



Hawaii Surfing

MOAA Computer User Group **e-PUSH Tech**

April 2011

Android 3.0 for Tablets

by Cal Esneault, President
Cajun Clickers Computer Club

Android® is an operating system for mobile devices based on the Linux kernel. In 2005 Google bought the company that developed it, and then released this operating system (OS) as open source to members in the Open Handset Alliance. It has become extremely popular with many phone makers and service providers as an alternative to the Apple iPhone® smartphones. Improved Android OS versions are frequently issued: 1.6 (Donut), 2.0 (Eclair), 2.2 (Froyo), and 2.3 (Gingerbread). Smartphones are really cell phones combined with a small personal computer. With processors of speeds around 1 GHz and 2 – 16 GB of onboard storage, smartphones can access the Internet, take digital photographs, provide GPS information, and much more.

Smartphones have gained enormous popularity due to mobility with excellent graphics. To keep power consumption low for longer battery life, manufacturers have used newer technologies – RISC chips (reduced instruction set), small displays, use of “sleep” mode, etc. After using these smartphones more and more, consumers became ready for larger displays while maintaining form factors and weights below those of desktops. Apple broke into this market last year with the 9.7 inch (diagonal) iPad® tablet. Android OS products have lagged behind since this system was originally optimized for the smaller handset devices. So far, only the 7 inch (diagonal) Samsung Galaxy® tablet with Android 2.2 has been introduced as a serious contender.

The Galaxy intermediate size has been criticized for being a little too small for rapid typing and for having an OS which has limited features from a tablet perspective.

At the January 2011 Consumer Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Android 3.0 (Honeycomb) was introduced as a new OS designed with the tablet device in mind.

Several manufacturers also announced at the CES their intention to ship new Android-based tablets in 2011. Motorola introduced its candidate Xoom® which was given the Best in Show award. Among its features are a 10" display (1280 x 600 pixels), front & rear facing cameras, and ability to play Flash videos. Shipping is planned for later in 1st quarter of 2011.



Motorola
Xoom
Tablet

The proliferation of new mobile computing devices is interesting for the early adopter and confusing for the general user. Add to this the fact the Google has been developing a Chrome® OS which is targeted for instant-on, internet-centric devices (such as a tablet PC). Typical predictions are that this class of devices will eventually specialize (business, video, rugged with long battery life, etc.) and that only the best will survive the competitive market place. 2011 will certainly be an exciting year in the mobile computing space.

Be sure to review products carefully and ask around before you purchase any device to get the best match between capability and your specific needs. In any event, open source computing is in the game and proceeding with vigor to increase choice. II

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 **Android 3.0 for Tablets**
- 2 **Broadband2Go**
- 3 **eBook Readers Compared**
- 4 **Cell Phone Lingo**
- 5 **A Free Apple a Day.....**
- 6 **The Technician Set Up My Laptop**
- 7 **Understanding System Restore**
- 8 **Your Computer's Health #3**
- 9 **NoiseHush**
- 10 **Add Text on a Photo in Word 2007**
- 11 **Service Packs Explained**
- 12 **Cleveland Regional & APCUG Annual Meeting, July 15-17, 2011**



The MOAA Computer User Group e-PUSH Tech contains both APCUG PUSH Tech articles and Articles2Go. The e-PUSH Tech is published monthly as a supplement to the “The TUG” newsletter.

Do you have an article you would like to see published? Just email your article with any photos to Judy Taylour.

Jtarticles2go@gmail.com.

Broadband2Go

by John Roy, President,
The PCUG of Connecticut

I have been itching to purchase an AirCard® for my laptop computer. We take several trips during the year with our Roadtrek motor home and, while Wi-Fi hotspots are more abundant these days, Instant Internet access is really appealing. Unfortunately for this instant gratification you have to pay a big price. Being frugal I wasn't prepared to commit to a two-year contract at \$60 per month for the privilege.

For those of you not familiar with an AirCard, it is a high-speed wireless broadband card that gives users mobile Internet access on their laptops, using a cellular data service. AirCards can be purchased from wireless providers in various styles such as USB, PCMCIA, ExpressCards and as a portable router. It's interesting to note that AirCard is a registered trademark but used generically to describe these devices such as we use Xerox and Kleenex.

Last year my daughter needed daily email and texting capability that her present cell phone did not provide. She already had an iPod Touch but Wi-Fi hotspots were limited. I researched various options to find a minimal cost solution and focused on Virgin Mobile's Broadband2Go MiFi 2200 credit card router. The driving factor was Virgin Mobile had the cheapest data plans without any contract obligations.



MiFi 2200

The MiFi 2200 router is unbelievably small just like a credit card and can serve five computers at the same time. There is an initial cost of \$150 for the device but then you can buy air time to fit your needs. This device is extremely portable and will run four or more hours without a recharge.

After monitoring my daughter's success with the MiFi 2200, and knowing we were taking an extended trip with our motor home, I decided the time and price was right for my purchase. Virgin Mobile sells two broadband products with the same



MC760

data plan options. In addition to the \$150 MiFi 2200 they sell a \$80 USB MC760 device. The MC760 plugs into any USB port but unlike the MiFi router it is dedicated to the one computer.

After reviewing the pros and cons for my situation, I chose the MC760. I didn't have a need for sharing my hotspot with five computers, the USB device didn't require a battery, and I saved myself \$70. Of course the best part is I was not locked into a contract and could buy time as needed.

Is buying an AirCard from Virgin Mobile a "no brainer" for everyone? The answer is no but it should be on everyone's evaluation list. Here are some key considerations beyond the primary driver of saving money. Their cellular service is the Sprint 3G network with good coverage in populated areas or primary highway corridors but poor coverage in other less populated areas. You should check their coverage map to be sure you will have a good signal for your specific needs.

There is some good news and a little concern on their data plans. Last year they offered a \$10 (10 day 100MB) and a \$40 (30 day unlimited) plan. This February they increased the \$40 plan to \$50 and put some speed restrictions beyond 5GB but the deal is better than competing providers. While the price hike was concerning, there is an unpublicized secret you should know. If you purchase either device from Wal-Mart you are offered an optional \$20 (30 day 1GB) plan.

How the plans work is when you start using a plan it will end when either the time period or data limit is met. On the \$50, 30-day unlimited data plan when you reach 5GB of data use your speed will be limited to 256kbps for the remainder of the time period.

One final note is both devices have several neat software options beyond the basic application.

The MC760 has a micro SDHC memory card slot and the capability of adding an optional antenna to increase range. Documentation is less than meager and only includes startup instructions but once initiated the setup is interactive. Most importantly you can find a detailed manual on line. If you are in the market for an AirCard or curious for more details, visit their website.

<http://www.virginmobileusa.com/mobile-broadband/> II



<http://www.speakeasy.net/speedtest/>

Free

CHOOSE A LOCATION:

- >>> SEATTLE, WA
- >>> SAN FRANCISCO, CA
- >>> LOS ANGELES, CA
- >>> DALLAS, TX
- >>> CHICAGO, IL
- >>> ATLANTA, GA
- >>> NEW YORK, NY
- >>> WASHINGTON, DC



eBook Readers Compared

by Constance Brown, President, Canton/
Alliance/Massillon User Group, Ohio

Technology with new capabilities and applications is constantly available. It can be difficult to stay focused on what will be most suitable for our requirements when we are constantly wowed by the latest innovations. Suppose you wish to read eBooks and listen to music. How many pieces of equipment will allow you to do this? Here are a few: computer, web book, a variety of phones, iPad, some mp3 players, some GPS devices and some eBook readers.

The cross application of many of these devices is amazing and sometimes confusing. In January we heard a presentation from the Stark County District Library about eBooks and eAudio books and were introduced to a variety of devices that can be used to check out these Books. The library has a links to lists of compatible and incompatible devices at <http://www.overdrive.com/Resources/DRC/Default.aspx>.

During the presentation, I became interested in the comparison between Apple's iPad and Barnes and Nobles Nookcolor. Both of them have one disadvantage when



compared to other readers such as other Nook products, Sony, Kobo or Kindle: the screen is not E Ink or E Paper.

That means the battery is being drained when it is in use and that it will be more tiring to the eyes and perhaps impossible to read in bright light. However, Nookcolor lets you read books and a magazine in full color and works both in Wi-Fi and 3G networks. It has 8 Gig of internal memory, enough to hold 6,000 books, and is expandable to 32 Gig. Over 2 million book titles are available, and it has internal support for Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Additional features include re-



sizable text and graphics with AliveTouch™, audio, Read to Me, Keep your last page, read between devices, LendMe™ technology, borrowing, and you can share updates on Social sites like Facebook® and Twitter®. It runs with the Android™ Operating System. The price tag is \$249. More information is available at <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/nook/index.asp>. Here the comparison stops. Nookcolor was not designed for Internet browsing or communicating via email.

Apple's iPad comes with 16 Gig to 64 Gig of internal memory. Some iPads are Wi-Fi only and others are either 3G or Wi-Fi. The price tag varies from \$499-\$829. The iPad is much more than an eBook

reader. It offers Internet access and applications. It is still awaiting an app to be released that will let the reader view eBooks full screen. You can page through websites, write an email, flick through photos, or watch a movie with just the touch of a finger. The 3G data plan is through ATT and starts at \$14.99 per month. It has many computer capabilities, especially when it comes to browsing the Internet and reading email.

When it comes to comparing eBook readers that use E ink and E paper, it is a bit more difficult to make a selection. The Kindle is great, but doesn't allow for you to check out eBooks from the library at this time. Kobo from Borders does not allow you to listen to EAudio and requires that books be loaded from a computer.

THE ALL-NEW KINDLE
SMALLER, LIGHTER, FASTER,
with 50% BETTER CONTRAST



Built-In Wi-Fi

Sony and Nook have their own trade-offs with weight, bulkiness, and a screen that is sometimes difficult to read in sunlight in the case of the Sony. So if an E Reader is in your future, you will have to select what best meets your needs. Having an eReader certainly beats having to carry heavy, bulky books through the airport in order to satiate your reading appetite as you wait for your next flight! II



.....WHAT IS 4G?.....

4G refers to the fourth generation of cellular wireless standards. It is a successor to 3G and 2G standards, with the aim to provide a wide range of data rates up to ultra-broadband (gigabit-speed). The higher the Gs the higher the speed.

There is not a standard definition of what constitutes a 4G network. You can expect to get a substantial speed boost by switching to 4G. Some 4G networks reach speeds ranging from 5.6Mbps to 24.3 Mbps. Shop around to find the best speed.

33,000 FREE EBOOKS

Project Gutenberg is the place where you can download over 33,000 free eBooks to read on your PC, iPad, Kindle, Sony Reader, iPhone, Android, Google Books and others. Check it out.



<http://www.getfreebooks.com/?p=3453>

Cell Phone Lingo @#*+?

by Wil Wakely, President
Seniors Computer Group, CA

When it's time to buy or upgrade to a new cell phone, are you as confused as I am with all the fancy terms and acronyms in the sales pitch? They make my head spin. Some of the terms you will encounter refer to the technology generation of the phone, as in G0 to G5. About every 10 years the next larger G (generation) number appears denoting a major improvement in cell phone technology. Each generation improves the speed, security, power usage, range and reliability of cell phones.

G0 refers to the original mobile telephone, a large unit stored in the car trunk with a hand-set between the driver and passenger seat. Remember those? Essentially it was a souped-up short-wave radio. These first made the scene via Motorola and Bell Telephone in the 50's.

Next came G1 using GMS tech (see below) which also was analog, first introduced in Japan in 1979 and later in the USA in 1983. In 1992, G2 was a major improvement using digital technology vs.

analog that was used in G1. So what's the difference? Analog is a continuous smooth signal like whistling a tune. Digital rapidly samples the song and converts each small time segment into a series of ones and zeros, or digits. Through some clever complex calculations, these digits are converted back to the original sound tone and volume. The advantages of digital are that the data can be compressed and encoded for security and no information is lost as long as the 1/0 signal can be detected, even from a lot of accompanying noise.

In 2001, 3G was introduced using a new technology called CDMA (code division multiple access) developed by our local Qualcomm company. This is a very complex encoding that allows many more users on the same channel at the same time.

G3 is probably the most common system in use today.

G4 arrived in 2006 and allows 1 Gbt/s (one gigabit per second) downloads from a fixed location or 100 mbt/s (megabits per second) from a moving vehicle. These high speeds allow streaming high-definition video (HD movies) on your cell phone. Also, connections to the Internet are faster and better. G5 is still in the lab and promises even more features, but may not arrive before 2020.

The cell phone field is rampant with 3,

4, and 5 letter acronyms. Here are a few that a salesman may try to impress you with:

GMS (global mobile system): still widely used in older phones.

TDMA (time domain multiple access): sharing the airwave in small time slots.

FDMA (frequency domain multiple access): sharing the airwave in different frequencies.

CDMA (see above).

An analogy to the problem of multiple access is a room (channel) in which people wish to talk to each other simultaneously. To avoid confusion, people could take turns speaking (time division), speak at different pitches (frequency division), or speak in different languages (code division). Other terms you may encounter are LTE (long term evolution), OTDMA (orthogonal TDMA) and WiMax (similar to WiFi). These are fancy names for some of the latest improvements in the field. So the best strategy for buying a new cell phone is to read the reviews and then find a salesman you can trust. Some of the above information may help you understand his pitch and also impress him with your knowledge. **II**

Just Maybe or Maybe Not

Hieroglyphs may be making a comeback -- thanks to the cell phone. The language, which is called "**iConji**," consists of 32 x 32 pixel square images that convey either a single meaning. Speed input is the Maybe Not.

We are using emotions like "LOL" but to learn all of the new symbols could be like learning Chinese. This could turn out to be fun. New things come in many different shapes and colors. Stay tuned.



Top Free Universal Apps - Designed for iPhone and iPad

1. Stupidness2

How high is your IQ? How smart exactly are you? Test your IQ level with the stupidness 2 game! Think and figure out your way quickly through the impossible stages! Get your friends and...

2. Crackle

Finally, watch FREE movies on your iPhone, iPad and iPod touch THE DA VINCI CODE. BIG DADDY. GHOSTBUSTERS. SNATCH and hundreds more: full-length, uncut and FREE. Plus, top rated TV series..

3. Color Effects

Color Effects-recolor/decolor/splash colors on images and Facebook.

Create dramatic images by removing colors or changing them entirely. Gray out everyone in an image, except for you. Make the sky green/yellow/rainbow or whatever. Make your hair...

4. Top Pet Hotel

Can you grow your small kennel into a world-class pet hotel getaway? PLEASE NOTE: This game allows you to purchase items in the game for real money. Please disable in-app-purchases on your...

5 Stickman Cliff Diving

Get your kicks and jump down the highest and most dangerous cliffs all over the planet! Perform different jump styles and get rated by the five judges. Fulfill the requested handicap to...



A Free Apple a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

by Larry Anders, Member
Tampa PC Users Group, FL

I had been highly opposed to Apple products for years because of what I feel to be the small-mindedness of Steve Jobs and the Apple management by not making their code available to developers, which would allow software to be developed so there would be more choice at reasonable prices. If so, I'm sure there would be a Mac in my house instead of just seven PCs running various Windows operating systems.

Above, you'll notice I said "had" been. Then I purchased my first iPod, and I was hooked! I did not get the first version iPhone, but I have had the 3GS now for almost two years. It is about the 10th cell phone I've owned and by far the very best. I have been tempted to try an Android phone but so far have had no reason to give up the iPhone. The Apps for the iPhone make it an everyday challenge to find something useful, and typically for free. Why Mr. Jobs can't see that allowing all these people to develop software for the iPod/iPhone/iPad has made his products extremely successful is beyond my understanding. He has still kept control by not allowing anything to be installed except through the iTunes App Store. Even the free Apps. If something similar was allowed for the Mac, I think he would see the popularity of the Mac increase also. I just can't validate paying twice the price for software just because it's a Mac. It's good, but not that good.

For Christmas I was given an iPad by my wife and kids. Now, you want to talk about what I think is the best invention of the 21st century. Since December, I use my PCs at least 50% less. My iPad sits next to me on the couch when it is not in my hand. Email, Messenger and its



text messaging is with me now wherever I am, between the iPad and iPhone. The two are very similar, but the 9" screen on the iPad is much easier to read and work with.

The iPad comes with several built-in Apps, such as Calendar (to track your appointments), Notes (to keep lists of things), Maps (complete Google maps), Videos (to watch your favorite videos), YouTube, iTunes, App Store and Games. They also include Safari (Apple's Internet browser), Email, Photos (access to your photos, graphics and screen captures), iPod (for music) and Contacts. That's plenty to keep you going until you learn how to start downloading some of the thousands of Apps available, with more coming every day. If you're into anything, there is probably an App for it. Also, there are free Internet music-streaming sites that will allow you to listen to any kind of music whenever you want, with no hiccups.

The battery is excellent. With my constant use, I still get two to three days between charges, and the recharge is very fast.

Apple has also released iBooks, which will probably be a permanent fixture in the next iOS upgrade. In my opinion, it's one of the better (free) eBooks reader pro-



grams. If you're used to using Kindle, Google or any of the other readers, there is an App out there for that, too.

I downloaded a free App the other day that makes 23,469 classic books available at your tap. And I did say free.

One App I especially like is the Dragon Speaking App, for both the iPhone and the iPad. There is no need to type. Just start the App, push Record and start talking. It recognizes when you stop, allows you to insert commas, periods and new paragraphs. When you're done with the dicta-

tion, tap Copy, then paste it wherever you want, or tap Email and it will send it directly into your email. Oh yeah, did I mention it was free?!

The iPad does not come with a text program, like the iPhone, but there are several free Apps that will take care of this problem. I use one that I am more than happy to pay for but see no reason to do so as the developers do not ask me to. There is a small nonintrusive ad area in the lower left corner and that's it. The same with Messenger.

I am currently using Dragon Speaking with a free App called Documents to create this article. Documents allows you to review and edit Word and Excel documents.



I wouldn't expect to be able to work on some gigantic files. I expect a version of Word and Excel to be out soon, assuming Apple will allow a Microsoft App to infiltrate their domain.

Another thing I am really pleased with are Apps available for our younger computer users. My daughter and son-in-law both have iPads, so my 5-year-old granddaughter is well-versed on using the iPad. I typically get her to teach me some secret thing when she comes over on the weekends. I spent a lot of money for the overhead movie system in my Tahoe for her to be able to watch movies, etc., when we are in the car. Lately, though, she would rather have my iPad while we are driving around. There are some excellent educational Apps (free, of course) that help teach her to read, do math, draw and all sorts of other things.

In any case, as I have thanked Bill Gates and the team at Microsoft in the past for making computing enjoyable with Windows, I now need to thank Steve Jobs and the gang at Apple for heading in a new direction and once again making computing enjoyable.

I can't wait for the 22nd century to get here!



News from the Competition:

- **Dell** Bets that Android Tablets will Outpace iPads.
- **Barnes & Noble Inc.** added an applications store and an email program to

Nook Color e-reader to compete w/tablets.

- **HTC** will delay release of the Flyer Tablet.
- **Acer** Iconia Tablet now available.
- **Lenova** tablet available this summer.

- **Motorola** Zoom tablet sales less than forecasted.

- **Blackberry** PlayBook is here.

Before you buy test drive all tablets and check for possible discounts.

The technician set up my laptop, now what do I do?

by Gregory West, Member
Computer Operators of Marysville and
Port Huron, MI, and Sarnia Computer
User Group, Canada

Ah, the wonderment of getting a new computer. No more having to watch others show off their computer skills as they demonstrate their new digital slide show, or listen about how they talk with relatives across three oceans for hours at no cost. With your new computer you are ready to join the online communities around the globe.

Three gigabytes of random access memory, 500 gigs of hard drive, a one year subscription to some antivirus / malware protection software utility and you are “good to go,” says the clerk in the computer store.

“But does it come with a manual,” you ask?

“The manual is in the OS software,” the clerk says as he gets you to sign his copy of the credit card slip. “Have a nice day,” he hollers as you lug the computer through the doors towards home.

“Ya right,” you mutter under your breath

So many choices, too many decisions, but at least you finally get it home. Once you open the lid and go to turn on the new computer you realize that you have no idea what you are doing. In fact, you don't know a gigabyte from a Tyrannosaurus Rex, and you couldn't care less. All you want is to go on the Internet and check your email, surf some websites and maybe learn how to get those 265 photos from your digital camera.

“So now what,” you say aloud to yourself? “Where do I begin,” you ask your dog in desperation as she gives you that puzzled look.

There is an easy way to learn the various computer functions:

1. You need to catch up with your computer geek of a neighbor.
2. You can take a formal course at your local college. These courses usually range from beginner to advanced.

3. You can also take online courses (courses offered over the Internet), but this takes a special skill, as many people are not used to working alone and need to get out into a classroom set up with real humans.
4. You can also join a local computer group. Here you will find people with similar interests who provide various seminars on tech-related issues.

I have been on a computer since 1972 where an IBM System/360 Operating System was the popular system in data processing centers. Over the years I have received computer training from all methods mentioned about. In fact, today I am taking two computer courses from books that came with DVD training programs

However, if you simply need to know one certain function on the computer, learn a software program, or how to troubleshoot a problem in your computer, I suggest Google's YouTube videos. Computer instructors, tech companies, libraries, schools and many knowledgeable individuals upload training videos to YouTube. Here you not only get free training, but targeted training. For instance, if you need to know how to install a USB flash drive in Windows 7, you simply go to youtube.com on the Internet and there will be many videos to help you through this process.

One tip for searching within YouTube for help, try using the term: “tutorials” with your search.

Sometimes this will give you a full training course on the particular subject you are interested in learning. I use YouTube all the time when I need help with a particular computer program. But it doesn't stop there either. I wanted to learn how to winterize my RV and save the hundred dollar fee, so I searched for videos on YouTube and have winterized my own trailer ever since for only the cost of antifreeze

Gregory West is a Mac Instructor for Lambton College. He is also Webmaster at Central United Church, the home of Sarnia's new Community Computer Training Centre at: <http://goo.gl/76H15>. This is free and open to the public as a community service. Learn at your own speed. II



HP Learning Center

Free, online classes, available 24/7
www.hp.com/go/learningcenter



Are you aware that HP offers more than 100 free online classes. The subjects offered are, Digital Photography, Home Office, Microsoft Office and Adobe, PC Security and Maintenance, Business Basics



YouTube has a very large selection of short computer training videos. The videos are free and content of high quality.



Currently Available Classes

	<p>Word Create professional looking letters, flyers and other documents using Word. 2007 2010</p>
	<p>Excel Explore essential Excel tasks while working with data to create formulas, charts, pivot tables, and workbooks. 2007 2010</p>
	<p>PowerPoint Produce powerful presentations that include sound, animation, graphics, and more. 2007 2010</p>
	<p>Access Learn the basics of Access by working with tables, records, queries, and reports in an existing database. 2007 2010</p>

Understanding System Restore

by Vinny La Bash, Regular Contributing Columnist, Sarasota PCUG, Inc., FL

Windows 7 has a new and improved version of System Restore that is far supe-



rior to the lame utility that came with XP. Setting a restore point was often painfully slow, and it rarely worked as it should have. Windows 7 System Restore easily helps you bring back your computer's system files to an earlier point in time. It's a way to undo system changes to your computer without affecting your personal files, such as e-mail, documents, or photos.

Sometimes, the installation of a program or a driver can cause an unexpected change to your computer or cause Windows to behave unpredictably. Usually, uninstalling the program or driver corrects the problem. If uninstalling does not fix the problem, you can try restoring your

computer's system to an earlier date when everything worked correctly.

System Restore uses a feature called System Protection to regularly create and save restore points on your computer. These restore points contain information about registry settings and other system information that Windows uses. You can also create restore points manually.

Your data files will not be affected by System Restore.

System Restore is not intended for backing up personal files, so it cannot help you recover a photograph or video that has been deleted or damaged. You should regularly back up your personal files and important data using a backup program. Windows 7 has an excellent built-in backup utility.

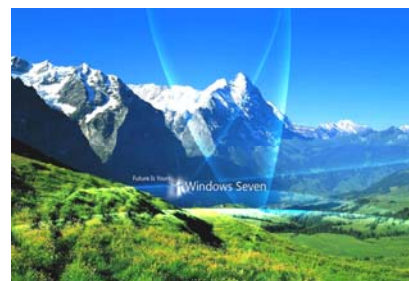
Windows 7 uses the Shadow Copy feature, introduced in Vista. It's vastly superior to the process in XP and earlier versions of Windows. The old way used a simple file filter and copied files around the system which was clumsy compared to the Shadow Copy method. Today, Windows creates a snapshot of your drive which can later be used to restore your system should catastrophe occur.

Additional capabilities of Shadow copy include taking snapshots of files even when currently in use. Microsoft has incorporated this feature into Previous Versions which allows restoring a previous version

of an application. Unfortunately, this power is available only in Windows Professional or Ultimate.

The easiest way to bring up System Restore is to type System in the Start menu search box and select it from the resulting list. Another way is to select the Recovery option from Control Panel, or you can simply type **rstrui** in the search box.

Whatever method you choose will bring up the System Restore dialog box that gives you some helpful information. Select the Next button to get a list of restore points. Most of the time you will be using the most recent restore point to get your system working again.

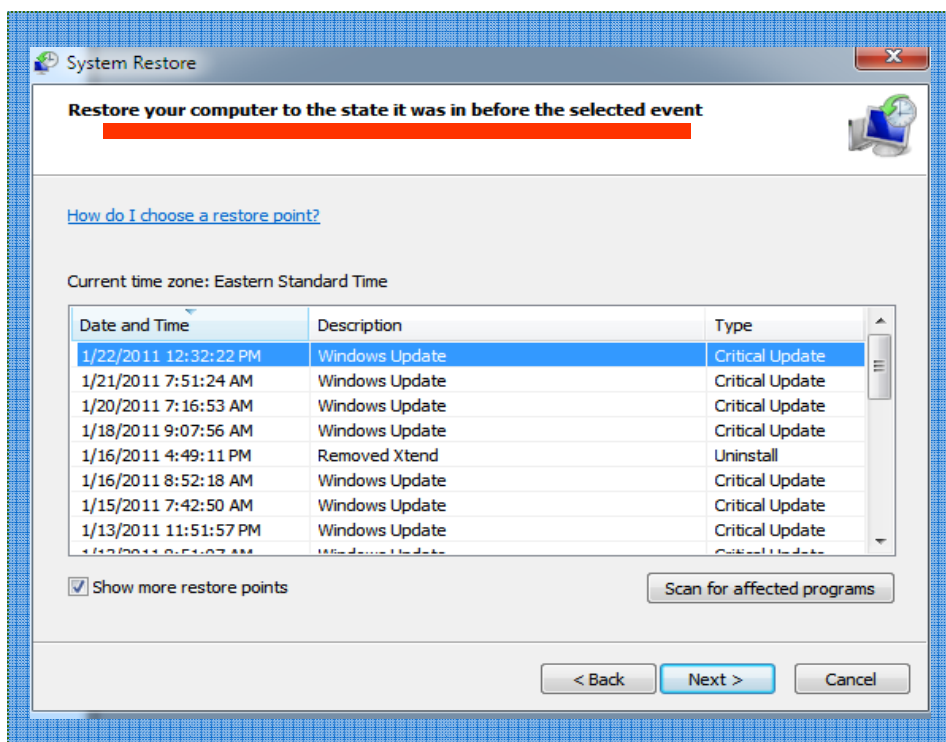


Focus your attention on the Description list. This can give you an important indication of what went wrong. Did your problem begin after installing a Critical Update, a backup operation, or a new freeware program that you couldn't resist?

When you apply System Restore the system creates another restore point so you can undo the change if your problem isn't fixed. **You can't undo System Restore however, if you use it in safe mode.** But you can run System Restore again and select a different restore point.

Restore points are saved until the disk space Windows allocates to the utility is used up. Then the oldest restore points are deleted as new ones are needed. The easiest way to delete all previous restore points is to turn System Restore off, and then turn it back on again. Don't worry about running out of space.

Many computer problems can be traced to sloppy programs written by people who don't know enough about proper programming techniques to get their utilities published by reliable vendors. It's surprising how many problems are generated by faulty uninstall tools. There are many sound freeware offerings out in cyberspace, but don't use them unless they come tested and approved by a trusted source like Smart Computing. **II**



Your Computer's Health – What Junk Files? - Part 3

by Bob Woods, Webmaster, UCHUG
(Under the Computer Hood User Group),
CA

I have a Compaq laptop that is around 7 months old that I use for reading e-mail, surfing the web, publishing the changes to the UCHUG web site and occasionally playing games. Since I have any important files backed up on external devices I have not been too concerned with making a full backup image of the hard drive on this PC. I also have not run any cleanup utilities. After all, if it ain't broke, why fix it? But, after having the PC for 7 months I thought it might be time to take on these tasks.

In the January 2011 edition of Drive Light, Art Gresham started a series of articles on PC maintenance. Part 1 of the series was tips for basic hard drive and OS data cleaning. I figured that there is no better time to do a cleanup than before imaging the hard drive.

Following Art's advice I first loaded **CCleaner from Piriform**. I am a volunteer



in the IT department at the USS Midway Museum; we use CCleaner to start data cleanup on the computers in use by the staff so I am familiar with its use. When run,

CCleaner gives you a nice interface with a number of options for cleaning temporary files left behind by Internet browsers (IE, Firefox, etc.), Windows Explorer, Windows itself and other applications that use temp files. To check on what it finds you can click on "Analyze" vice "Run Cleaner." That way you have a chance to determine what the application will be doing.

I expected it to list a number of IE and Firefox temp files, but was surprised at how many system and application temp files it found. In all over 350 MB would be cleaned off the drive. After running the cleaning function I clicked to scan the registry for problems.

During this scan *CCleaner looks for unused items, missing shared DLL's and application paths, obsolete software references, leftover installation references, fragments and a few other items.* CCleaner lists all that it finds for you to review.

Again, given that the PC was only 7 months old I was surprised by the number of leftovers from updates and software removals. Cleaning these items will result in a cleaner registry which will speed boot up and shutdown times and increase system stability. When you click to "Fix selected issues." you will be given the option to save the registry prior to the cleanup or cancel the operation. It took about 10 minutes to do the all of the cleanup.

The next application to install and run is



Advanced System Care from IObit.

This application will allow you to further clean up the registry, remove Spyware, clean up more junk files and past browser history. You may ask why do this as CCleaner did some of the same functions? Each of the applications will take a slightly different approach to scanning your system and find different items the other did not find. Sure enough, there were a few more



registry issues and temp files missed by CCleaner. Advanced System Care also has a system diagnosis section not in CCleaner that will analyze and fix system perform-

ance, system configuration and security problems. Another few issues were cleaned up. Advanced System Care also took about 10 minutes for the cleanup. I could have also used it for disk defragmentation, but wanted to use a separate defrag program so loaded IObit Smart Defrag.

Smart Defrag from IObiti another application that has a nice clean interface that is easy to use and understand. When ran it I found fragmentation after 7 months was less than 1 % (only .71%). Back in the earlier versions of Windows I would have expected at least 10-15% fragmentation. It seems that the OS may be getting better at not fragmenting files. Still, any fragmentation will use extra space and take extra time for the hard drive heads to move to pick up bits and pieces. So even at less than 1% fragmentation I was willing to take the time to perform the defragmentation. Total time was about 15 minutes to defrag the 50 GB of data stored on a 220 GB drive.

At the end of the whole process I saved hard drive space, cleaned up the registry, and eased the burden on the hard drive. So, did I see a performance improvement? Without running a benchmark it would be hard to tell, but the system does seem a bit quicker. But the overall benefits to the health of the system should result in better performance and longer hard drive life. As for the backup, it went smoothly and is much cleaner as I did not back up un-necessary temp files and junk in the registry. **II**

Volume	Status	Free/Total Size	File System	Automatic Defrag	Boot Time Defrag
Local Disk (C:) [checked]	Analyzed	34.2/52.1 GB	NTFS	Yes	No
Local Disk (D:)	Idle	55.7/97.7 GB	NTFS	No	No
Local Disk (E:)	Idle	54.7/65.1 GB	NTFS	No	No
Local Disk (F:)	Idle	62.4/83.2 GB	NTFS	No	No

Advanced SystemCare Free
Version 4.0 | Added on 04/25/2011

EDITORS' RATING: ★★★★★
AVERAGE USER RATING: ★★★★★ out of 9178 reviews

58,124,362 total downloads
382,363 last week

POWERMAT

by George Harding, Treasurer,
Tucson Computer Society, AZ

You probably carry at least one portable device, a mobile phone. To keep it charged, you need a charger for a home outlet or one for the car. When you travel, either locally or away from home, you must remember to carry one or both of these chargers. It's cumbersome, but that's the price of a mobile device.

Or maybe not! Powermat has a solution for any of your mobile devices, and it doesn't require a charging cord. How do they do this? You charge a Powermat unit, then



carry it with you wherever you might be.

Just set your mobile device on one of the panels of the Powermat and your device is charged wirelessly by induction. What does that mean? You don't need to know. It just works.

I received a Powermat for evaluation. It is a small 3" X 3" tri-fold device. It unfolds

into three connected panels, two of which are charging panels. The third section is the storage battery that allows the device to be used wirelessly.

You first charge the Powermat with a wall outlet. Then fit your mobile phone or other device with a receiver tailored for your specific type of device. Then simply



place the mobile device on the Powermat. You'll hear a beep to indicate that connection is made and that your mobile device is charging. Another beep sounds when your device is removed.



Universal Powercube
Receiver (7 Tips)

connects to your mobile device and is what is placed on the Powermat.

The tri-fold Powermat I received is one of several styles available. Some are smaller, some come with a Power Cube, a unit that connects

I tried out my wife's Blackberry on the Powermat. The unit comes with a Power Cube which you connect to the Blackberry, then place it on the Powermat to charge. The Power Cube is about one and a half inches square and has a white, smooth surface.

One corner of it has a wire attached with a connector with adaptable heads for almost any receptacle available today.

The wire fits neatly into a groove around the edge of the Power Cube when not in use.

I also received a receiver for my iPhone. A receiver is a shell into which the iPhone fits. It has a compatible plug in its base and a unit on its back similar in function to a Power in function to a Power Cube. Once the iPhone is in the receiver, you need only place it on the Powermat to charge it.

Powermat announced at CES an agreement that will provide wireless charging capabilities in airports, through the installation of Powermat units in terminal seating. Airports are difficult environments in which to obtain recharges. This solution will benefit the many travelers with mobile devices that need charging in an airport. In addition, Powermat will be working with GM to incorporate in their cars, starting with the Chevy Volt, a charging solution for most mobile devices, without the use of wires. **II**

NoiseHush N525 Edge Bluetooth Headset

by Terry Currier, President, WINNERS
(WINDOWS USERS GROUP), CA

The unit is slender and very light weight. It comes with two USB chargers: one for use with a PC, and one you can use with the AC charger they include. You can also purchase a Travel Charger or Auto Charger -- \$7.95 each. Specifications:

- Talk Time: Up to 5 Hours
- Standby Time: Up to 100 Hours
- Charging Time: 2 to 3 Hours
- Dimensions (mm): 53.5 (L) X 13.5 (W) X 6 (T)
- Weight: 6.6 g
- Operating Distance: Up to 30 feet (10 meters)
- Bluetooth Version: v2.1 + EDR



Everything is done by pressing the multifunction button including turning it off, on, or answering a call. The problem is it presses into the ear; I learned to hold on to it when I pressed the button.

When pressing it to make a call, or answer one there was a slight humming noise in the background. It went away after being connected. There is no volume button on the unit itself; you will have to make such changes on the phone <http://noishush.com/n525-bluetooth>

It does work and the price is not bad at \$39.99, but you want it to be comfortable to wear, or you won't use it. **II**

NoiseHush Hands Free Solutions

Bluetooth Headsets –
Speakerphone Car Kit –
Stereo Headphones –
Stereo Bluetooth –
Helmet Headset –

Add Text on a Photo - Word 2007

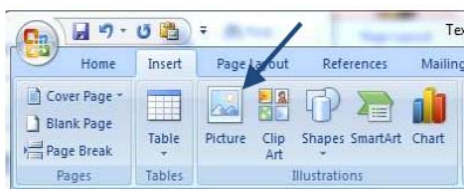
by Lynn Page, Editor,

Crystal River Users Group, Florida

When creating a document it may be useful to place text with or on top of a photo. You could create a new photo with the text in a digital photo editing application and then save it for use. But if you will just use that image once why go to the bother. Within Word 2007 you can add the text on top of your photo using either WordArt or a text box.

Which method to use depends on the effect desired. For text that is short and an interesting stylized look is what you want WordArt is a good option. For plain and simple text a text box can match the text to that in the rest of the document.

Text Box on Top of a Photo. Placing a text box on a photo can be as easy as inserting the photo, creating a text box and dragging the text box onto the photo.



To add a photo to a document place the insertion point in the document where the photo is to be located and click the Picture icon in the Illustrations group on the Insert tab. Browse to the photo in the Insert Picture dialog box, select it and click the Insert button.

To place a text box on the photo first create the text box. Place the insertion point on a line below the photo. Then in the Text group on the Insert tab, click text box and then click to select Simple Text Box. In the inserted Text Box type the text. To change the font or style of the text, highlight the text and then select the desired text formatting as with any other text. Drag the text box sizing handles to resize it as necessary. Finally click the outside edge of the text box and drag it to the proper location on top of the photo.



The default Text Box will have white fill and a black border. For use over a photo you will probably want no fill color or border. With the Text Box still selected click Text Box Tools and on the Format tab, in the Text Box Styles group, click Shape Fill and select No Fill. Then click Shape Outline and select No Outline.

With the Text Box you can add text on top of a photo and move the text to position it over the photo, but you can't rotate it. To be able to rotate the text or use text that is more stylized use WordArt.

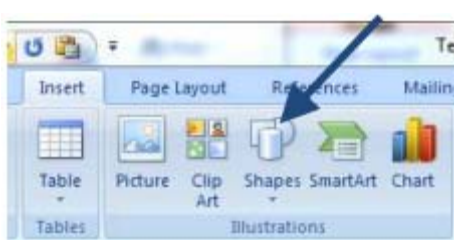


WordArt on Top of a Photo

To place WordArt on the photo first create a Drawing Canvas. Place the insertion point in the document and then in the Illustrations group on the Insert tab open the Shapes drop down menu and click New Drawing Canvas.



With the new drawing canvas still selected on the Insert tab, in the Illustrations group, click Picture. In the dialog box browse to and select the photo to use and click the Insert button. Again on the Insert tab, but in the Text group, click WordArt, select the style desired, and type the text. Select either piece of art and use the sizing handles to resize as desired. Click the outside edge of the WordArt to select it and drag it over the photo. Use the rotation handle to rotate the text to the angle that works best for the photo.



Once the graphics are correctly formatted and positioned group them. That creates a single graphic that can be moved or resized. The text stays with the photo. To create a group click the outside edge of the photo, press and hold the CTRL key, and click the edge of the WordArt so both items are selected. Under Drawing Tools, on the Format tab, in the Arrange group, click the arrow next to Group, and then click Group. II



Helvetica
Garamond
Frutiger
Bodoni
Futura
Times
Akzidenz
Officina
Gill Sans



Service Packs Explained (and needed)

by Sandy Berger, Compu-KISS

Although most of us still think of Windows 7 as a brand new operating system, it is, in fact, starting to show its age. Windows 7 made its debut on October 22, 2009. Is one and one-half really old? Well, in the computer world, it is not old, but it is certainly full-grown. One sign of this is that Microsoft has just released the first Service Pack for Windows 7.

A service pack is a collection of updates, bug fixes, and enhancements for a software program. As you know, Microsoft routinely offers updates for their Windows operating systems. These updates come out weekly and they patch or, you might say, repair the operating system so that they remain safe from hackers. They can also include improvements or enhancements to the operating system. At a certain point in time, Microsoft gathers all of those updates, adds any other updates and enhancements they have and issues this batch of updates as a service pack. It is also important to note, that when Microsoft issues a service pack, this service pack also makes sure that all of the updates and enhancements work well together and offer good stability for the operating system.

The question that I am most often asked is this, "If I have installed every update that Microsoft has released, do I still need to install the service pack?" The answer is "yes." Often the service pack contains additional updates and/or enhancements that were not included in the weekly updates. Also, a service pack makes sure that all of the updates are put together properly to make your system run well.

In fact, Microsoft thinks that this is so important that they only support the operating system when it has the proper service packs installed. Each service pack should be installed when it is released. If for some reason, they are installed all at the same time, each is installed sequentially.

So, for Windows XP you should have Service Pack 3 installed. Windows Vista should have Service Pack 2, and Windows 7 should have Service Pack 1. To learn what service pack you have installed, just click on the Start button, right-click on

Computer or My Computer, and then click Properties. You will see the service pack listed under the Windows edition.

You can go to the Microsoft website and install a service pack from there, if you happen to be missing one. **All service packs from Microsoft are free.** If you are using Window 7, the new service pack will be offered to you through Microsoft's automatic update service. This Windows 7 service pack can take up to 30 min-



utes and will re-boot your computer. I have installed Window 7, Service Pack 1 on several computers without a problem, but you should be aware that installing a service pack is a big update. Microsoft recommends that you back up your computer before installing a service pack. And to be honest, you should be backing up your computer anyway. So if you don't have a backup strategy in place, this is a good time to implement one.



available for free download in a beta version. This is by far, the best version of Internet Explorer that Microsoft has ever released. ***IE 9 won't run on Windows XP; it requires Windows Vista or Windows 7.*** Although Microsoft is not requiring Windows 7 Service Release 1 to install IE 9, it is advisable to install this Service Release before you install IE 9.

Service Packs are a fact of life for Windows users. Installing them may be a bit of a pain, but you really need them to make sure that your Windows system is secure and stable and that it performs well. II

Top 5 Free Anti-virus for 2011

PC WORLD



[Avast Free Antivirus 5](#)



[Avira AntiVir Personal Free AntiVirus 10](#)



[Microsoft Security Essentials 1.0](#)



[Panda Cloud Antivirus 1.0](#)



[Comodo Internet Security Premium 5.0](#)



AVG Anti-Virus Free 2011

EDITOR RATING
●●●●○ good

USER RATINGS (2)
●●●●○ good

Cleveland Ohio not your Grandfather's Cornfield!

“One of the most progressive modern USA Cities”

Technology and computers have always been about independence. This year we are gathering for the

APCUG Annual Meeting & Conference Independence, Ohio. July 15-17, 2011

Only eight miles from the Cleveland Hopkins Airport.

The conference will start with a sign in and registration on Friday afternoon, July 15th at approximately 3:00 PM EDT and will be followed by a meet & greet in the lounge.

The early bird attendance fee for the conference is \$50. This will cover the Friday night meet & greet, a full day of workshop sessions on Saturday & a half-day on Sunday. The fee goes up to \$65 on June 1st.

- APCUG has negotiated a \$79.00 night room rate plus applicable taxes at the Crowne Plaza Cleveland South—Independence.
- Additionally this rate will apply for 3 days before the conference and 3 days after for those who would like to arrive early or stay over and do some sightseeing.
- Conference registration, hotel reservation, other conference links available on the

[APCUG website \(cleveland.apcug.net\)](http://cleveland.apcug.net)



Booked Workshops & General Sessions

- Virtual Machines
- MAR's Refurbishing & Recycling
- iPad features using iPad for eBooks
- Windows Tips & Techniques
- The Linux Guy
- Linux and the Future of Computers
- Safe Data Destruction
- Ins and Outs of Skype
- Fundraising
- OneNote
- Q&A sessions with BOD & BOA

Local Attractions

Cleveland's famous Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum is filled with seven floors of memorabilia chronicling the evolution of rock and roll and is a must for anyone visiting Cleveland. The hotel is 15 minutes from this heralded attraction.



Other Local Attractions are listed below and the distance from the hotel.

- Cleveland Clinic Main Campus (18 Miles)
- Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (1 Mile)



- Playhouse Square Theaters (8 Miles)
- Cleveland Museum of Natural History (8 Miles)
- Cleveland Museum of Art (8 Miles)
- Cleveland Botanical Gardens (10 Miles)
- Great Lakes Science Center (9 Miles)
- Pro Football Hall of Fame (20 Miles)
- Geauga Lake's Wildwater Kingdom (20 Miles)
- A Christmas Story House & Museum (15 Miles)

Check out TripAdvisor's list of 70 Cleveland Attractions and Positively Cleveland's guide to things to do.

Cleveland Hopkins International Airport is the closest airport to the conference site and the hotel provides a shuttle service. However if you were planning on flying in and renting a car you might want to check out the Akron-Canton Regional Airport and you maybe able to get a lower fare. **II**

Make reservations now for APCUG Annual Meeting !