incorporated into Internet Explorer.

He said, "I became involved with Mozilla back in the 90s. I was a frequent user of what was then the Mosaic browser when the World Wide Web had just begun. Netscape was born from Mosaic and I was instantly a user of Netscape Navigator.

"Once the "browser wars" began, I was a devoted Netscape user who really loathed how Microsoft used their OS dominance to spread use of their browser. Unfortunately, after Netscape released its 4.0 browser, MS was right on their tail and produced an even better and more standards-compliant browser.

"Despite the better browser, I was loyal and stayed on NS as long as I could. Around the time when Netscape 5 was going to be released (1998 I believe), they decided to open-source their browser. That sparked my interest and I got my hands on the code as quickly as I

could. Once the open source community realized that the NS code was a huge hack and badly organized, they decided to start from scratch and create what was to be the fastest most compliant browser ever. This was too good to be true.

"Unfortunately this was no easy endeavor and would take over three years to get even close to a final product. In the meantime, Internet Explorer was the superior product (over NS 4.x) and was becoming the browser of choice for many -- including myself.

"I wasn't hacking on any of the code, but I did start testing the releases from the first public beta release. Since that day, I used this new engine and code base as much as I could, but always had IE there for sites that did not work in the new, young and untested engine.

"Once Mozilla had matured (version 0.8) and became usable on a daily basis, I switched over and said goodbye to IE for good.

"The folks at Netscape had a brilliant idea called XUL that would allow them to write the interface to the browser once, and allow it to run on any platform possible. This meant Mozilla looked the same on Windows, Mac, Linux/ OS 2, etc. This same technology allowed authors like myself to start creating programs that would live on top of the Mozilla platform and extend its functionality (now called "Extensions").

"As a high school student back then, I started a project called "QuickNote" that would allow easy access to a notepad-like sidebar for easy note taking.

Firefox (cont.)

"While my extension was popular and used amongst many Mozilla users, Mozilla was plagued with bad interface design decisions from Netscape and AOL who later bought Netscape, so it really never hit it well with anyone but "geek" users. A few talented programmers at Netscape (Hyatt, Blake, Goodger, etc.) realized this and in their free time started a new project based on Mozilla, but much simpler, that was meant to be only a browser instead of a full suite like Mozilla was. This eventually turned into what Firefox is today.

"Thanks to Firefox (formerly Phoenix and Firebird) much more attention was brought to it and a much larger user base. More interest in Mozilla, XUL and extension development arose. This has led to over 200 extensions made for Mozilla applications, and has brought together programmers from around the world, like myself, to join in and help make Firefox/Mozilla better.

"For example, QuickNote was a project I was doing by myself in my free time. But now many different users contribute code and translation. A Russian programmer, Nickolay Ponomarev, has joined with me and contributes to QuickNote on a regular basis.

"The whole idea of multi-platform and open source software is amazing, as it has brought thousands of people together under one cause, despite language and cultural barriers. This in part, is thanks to Mozilla and its example that open source software can be just as good -- and in this case -- better, than priority software."

We asked Jed what he sees for Firefox in the next couple of years.

He said, "I think we will see a continuous trend in the growth of Firefox users. Once Microsoft won the browser wars, it dismantled its IE team, and left users high and dry. Firefox is filling this void, bringing a new and fresh idea to the World Wide Web and making it the place it should have been (virus/popup/spyware free) years ago.

"I also can see more and more companies embracing Firefox in their internal networks and products they offer to their users. Google, Amazon and many others are already starting."

We also wondered if Mozilla/Firefox will survive and grow through the efforts of the open source community. Or will Microsoft gobble up talented program writers such as Jed, and IE will remain dominant?

"Mozilla/Firefox will definitely survive, and be vital for the years to come," Jed said. "Microsoft is far behind with Longhorn and even when it ships it will take years to get users to migrate over. In the meantime, Firefox will continue to see growth in users on multiple platforms, and be extremely important to the survival of Linux as a desktop alternative. Sure MS will copy features and do its best to find exploits in Firefox. No software is perfect, but I believe the very nature of Mozilla and Firefox appeals to users and gives the Web freedom from control from one sole company. As time goes by, I think the average user will begin to understand this and realize the importance of alternative products and that they are

superior in many aspects.

"The other huge benefit that Firefox has as a browser and Mozilla, in general, as a platform, is their multiplatform nature. As a programmer, I can create any application or extension based on Mozilla and easily make it work on every platform that Mozilla/Firefox runs on. This allows users to use any system they like, perhaps Unix/Linux at work, Mac OS on their laptop and Windows XP at home, and yet feel no difference when it comes to surfing the web and using the applications/extensions built on Mozilla. Microsoft has no real answer to this (although .Net tries) and it is a huge selling point to both users and corporations."

(You can email Jed at contact_me@jedbrown.net, and look for programs he has written for Firefox at Mozilla.com.)

Have you visited a SIG lately?

We now have over 20
Special Interest Groups.
Surely at least one of the
SIGs would be of benefit
to you. Check the
KIPCUG Planner
on page 15 or the
KIPCUG
Special Interest Group
Directory
on pages 16-17.

Directory of KIPCUG Leaders

Name	Position	Home	Work	Email Address
Charley May	President	425-4604		sig@win.net
Bill Buzan	Vice-President	639-7647		bill.buzan@insightbb.com
Vacant	Secretary			
Rosemary Viele	Treasurer	452-6878		treasurer@kipcug.org
Ralph Langdon	Program Director	245-8132		programs@kipcug.org
Beverly Setree	Membership Director		452-9851	membership@kipcug.org
Tom McArdle	Volunteer Director	458-7269		geezer@insightbb.com
Brian Miller	SIG Director	749-5892		sigs@kipcug.org
Susan Moore	Editor	499-5222		mooresk@win.net, editor@kipcug.org
John Henderson	Webmaster		812-945-1102	webmaster@kipcug.org
Vacant	Publicity Director			
Mike Shaikun	Legal Advisor	425-3326	587-3540	mike@aye.net
Joe Rothstein	Review Editor	451-3874		joesr@iname.com
Finis Gentry	Director	228-3964		gentry@win.net
Tom Denning	Director	502-550-6106		t.denning@insightbb.com
Doc Viele	Director	452-6878		aqviele@win.net
Alan Birch	SIG Leader	429-0506		abirch52@excite.com
Martin Champion	SIG Leader	810-9125		mccampion@aol.com
Don Garr	SIG Leader	239-5335		dongarr@insightbb.com
John Kilpatrick	SIG Leader	969-6983		jewel@win.net
Grant McCormick	SIG Leader	935-2497		gmccormick@win.net (Preferred)
Flave Reising	SIG Leader			flavereising@insightbb.com
Bob Rose	SIG Leader	241-1604		britude@techemail.com
Tom Scanlan	SIG Leader	502-477-1639	477-1639	tpscan@iglou.com
Myron Smith	SIG Leader	897-7718		mjslks@insightbb.com
Jim Travelstead	SIG Leader	375-4796	852-4761	jim.travelstead@louisville.edu

For Your Information

Changes for mailing address, email address or telephone numbers should be sent to Beverly Setree, Director of Membership. You can send the change to the KIPCUG mailing address printed on the back of this Magazine or by email to membership@kipcug.org.

April 2005 KIPCUG Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
	<table border="1" style="font-size: small; margin: auto;"> <tr><td colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">Mar 2005</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Mar 2005							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<table border="1" style="font-size: small; margin: auto;"> <tr><td colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">May 2005</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	May 2005							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<p>1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All Monday-Friday Meetings are at 6:30 PM. All Afternoon Meetings are at 2:00 PM.</p>	<p>2</p>	
Mar 2005																																																																																																								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																																																		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																																																		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																																		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																																																		
29	30	31																																																																																																						
May 2005																																																																																																								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																																																		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																																																		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																																																		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																																																		
29	30	31																																																																																																						
3	4 Hardware SIG	5 General Meeting	6	7 Visual Basic SIG	8 Windows OS SIG	9 Basic Access SIG 10:00																																																																																																		
10 Articles for Magazine Due 4/12	11 New Users SIG	12 Board of Directors	13	14 Genealogy II SIG Investing SIG	15 Advanced Users SIG	16																																																																																																		
17	18 Genealogy SIG	19 Real Estate SIG New Users Daytime SIG	20	21 Webmasters SIG	22	23 Hands On SIG 2:00																																																																																																		
24	25 Intermediate Users SIG	26 Technical Market Analysis SIG Digital Photography SIG	27	28 Utilities SIG	29	30																																																																																																		

KIPCUG Special Interest Group Directory

ACCESS PROGRAMMING SIG - Meetings on Hold - Meets at a date and location to be determined. Contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892

ADVANCED USERS SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 3rd Friday of the month at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact SIG LEADER Tom Scanlan at 1-502-477-1639 or tpscan@iglou.com

BASIC ACCESS SIG - Meets 10:00 AM on the 2nd Saturday of the month at NHCLC at 10200 Linn Station Road in the Triad East Bldg. Contact SIG LEADER Alan Birch at 429-0506 or abirch52@excite.com

BASIC EXCEL SIG - Meetings on Hold - Meets 6:30 PM on the 1st Friday of the month at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact Co-SIG LEADER Flave Reising at flavereising@insightbb.com

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SIG - Meets on the 4th Friday of specified months at Advanced Grinding and Machine Inc, 4644 Illinois Avenue. Contact TEAM MEMBER Beverly Setree at 452-9851 or beverly@advanced-grinding.com

DIGITAL- PHOTOGRAPHY SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the LFPL-Bon Air Regional, 2816 Del Rio Place. Contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892

EXCEL INTERMEDIATE SIG - Meetings on Hold - Meets 6:30 PM on the 2nd Friday of the month at CCUM. Contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892

FLASH MANAGER DATABASE SIG - Meetings on Hold - Meets 6:30 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the LFPL-Bon Air Regional, 2816 Del Rio Place. Contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892

GENEALOGY SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of the month at the LFPL-Eline Branch at St. Matthews City Hall Building at the corner of Grandview Ave. and Fairfax Ave. about 3 blocks south of Shelbyville Rd. Contact SIG LEADER Susan Moore at 499-5222 or mooresk@win.net (www.win.net/mooresk)

GENEALOGY II SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the LFPL-Jeffersontown Branch, 10635 Watterson Trail. Contact SIG LEADER Susan Moore at 499-5222 or mooresk@win.net

HARDWARE SIG - Meets 6:30 PM the 1st Monday of the month at the LFPL-Eline Branch at St. Matthews City Hall Building, the corner of Grandview Ave./Fairfax Ave. 3 blocks south of Shelbyville Rd. Contact Co-SIG LEADERS Grant McCormick at gmccormick@win.net or Charley May at sig@win.net or 425-4604

HANDS ON SIG "NEW" - Meets 2:00 PM the 4th Saturday of the month at the LFPL-Eline Branch at St. Matthews City Hall Building at the corner of Grandview Ave. & Fairfax Ave. 3 blocks south of Shelbyville Rd. Contact Co-SIG LEADERS Charley May at sig@win.net or Grant McCormick at gmccormick@win.net or Tom McArdle at usersig@insightbb.com

INTERMEDIATE USERS SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 4th Monday of the month at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact SIG LEADER Jim Travelstead at jim.travelstead@louisville.edu or 852-4761(W), 375-4796(H)

INVESTING SIG - Meets 6:30 PM the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Louisville Aero Club, Bowman Field. Contact SIG LEADER Doc Viele at 452-6878

LINUX SIG - Meets at a location and time to be determined. Co-SIG LEADERS Rob Coffey and Jacob Wilkins. Contact TEAM MEMBER Jack Link at redoscar3@yahoo.com

NEW USERS SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 2nd Monday of the month at the NHCLC at 10200 Linn Station Road in Suite 110 of the Triad East Bldg. Contact SIG LEADER Charley May at sig@win.net

NEW USERS DAYTIME SIG "NEW" - Meets 2:00 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact SIG LEADER Winnie Miller at winnie.miller@att.net

PDA SIG - Meetings on Hold - Meets 6:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at a location to be determined. Contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892

REAL ESTATE SIG "NEW"-New Date/Location - Meets 6:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact SIG LEADER Bill Buzan at re_sig@insightbb.com or 639-7647

TECHNICAL MARKET ANALYSIS SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 4th Tuesday of the month at Louisville Free Public Library, Crescent Hill Branch, 2752 Frankfort Avenue in the lower level meeting room. Contact SIG LEADER Myron Smith at 897-7718 or mjslks@insightbb.com

KIPCUG Special Interest Group Directory (cont.)

UTILITIES SIG - New Date/Time - Meets 6:30 PM on the 4th Thursday of the month at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact Co-SIG LEADERS Tom McArdle at usersig@insightbb.com or Charley May at sig@win.net or 425-4604

VISUAL BASIC SIG - Meets 6:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of the month at the LFPL-Bon Air Regional, 2816 Del Rio Place. Contact SIG LEADER Martin Campion 810-9125 or mccampion@aol.com

WEBMASTERS SIG - Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at Win.Net located at 1048 Chestnut St. Contact SIG LEADER John Henderson at jh@inetmarketing.com or 812-945-1102

WINDOWS OS SIG - New Date/Location - Meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at 6:30 PM at CCUM at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42 & Blankenbaker Lane) in the Computer Lab (Room 222). Contact SIG LEADER Bob Rose at britdude@techemail.com or 241-1604

YOUTH SIG - Meetings on Hold - Meets 6:30 PM on the 4th Friday of the month at CCUM. Contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892

The SIG Scene

By Brian Miller, KIPCUG

**Where to find the scoop on
your Special Interest Group**

HEADLINE NEWS

Be sure to stop by the SIG table at the next General Meeting. We will highlight three SIGs each month. This is your chance to ask some questions about each SIG and find out if there is something there that may interest you. Take that opportunity to get on their mailing list for updates on their meetings. If you are a SIG LEADER or TEAM MEMBER of a SIG and you would like to schedule a month to highlight that SIG, be sure to send me an email.

Whether you are a webmaster or you only browse the Internet occasionally, you will benefit from the WEBMASTERS SIG. SIG LEADER John Henderson covers topics from the most basic to the highly advanced areas of Internet and website development. With the technology today, it is hard to do anything without somehow using the Internet. If you haven't been to one of the meetings yet, make it a point to attend at the next opportunity.

I have to be honest. For about a year now, I have been using my digital camera without truly utilizing all its features. I know that I don't get the quality shots that I could. Now that I have a ton of images saved, I could

use some help getting the less than perfect shots into a better-looking final product for printing. So, I tell you what I am going to do. I am going to get my manual out that I have read all of about three pages from and take it with me to the DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG. It is very easy with the digital cameras available today to take as many pictures as you want. If I am going to be taking the pictures anyway, I might as well get the best results possible. Regardless of the camera that you have, bring it with you and meet me there.

Whatever your area of interest is currently or what you may want to learn about, there is a SIG out there for you. So, come visit some of the SIGs. The SIGs and the General Meetings are open to all guests.

If you do not see one that peaks your interest, then email me and let me know what would. I am always open to your comments and suggestions for the SIGs. After all, this is your User Group.

KIPCUG SIGs are still looking for NEW meeting places. Please keep your eyes and ears open for new SIG meeting locations and report suggestions to KIPCUG SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org or 749-5892. Locations should hold 12-24 persons and Internet connections and, if possible, computers for the attendees would be a plus.

The SIG Scene (cont.)

ACCESS

PROGRAMMING SIG

The ACCESS PROGRAMMING SIG has been suspended due to conflicts with the meeting location. We hope to resume meetings when a new meeting location is secured. The ACCESS PROGRAMMING SIG assumes a good working knowledge of Access, focusing on programming and advanced techniques.

If you would like to be notified of the restart of this SIG, you can contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org. Add ACCESS PROGRAMMING SIG to the subject line of your email.

ADVANCED USERS SIG

The April 15 6:30 PM ADVANCED USERS SIG Meeting continues our meeting format. SIG LEADER Tom Scanlan will begin with news about recent events that affect the PC community. The latest news from Microsoft's recent stop in Louisville will be the main topic of the evening. The group will continue to evaluate how systems are being compromised and what the home user can do to reduce their exposure to these attacks. Some time will be spent restoring the machines in the CCUM Computer Lab.

Our March 18 meeting we

worked to resolve failures on member's PC's. The ongoing battle between those attempting to gain unauthorized access to members' PC's and those working to keep them at bay was discussed. Tom kept us up-to-date on recent news about SCO vs. Linux legal battles. The group removed spyware and malware from the computers in the meeting room and examined updates to security software.

The ADVANCED USERS SIG explores software and hardware topics of interest to people very comfortable with their computer who want to know even more. We encourage everyone to share their experiences so we can all learn and grow into areas we would not normally explore on our own.

We meet in the Computer Lab, Room 222, at Christ Church United Methodist (CCUM) on the third Friday of the month. Add yourself to our email alert list by self-registering at groups.yahoo.com/group/KIPCUGAdvUsers or contact Tom at tpscan@iglou.com. Please use ADVANCED USERS SIG in the subject line of your email.

BASIC ACCESS SIG

There was no meeting in March due to meeting location availability. The April 9 meeting will include some work with reports, perhaps some more normalization and of course trying to help with members' problems and questions.

The BASIC ACCESS SIG uses

the tools that are available in Access without programming. If you have topics that you would like discussed, please contact SIG LEADER Alan Birch at abirch52@excite.com or 429-0506. If you have some tips and tricks to share, we would love to hear them. We meet on the second Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM to Noon at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center.

BASIC EXCEL SIG

This SIG has been suspended due to low attendance. We hope to restart this group if enough KIPCUG members express sufficient interest.

If you would like to be notified of the restart of this group or to express your interest in helping to lead the SIG, you can contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org. Add BASIC EXCEL SIG to the subject line of your email.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SIG

There will be no meeting of the COMMUNITY OUTREACH SIG in April. We will begin a new schedule of meetings to be announced. Even though the meetings will no longer be on a monthly

The SIG Scene (cont.)

basis, we still can accept donations by appointment when necessary.

The COMMUNITY OUTREACH SIG has been designed to take donations of computer equipment and restore it to working condition. These computers can then be distributed out to people in need. We are always looking for donations. Even if you think there is no value in your old computer, contact us and let us take it off your hands. We also welcome people willing to help restore computers for redistribution.

This SIG has provided PC's to disadvantaged residents of the area and will continue to provide a valuable service to the community. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

The SIG meets at Advanced Grinding and Machine, Inc, 4644 Illinois Ave. in Louisville at 6:30 PM on the fourth Friday of specified months. To be added to the SIG's advance mailing list, contact TEAM MEMBER Beverly Setree, beverly@advanced-grinding.com. Place the words COMMUNITY OUTREACH SIG in the subject line of your email.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

At the April 26 meeting of the DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG, we will continue a format similar to the general meetings where we have a section of the time reserved for basics and questions with the

remaining time for improving the quality of your pictures. At the March 22 meeting, we fielded several questions from attendees as well as worked on images brought in for improvement through software manipulation. We will continue at future meetings to look at the camera equipment we already own, just received or hope possibly to purchase in the future. We will continue to see how pictures we have taken or wish to take can be optimized first in the camera and then by the computer. Software will be discussed including continuing examples by Matt Chojnowski using the free program, The GIMP.

Any questions on cameras, software or printers will also be welcome. Bring those nagging questions, pictures on which you need help (on disk), cameras (with the user manuals), and if you have special software be certain to bring it also.

The specific purpose of this SIG is to examine the software and hardware topics that will make your photographic efforts more fun and rewarding. Members at any level of experience and owners of any type of digital camera are welcome. Again, please be certain to bring your camera, manual and photo CD and we will all increase our ability to understand how digital photography is different from using film.

The DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG meets monthly at 6:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday at the LFPL Bon Air Branch Library. To get advance notice of this SIG, contact Bill Edwards by email at bedward-sna@sbcglobal.net. Be certain to put DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY in

the subject line of your email so that it is not destroyed as SPAM.

EXCEL INTERMEDIATE SIG

The EXCEL INTERMEDIATE SIG assumes a working knowledge of Excel and familiarity with most of the Excel icons. There are many, many functions that are available in Excel that few of us realize can make our lives easier. Due to low attendance, the EXCEL INTERMEDIATE SIG has been suspended. We hope that the SIG will resume soon if KIPCUG members express sufficient interest.

To be added to the email list or to state your interest in this SIG, send an email to SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org and type "EXCEL INTERMEDIATE SIG" in the subject line.

FLASH MANAGER DATABASE SIG

The FLASH MANAGER DATABASE SIG will not be meeting for the immediate future due to the health issues of our SIG LEADER Don Garr. Please keep Don and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

If you or someone you know would like to be on the mailing list for the FLASH MANAGER

The SIG Scene (cont.)

DATABASE SIG, please email SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org and type FLASH MANAGER DATABASE SIG in the subject line.

GENEALOGY SIG

The next GENEALOGY SIG Meeting will be at 6:30 PM on April 19 at our regular location, the LFPL Eline Branch. The presentation will be How to Set the Parameters to Find Duplicate People. If you have not been careful when entering people or you have entered people from different sources, it is quite likely that you could have some duplicate people that you need to identify and merge. Come find out how easy the TMG make the process.

The March GENEALOGY SIG Meeting presentation was on Including Photographs and other Documents in The Master Genealogist (TMG) version 6. TMG allows pictures, documents, sound and video to be included along with the information on your relatives. The process is quite simple to include the files. If you have already created the files, it is just a matter of drag and drop from Windows Explorer.

Since TMG version 6 is now available, we have switched to version 6. Now is the time to jump in so that you get all of the tips and tricks.

The GENEALOGY SIG meets at the LFPL Eline Branch at 6:30 PM on the third Monday each month.

SIG LEADER Susan Moore and all of the SIG's attendees are looking for YOU to join us at a future meeting. If you have any particular questions before the next meeting, please email SIG LEADER Susan Moore at mooresk@win.net. If you want a map or directions on how to get to the GENEALOGY SIG, go to www.win.net/mooresk.

GENEALOGY II SIG

The GENEALOGY II SIG will have its next meeting on April 14 and will continue to meet monthly on the second Thursday at 6:30 PM at the Louisville Free Public Library Jeffersonstown Branch.

This SIG is going to be an informal Q&A session without any handouts. Topics are not announced ahead of time because the participants will determine the content of the meeting. Short subjects may be presented from time to time when there are insufficient questions.

If you have any particular questions before the next meeting, please email SIG LEADER Susan Moore at mooresk@win.net. If you want a map or directions on how to get to the SIG, go to www.win.net/mooresk and click on the GENEALOGY II SIG.

HANDS ON SIG (NEW)

NEW TIME 2:00 PM

Our next meeting will be on April 22 at the Eline Branch of the LFPL in St. Mathews. We start at 2:00 PM and will work with you to get your machine back up and running at top speed. There is no topic to discuss, just a chance to find some assistance and learn more about your PC.

In March, we dealt with problems that came in the door. We worked on updating machines to Service Pack 2, securing networks and diagnosing OS installation problems. It may not always be possible to work on every machine that is not expected, but we resolved most issues by the library closing time. You will need to bring your complete system, monitor, keyboard mouse, cables and processor. If you need help getting it up to the meeting room, members will assist you.

If you are not comfortable going at it alone, email us in advance and the group will be ready to help you help yourself. Gain confidence and improve your knowledge base in just a few hours. Members with repair experience are encouraged to drop in and help other members solve nagging problems. All levels of experience are welcomed and we will share our abilities with one another.

Our location has a high-speed web connection and driver updates and patches can be downloaded quickly. We meet on the fourth Saturday of the month at 2:00 PM in the second

The SIG Scene (cont.)

floor meeting room at the Eline Branch of the LFPL. We often run well into the afternoon to assure your problems are resolved.

If you have a problem machine, contact the Co-SIG LEADERS listed below in advance of the next meeting so that time can be allocated to address your problems. For an advance notice of this SIG, please contact Co-SIG LEADERS Charley May at sig@win.net, Tom McArdle at usersig@insightbb.com or Grant McCormick at gmccormick@win.net. Please add the words HANDS ON SIG to the subject line of your email.

HARDWARE SIG

On April 4 at the 6:30 PM meeting, we will cover the topic that was intended for the March 7 meeting when Grant McCormick was unable to be at the meeting. Grant will cover wireless networking and proxy servers. We will assemble one showing all of the settings. So don't forget to bring your notebooks to take down the tips and tricks for your system.

In addition, we want to discuss additions to the list of future topics for the 2005 meeting schedule. Be sure to attend and bring, on paper, your suggestions for future projects to add to the list! Only suggestions on paper will go into the drawing at the meeting. As usual, we will have our general Q&A session.

At the March 7 meeting, we demonstrated installing and setting

up an external sound system by Sound Blaster, a Creative SB Audigy 2 Nx, usb2.0. Tom McArdle brought in his Laptop computer and we went through the process of hooking up the external sound system, it was awesome. We ended up with the equivalent of a big time Desk Top Computer Sound System (ears bleeding) that originated from a normal laptop!

If you are interested in what it takes to build a "multimedia killer machine", come to the May 2 HARDWARE SIG.

Do you have a desire to expand the capabilities of your existing system? Do you want to be comfortable with adding your own hard drive, audio or video card, memory module, DVD burner or building your own computer from the ground up? Learn the tips and techniques necessary for a successful hardware upgrade.

Does your machine need help? Contact us so the Co-SIG LEADERS Charley May and Grant McCormick can be ready to assist you with your computer. Do not surprise the group. Let them know in advance that you are bringing your unit. With advance planning, you may not need to bring your complete system to the meeting.

The HARDWARE SIG meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 PM, in the second floor meeting room of the Eline Branch of the LFPL in St. Matthews. If you would like a reminder of the next meeting and its topic, send an email to Co-SIG LEADER Charley May at sig@win.net. Be sure to put HARDWARE SIG in the subject line of your message.

INTERMEDIATE USERS SIG

For the April 25 SIG meeting, we will start a discussion on networking/file sharing. We will go over why you would do this, what is needed hardware/software wise and then either at this meeting or most likely the next meeting some demo of this. Questions will be taken and topics for future meetings will be asked.

For the May 23 meeting, we will do a demo of networking your PC's. Using the example at our Computer Lab and a Linksys Broadband Wireless Router, we will see examples of networking your home PC's. Questions will be taken and topics for future meetings will be asked.

At the March 28 meeting, we went over the new Microsoft AntiSpyware program. We explored the options, setting up a scan and discussed false positives in Spyware prevention. Questions were taken and answered and topics for future meetings were noted.

The INTERMEDIATE USERS SIG meets in the Computer Lab, Room 222, of CCUM at 6:30 PM monthly on the fourth Monday. CCUM is at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42) at the Blankenbaker Lane traffic light. Directions are on the CCUM web site at www.ccum.net and on the KIPCUG web site at www.kipcug.org.

The SIG focuses on the various versions of MS Windows software, its features, method of operation,

The SIG Scene (cont.)

problems and all the hints and tips that Jim knows you will be interested in. Topics suggested at meetings do usually become future meeting topics. This SIG is for users who are comfortable with the daily use of their computer and want to learn more. In other words, you have mastered your fear of computers and you are willing to push the envelope a little. We welcome discussion and a chance for everyone to learn.

If you have any questions or suggestions for meeting topics, bring them to the SIG or email Jim at jim.travelstead@louisville.edu and Jim will have your answer at the next SIG meeting. Do you want to get on Jim's email notification list? Send him a short note with "Add me to the KIPCUG INTERMEDIATE USERS SIG meeting email list" in the subject line.

INVESTING SIG

SIG LEADER Doc Viele moderates the INVESTING SIG discussions, which have been ongoing since 1986. The next SIG meeting will be on April 14. Meetings consist of round table information exchanges on any economic subject of current interest. Questions and presentations are encouraged.

The next SIG meeting will include general information on investing and the usual information exchange. The INVESTING SIG meets the second Thursday of the

month at the Louisville Aero Club at 6:30 PM. This is not an investment club; they DO NOT discuss mutual funds.

LINUX SIG

With the loss of our meeting place, the LINUX SIG is presently in a state of limbo. At such time that new arrangements can be made, notice of future meetings will be posted in the Computer User News and emailed to list members.

Want to be notified about meeting subjects or do you have a suggestion for future meeting topics? Please send an email to TEAM MEMBER Jack Link at redoscar3@yahoo.com and type "LINUX SIG" in the subject line.

NEW USERS SIG

Come join us for our new updated series (third meeting) on April 11. You will find the learning curve easy enough for anyone to join in at any time. Please bring your questions to the meeting for answers that will help you and be of interest to the others in the SIG. The Q&A session follows the presentation each month. We will continue covering the basic things you need to know about your computer. You will be able to see and touch the innards of a computer, learn how each of the various components

work together and how to take care of them and optimize them to get top efficiency from these components and how to make your computer run more trouble free! Do you have a question? Jot it on a piece of paper and bring it with you for an answer you can understand. Questions go into a drawing for a prize(s).

At the March 14 meeting, we continued discussing the selection process for picking a new computer and how to determine what you need and don't need. In addition, we discussed how you determine the level of quality/features of the different components that must work with the software you pick for your next computer.

The NEW USERS SIG holds its meetings on the second Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. We meet at the New Horizons Computer Learning Center, 10200 Linn Station Road, in Suite 110 of the Triad East Building.

If you want to review or if you are a new PC user, you are invited to join the NEW USERS SIG. We don't go too fast so everyone can follow. We start with the basics and gradually build up your knowledge base and skill level. Each member will have a computer to follow Charley through every step of every feature. This hands-on experience will give you the opportunity to follow the lessons as projected in the front of the classroom.

Assisted by TEAM MEMBERS Susan Moore, Dick McGavic and Tom McArdle, they will help members follow the presentation and master the skills at every meeting.

The SIG Scene (cont.)

Join us in a comfortable environment that makes learning easier. We invite all those attending to join us for a mini PIG SIG after the meeting for a brief time, to address any personal PC questions.

To join our mailing list, send an email to Charley at sig@win.net and be sure to add NEW USERS SIG to the subject line. We will send you a reminder of our meetings and the topics to be covered a few days before our next meeting.

NEW USERS DAYTIME SIG (NEW)

At the next meeting on April 19, we will review general topics of the NEW USERS DAYTIME SIG for beginning learners. We will practice skills that new users will need to know to operate their computers and have fun. As we are having new learners each time, we try to practice the needs of the individual person. Now is the time to come, play and practice.

In March, we practiced saving documents and moving them to folders and many other beginning skills. Beginners have problems learning the differences between copying/pasting and dragging/dropping files in other folders.

We meet from 2:00 to 4:00 on the third Tuesday of the month in the Computer Lab, Room 222, of CCUM. Lois Dean Mallrich will also be there in April. If you are just starting out on the computer-- plan

on us being "double trouble".

A new day is being discussed for fall. Please watch the announcements in the magazine. To be added to the email list, please send SIG LEADER Winnie Miller an email at winnie.miller@att.net.

PDA SIG

There are currently no meetings scheduled for this SIG. Members are requested to let our SIG DIRECTOR know your ideas for this group.

This SIG was created to review and explore the hardware and software of Personal Desk Assistants. SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller encourages all members that are interested in this group to contact him. We expect to cover all versions of PDA's including the newest combination units with phone, PC and photo capabilities.

Members using these devices or that are considering the purchase of a PDA are asked to contact Brian at sigs@kipcug.org. You will be added to a contact list for advance notice of future meetings, topics, times and location.

REAL ESTATE SIG (NEW)

The REAL ESTATE SIG will meet April 12 at 6:30 PM at CCUM. The SIG will examine property inspections. Many residential and commercial transactions involve professional examinations for structural integrity and pest infestation prior to closing. SIG LEADER Bill Buzan will lead the discussion and introduce experts in the field. Bill has invited two local inspectors to join the group this evening to answer questions from the members.

In March, SIG LEADER Bill Buzan chaired an open discussion for the SIG. The hot topic of the evening was Investment Properties. SIG members shared experiences and questioned where the market was going in both the short and long term.

The mission of this SIG is to provide property owners and investors the opportunity to gain a greater insight into the transaction so they can protect their endeavors more effectively.

Future meetings will delve into all aspects of property ownership, both buying and selling. Most everyone is living in a home owned or rented and has interest in their future with real estate. Make plans to join us at our up-coming meetings. I can promise that we will be discussing subjects that are of great interest to you and your family.

The REAL ESTATE SIG meets

The SIG Scene (cont.)

monthly on the third Tuesday in the Computer Lab, Room 222, of CCUM at 6:30 PM. CCUM is at 4614 Brownsboro Road (US 42) at the Blankenbaker Lane traffic light. Directions are on the CCUM web site at www.ccum.net and on the KIPCUG web site at www.kipcug.org. To be added to our email list to receive advance notice of the SIG's activities, contact Bill at re_sig@insightbb.com or call 639-7647. TEAM MEMBER Steve Cassin will be assisting Bill with this SIG.

TECHNICAL MARKET ANALYSIS SIG

The April 26 SIG meeting will continue on ongoing discussion of mathematical analysis of market trends. Additional information will be announced by email to all members on our list. With the late date of the meeting and potential market fluctuations, email is the best way to inform all of our discussion topics.

The March meeting of the TMA SIG was held one week early, on March 15 at the Marriott East located at 1903 Embassy Square Blvd. Our guest presenter was Keith Fitschen of Trade System Inc., and Leonard Steinman of Angus Jackson. The presentation was about trading system performance and developing trading systems.

The TECHNICAL MARKET ANALYSIS SIG meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month,

except December, at 6:30 PM at the Louisville Free Public Library, Crescent Hill Branch, 2752 Frankfort Ave. in the lower level meeting room.

For more information on meetings or topic information, contact SIG LEADER Myron Smith at 897-7718, or email him at mjslks@insightbb.com to be added to the email distribution list.

New attendees are encouraged to come to the meetings to learn about technical analysis and its application to the present market conditions. We generally discuss the present market, and use any web-based indicators available. Many times, we also have someone present topics of interest to anyone using technical analysis.

We are always looking for suggestions for topics of discussion, or suggested presentations by knowledgeable groups or individuals. Please send your ideas to SIG LEADER Myron Smith at mjslks@insightbb.com.

UTILITIES SIG

On April 28, Co-SIG LEADER Charley May will highlight add-on's to Microsoft's Office suite of software or alternatives. We have scoured the Internet for shareware and freeware that could help you find some shortcuts in your document or spreadsheet activities. Should Microsoft introduce any new utilities at this month's visit to Louisville, we will have them for

you at this month's SIG.

In March, the UTILITIES SIG investigated the utilities used to archive and backup multimedia data. Members watched as we created our own backup files.

Members are kept up-to-date with timely messages and answers to their questions at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KIPCUGUtilitiesSIG/>. You do not have to be a member of the group to view the messages, but you will need to sign up (free) with Yahoo for full access. Links to sites discussed in our previous meetings are posted there.

Examining a mix of freeware, shareware and retail programs, this SIG hopes to make your computer experience more enjoyable. Members may bring blank CD's to exchange for free and trial versions of featured utilities.

This SIG meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Computer Lab, Room 222, at CCUM. To be added to our advance notice list for this SIG, sign up at the Yahoo Groups site or contact Co-SIG LEADERS Tom McArdle at usersig@insightbb.com or Charley May at sig@win.net. Please put the words UTILITIES SIG in the subject line of your email.

VISUAL BASIC SIG

On April 7, the SIG will meet to return to our discussion of our simple VB.Net Multi-Application

The SIG Scene (cont.)

problem. This simple application is designed to help newer members get a good start in the use of VB.Net. We will also take questions from the floor as time allows.

The March 3 meeting centered on a discussion of the use of the 'printer object' in VB 6 and similar 'print document' printing in the VB.NET environment. The group used PDF995 software to create a virtual printer to work with. Tony, SIG Member, offered to demonstrate the use of Crystal Reports to the group. Many were impressed by its features and ease of use, while others had questions about changing to this alternative package.

Our discussion began with the use of sound files, (mp3, .wav, etc.), in ASP.Net web pages. By using techniques used in html web pages, the group saw how this could easily be accomplished. SIG LEADER Martin Champion showed how linking a sound file on a page would call for the browser to activate a sound - playing program. This was accomplished within VB.Net parameters.

We also discussed the use of the printer object in VB 6, a similar function used in the Print Document control in VB.Net.

The VISUAL BASIC SIG meets monthly on the first Thursday at 6:30 PM at the Bon Air Regional Branch of the LFPL, 2816 Del Rio Place. To be added to the email list for a reminder of meetings and topics, contact SIG LEADER Martin Champion at mccampion@aol.com. Add the words VB SIG to the subject line of your email.

WEBMASTERS SIG

Our April 21 meeting will focus on Microsoft's Share Point Services. Learn how to store event calendars, contacts, web links, announcements, discussion points and issue lists with clients or within your own organization. Entry level and intermediate web designers will find new information in this presentation by Robbie Gibson of www.hostaroo.com. The SIG continues to follow the trends in current web site design and stays abreast of changes in the web development community.

The March WEBMASTERS SIG was a 'Back to Basics' meeting. SIG LEADER John Henderson showed the group how to read HTML code and how to begin developing a web page using Microsoft's Front Page. Tips on how to improve type legibility, creating shortcut icons and bookmark script began the meeting.

Every WEBMASTERS SIG includes design tips and tricks. There is usually time after the main presentation for Q&A. Every meeting contains web design elements or tips for both the beginner and the more advanced web site creator. KIPCUG members are encouraged to ask for a review of their web site.

See www.inetwebmaster.com for information on the current topic, a map and summaries of our recent presentation.

Non-SIG members interested in building a web site or just learning how the Internet works are invited

to any of our meetings.

We meet at 6:30 PM on the third Thursday of the month at the Win.Net offices. To be added to the mailing list for notices of this SIG's activities, please email TEAM MEMBER Roger Klingeman at roger@klingeman.win.net and add the words WEBMASTERS SIG to the subject line of your message.

WINDOWS OS SIG

On April 15, we will continue our discussion of how Windows 'ticks'. With Microsoft presenting a day of 'In-Person Events' on Tuesday, April 12, we expect to be presenting the changes Bill Gates and his crew have planned for Windows XP and related software. Join us if you are unable to attend the downtown event and get updated with the latest information on what changes are coming soon.

Our March 11 meeting examined how to backup essential data on your PC to be prepared for an unexpected disaster. Members learned where Windows hides all the files you need to back up. SIG LEADER Bob Rose explained the problems that can occur by improperly performing this task and how you can avoid them. Time was spent helping members resolve challenges with their own PC's.

The group will focus on maintaining and updating the various Windows OS's to keep them performing at peak efficiency. While our direction will be forward, ques-

The SIG Scene (cont.)

tions and topics for older formats will be part of the topic list we intend to cover.

The SIG includes topics covering Windows Operation Systems from Windows 95 though XP- SP2, with an emphasis on changing technology. Time is always reserved to resolve problems and answer questions members bring to the meeting. To be sure we can get to your particular issue, please contact SIG LEADER Bob Rose, britdude@techmail.com, by email a few days before the meeting so he can have members prepared to address your problem.

The WINDOWS OS SIG currently meets at 6:30 PM on the second Friday of the month in the Computer Lab, Room 222, at

CCUM, 4614 Brownsboro Road, US Hwy. 42 at the Blankenbaker Lane traffic light. Directions are on the CCUM web site at www.ccum.net and on the KIPCUG web site at www.KIPCUG.org for a map to the meeting site. To be added to the email list, please contact SIG LEADER Bob Rose, britdude@techmail.com. Please put the words WINDOWS OS SIG in the email subject line.

YOUTH SIG

Your input is requested as we explore the restart of this SIG. Please continue checking the

KIPCUG web site for the latest information at www.KIPCUG.org. Saturday meetings are the likely dates for this SIG.

To sign up younger members or to volunteer your assistance, contact SIG DIRECTOR Brian Miller at sigs@kipcug.org. Please add YOUTH SIG in the subject line.

This SIG's mission is to develop the computer skills of pre-high school members. It covers topics beyond those basic skills taught in the school system.

Screen (cont.)

Continued from Page 9

paper checklists from screen lists, etc. A little imagination will suggest many more uses for the friendly fly-out capture tool bar.

No matter how you capture information -- with Windows' built-in PrintScreen handling or any of the many add-in tools -- you'll never have to describe what you saw on the screen; you'll be able to show it.

You'll never laboriously transcribe option settings to report to a help desk; you'll send a picture. You'll wonder how you did without this powerful and simple tool.

This article appeared originally on AARP's Computers and Technology Web site, <www.aarp.org/computers>. (c) AARP 2004. Permission is granted for reprinting and distribution by non-profit organizations

Help!

KIPCUG needs your help! Yes you. This job is very easy, if fact it can be done from your own home or even sitting waiting for an appointment. All we need you to do is let us know if you find any mistakes in the Computer User News.

Just send an email to editor@kipcug.org with any mistakes or typos that you find. We do proof the magazine before it is printed but some mistakes still slip through.

We can repost the corrected copy to our web site if we know about the corrections that need to be made.

So, how about it? Can you help us?

www.kipcug.org

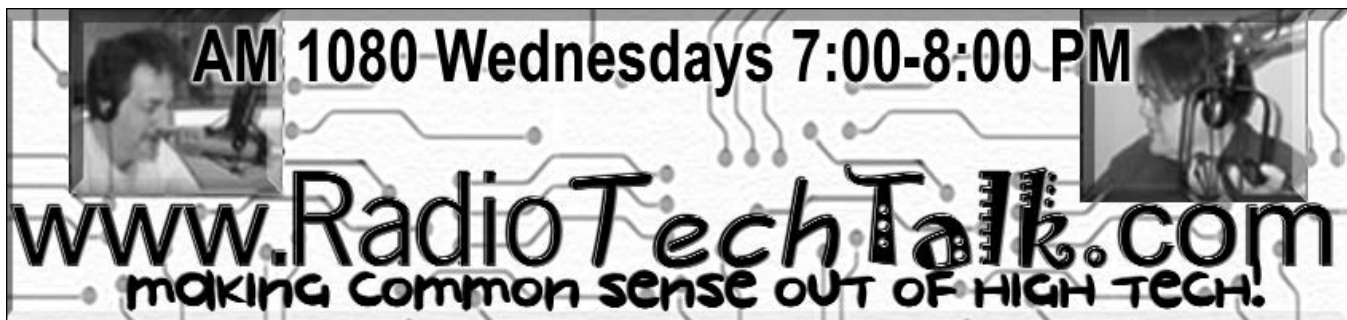
Follow-ups and Updates (cont.)

Continued from Page 8
prompted to enter the account number and PIN provided. The victim is offered the opportunity to transfer the large balance shown to his own local account. The victim then enters his real banking information in order to implement a wire transfer, but instead the victim's account is

drained and sent to unknown perpetrators. The false websites are typically located in Russia, Eastern Europe, Korea, Pakistan or mid-eastern countries. Once the funds are illicitly transferred, it may be impossible to recover the funds, and the victim will be financially devastated.

As has been warned here in the

past, if it appears too good to be true, it probably is not true. Still a small percentage of us, sensing riches are overcome by our greed gene, and think that we are getting something for nothing. Instead of capitalizing on someone else, we become the victim. We should all know better and not fall for these scams.



AM 1080 Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 PM

www.RadioTechTalk.com
making common sense out of high tech.

Kentucky-Indiana Personal Computer Users Group, Inc.
KIPCUG
291 N Hubbards Lane, Suite B-26-318
Louisville, KY 40207
www.kipcug.org

Membership Application

- Individual - \$35.00 annually
 Family - \$50 annually for 2 people in the same household
 Full-Time Student - \$15 annually. Specify school & course of study _____
(Does not include mailing of this Magazine)
 Corporate - \$160 annually for four people from same corporation
 I prefer not to receive notification of KIPCUG events by e-mail

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

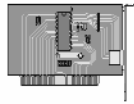
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

If you wish to pay by Visa or MasterCard: Card # _____ Exp: _____

Signature: _____



ACCESSORIES



**MODEMS &
COMMUNICATIONS**



**CUSTOM BUILT
COMPUTERS**



**MICE & INPUT
DEVICES**



**SVGA
MONITORS**

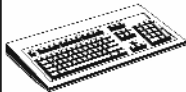


PRINTERS

**LOUISVILLE'S FINEST
CHOICE, FOR ALL YOUR
COMPUTER NEEDS**



NOTEBOOKS



KEYBOARDS



MEMORY



MULTIMEDIA



SOFTWARE



JOYSTICKS

**FREE INSTALLATION
BY A QUALIFIED
TECHNICIAN ON
ALL HARDWARE
PURCHASES.**

**SEC
CUSTOM
COMPUTERS**

**4760 Rockford Plaza
Louisville, Ky 40216
502-448-9397**

www.seccomputer.com

Showroom Hours:
M-F 10am-6pm est
Sat 11:am-4pm est



**DON'T FORGET TO
SHOW YOUR KIPCUG
MEMBERSHIP CARD
TO RECEIVE AN
ADDED DISCOUNT,
JUST FOR BEING A
MEMBER!**

The next General Meeting will be on
Tuesday, April 5, 2005 @ 6:30 PM
4614 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY
Presentation: High-Speed Broadband Internet

K I P C U G
291 N. Hubbards Lane
Suite B-26-318
Louisville, KY 40207

Address Service Requested

**PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Louisville, KY
Permit No. 1299**

Dated Material