



MOAA Computer User Group

The official computer newsletter of the Hawaii Chapter of MOAA



## With a little help from your friends

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We had another “entertain” ourselves meeting. Two of our members took the “stage” and went over the Acronis True Image (TI) and Disk Director (DD) software that was headlined at the December meeting.

Herman at the computer and Bear in the sidecar went through the steps and answered many questions about True Image, Disk Director and other topics.

Apparently, and understandably, some of our members were embarrassed to ask simple questions of Gene Barlow at the Dec. show, so they waited until January to let their curiosity shine through.

Although True Image is not that difficult to install and/or use, as with any new unfamiliar software application, it did present a problem for some.

The most often mentioned problems occurred during installation. There is an

option during installation that asks if the user wants to download the latest program updates.

For some reason, a number of the members said they chose that option but the download stopped at some point and they weren't sure what to do. All of those with this problem never successfully completed the initial installation.

They were advised to try the installation again but to skip the update option and go directly to install True Image and then get the updates after the successful installation. A couple reports after the meeting indicated that this method worked just fine.

Herman followed the steps up to “Install True Image” and stopped there since the software had already been installed on his notebook.



Herman



Bear

Another area of confusion was the TI software not recognizing the external hard drive. Seems the user thought the drive letter assigned to an external would remain on the desktop. That's not the case. The drive letter is assigned each time the external is plugged into the USB port. Once removed, the drive letter goes away. This would allow the operating system to re-assign the drive letter should another external device be connected. i.e. thumb drive, external DVD, etc.

Then Herman and Bear briefly went over the three main options for backing up. Drive and partition, folders and file and e-mail backups.

The drive and partition backups are just that—the entire drive or any of the partitions on it.

Many weren't clear on just what a partition is, so Bear explained it to them. A partition is the separation of data and programs by “splitting” the physical hard drive into sections. This is done with Disk Director. Herman gave a brief demo of it. Start DD and “slide” the indicator on the drive image to re-size it. The new portion will then be automatically formatted for you and ready for use. The Windows operating system (OS) will assign it a drive letter. Then you can place all your programs on the C: drive and all your data on the D: drive (or whichever letter the OS assigns.

Then you only have to back up your data to keep it safe. If something happens to the program software, you

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At the January meeting you were asked, again, what you wanted to see on the TUG agenda at future meetings.

Your suggestions were heard and will be coming up. If you want to “go on record” with a suggestion, topic, software application, hardware discussion, then by all means, send an email to the

[editor@the-tug.org](mailto:editor@the-tug.org)

and I will see that it gets to the appropriate Program Director.

Or you can email them directly since their email address are also listed on our website. Mahalo.

## The *running* of the **nerds**



Smart Blood  
Pressure Monitor.



Prez Lou

Read this, and all of Lou's columns, @ Oceanic Around Town. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/363qew>

No, I wasn't in Spain at the Running of the Bulls...I was in Las Vegas to attend the annual Consumer Electronics Show and yes, I was one of the thundering herd going from press event to press event, starting on Tuesday, Jan 4. Those of you who remember my last years reviews will recall that there are a number of events designed to get the media (and now, also, bloggers) together with selected vendors as well as individual press conferences by vendors, some of which began on Tuesday. The big day for press conferences is Wednesday, beginning at 7AM and continuing all day for 45 minutes each, allowing the running to commence before each new conference. The somewhat smaller, but not much, are the Tuesday afternoon, CES Unveiled, Wednesday evening Digital Experience, Thursday and Friday Lunch at Pieros and Thursday evening Showstoppers. The lunches at Pieros are probably the most productive as the number of invitees and vendors is more practical allowing time to find out more from the vendors. This years CES reportedly attracted 140,000 people to browse 2,700 or so booths. BTW, if you are a tablet fan or an iPad owner you had 85 clones to view and evaluate. And if you wanted anything to use with your iPad, there were iPad cases, iPad holders, iPad keyboards, iPad chargers, iPad alarm clocks, and who knows, what all, but of course, no iPad!

Two things that were widely hyped were 3D TV and linking everything! I'm honestly not much of a fan of 3D TV...who wants to buy a box full of glasses so you can invite your 20 buddies to watch the Super Bowl? And, no glasses 3D is a loser...you have to sit perfectly in the middle of the screen for it to work. I also don't care for using a 75" screen to do computer stuff...but maybe that's just me (-) Just to put some of this in perspec-

tive, there was a press conference by a company that makes high-end 3D glasses that do all sorts of things (and cost \$1K or more!)

I attended all of the above, so I'll give you a quick list of some interesting things I saw and continue with more, the next couple times.

*Ed. Note—See my note at the end of this article.*

First is in the health category, a big one this year concentrating on linking to many different media and allowing a lot of freedom for those who are getting on and live alone Withings is back with another health tracking product. This time, instead of tracking your weight and body fat, it tracks your blood pressure. They call it the Smart Blood Pressure Monitor. **Instant measurement** Simply connect the Withings monitor to your iOS Device. The Withings application runs automatically and makes the measurement available with a single action.

### Clear results

Detailed results are displayed, and the application will indicate the recommended values, using all the display qualities of the iOS Device

### Automatic saving

All results are saved for a precise monitoring of your health. There's no need to note down results, calculate averages and transmit them. The Withings monitor does all this for you. **Health monitored from your pocket**

Automatically traced curves facilitate the detection of trends in the blink of an eye. Morning/ evening values and subsequent average values are clearly displayed for effective monitoring.

Lenovo was showing off a full range of notebooks but the most impressive was the Lenovo U1 notebook/tablet hybrid. Presented was an i5 laptop running Windows 7 with a screen/tablet running Android. The tablet could be removed and replaced in un-

der 5 seconds and without powering off. Currently available overseas, the U1 should be coming to the USA in the coming months.

**K**ingston Digital, Inc., the Flash memory affiliate of Kingston Technology Company, Inc., the independent world leader in memory products, announced the SDHC UHS-I UltimateXX memory cards. The highest speed class available today, the UltimateXX meets standards set by the Secure Digital Association for next-level performance in SD card technology.

Shipping later this month, Kingston's UltimateXX memory cards are ideal for the serious photographer or videographer. Photographers will appreciate the ability to easily capture sequential shots that were once a challenge due to the speed limitations of memory. The UltimateXX also makes it easy to capture HD video. The performance of SDHC UHS-I memory card is optimized when paired with a UHS-I device, although the card is backwards compatible with Class 4, 6 and 10 equipment. "Kingston is pleased to be one of the first manufacturers to offer SDHC UHS-I memory cards to our customers," said Mike Kuppinger, Flash card product manager, Kingston®. "Being a member of the SD Association enhances our ability to bring new technology to market. As the devices that support SDHC UHS-I become prevalent, our UltimateXX cards are at the ready." Kingston's UltimateXX line meets the SD Association standards for the UHS-I speed class with speeds up to 60MB/sec. read and 35MB/sec. write. At this performance level, the write speed of SDHC UHS-I memory cards is more than three times as fast as SDHC Class 10 cards. The UltimateXX product line will offer capacities of 8GB, 16GB and 32GB.



**N**ow here is one you weren't expecting, were you?? Laundry pretreaters will collect dust thanks to the new Maytag® Maxima™ washer.

Its PowerWash™ System takes out tough stains and provides better overall cleaning performance while using less detergent. The system's features include Optimal Dispense which injects detergent intermittently throughout the washer's fill time and industry-first, Power-Spray, to provide enhanced cleaning by spraying the detergent solution evenly on the washer's contents.

I have LoJack on my laptop, but since I use the netbook on all my trips, it seemed the smart thing to do to add it to the netbook as well, after my talk with the Absolute Software folks at Lunch at Pieros.

What's Your Digital Net Worth? Think about it. How many songs have you downloaded onto your laptop? How many movies? Combined with the initial cost of your computer, most people have a digital net worth that could easily run into thousands of dollars. Not to mention the priceless value of photos, personal information, correspondence, coursework and other irreplaceable items.

So what are you doing to protect your investment?

When your laptop is stolen, you can feel powerless. But you don't have to. LoJack® for Laptops by Absolute Software is a computer theft recovery service with remote device and data security features. If your laptop is stolen or missing, you've got the power to remotely block access to it and the personal data it contains, while our dedicated Theft



Recovery Team works to recover it for you.

Now for you 4G fans...Motorola has a really neat combo; The Atrix...a phone and a laptop, except it's not really a laptop. You have to snap the phone into this really good looking, sleek, thin and light (2.4lbs) laptop/dock. The phone provides the processor, memory, Internet connection and, all your photos, videos, music and files. Whatever was on the phone's screen is now on the laptop's screen, plus you gain a trackpad and full keyboard. No synch necessary, it's all on the phone.

So there you have a few things to ponder...stay tuned for more in my next columns. Be safe out there in the www and remember to be careful.

Aloha,

*Lou*



### *Ed. Note:*

But wait, as they way on TV—*There's More!*

There is a lot more good info in Lou's report about several Asus products and a look at Lou's new Ford, but you'll have to visit the link shown on the previous page for the simple reason that I've run out of room here.

Lou always has a longer column after visiting one of the computer trade shows. For the full impact and entertaining articles, check out the Around Town site.



## Automatically Selecting Words



When you are editing your document, there are many times that Word tries to guess what you are doing and then complete your task for you. This helpfulness can be aggravating at times. One such instance is when you are trying to use the mouse to select text from the middle of one word to the middle of another. Whenever you click inside a word and then start dragging the mouse, Word assumes you want to make a selection. As soon as you move the mouse pointer outside the word, the program assumes you wanted to select the entire first word in which you originally clicked.

If you want to ensure that Word doesn't make that assumption, you need to follow these steps to turn off the offending feature in Word 97 through Word 2003:

1. Choose Options from the Tools menu. Word displays the Options dialog box.

2. Make sure the Edit tab is selected.
3. Make sure the When Selecting, Automatically Select Entire Word check box is cleared.
4. Click on OK.

You can follow these steps if you are using Word 2007 or Word 2010:

1. Display the Word Options dialog box. (In Word 2007 click the Office button, then choose Word Options. In Word 2010 display the File tab of the ribbon, then click Options.)
2. Click Advanced at the left side of the screen.
3. In the Editing Options area, make sure the When Selecting, Automatically Select Entire Word check box is cleared.
4. Click on OK.

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[www.the-tug.org](http://www.the-tug.org)

I've included two screen shots of the tips with the email version and at the WINSIG link on the website.

**As Joe Moore on Channel 2 used to say, "Do you know or, do you care?"**

**In Windows 7 you can personalize the appearance, desktop, screen saver, wallpaper with a Theme?**

There are many at this site, and elsewhere on the web, to download and install.

If you go to

<http://www.windows-7-themes.com/> you'll find hundreds of theme packages.

Download, install (Windows 7 will take care of the details) and set your computer to the esthetic beauty you feel it is.

Some of the theme packs have been created by folks like us so they may be too topic specific for some. For the most part, they are family friendly, although some of the gaming themes could be too intense for all users. Best of all, they are FREE.

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should have the installation disk handy, right?

The remainder of the meeting was taken up with Q & A. Hopefully, all left with more knowledge than they came with.



**P**res. Lou was off to the 2011 Computer and Electronic Show in Las Vegas and missed this one. He will assuredly have some good info to pass on at the next meeting about new stuff coming down the pike, and may even have a few give-aways.

The topic for the February 5th meeting is going to be Back to Basics.

Want to know how to do something with your comput4er?

**Make a list and bring it along.**

We're going to cover folder creation; file saving; specific how-to's in Windows, etc.

You all have something you want to do on in Windows or your software application and you want to know how to do it, or how to do it easier. Maybe we can help, if you tell us exactly what it is you're trying to accomplish. So, jot down those items now before you forget them.

A lot of you get stage fright at the meetings, maybe reading from your "script" will make asking the question less embarrassing or intimidating.

Aloha,

**Jim**