

RAM PAGES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FRESNO PC USERS GROUP

Volume 24 Issue 6

August 2005

Come to the Fresno Personal Computer Users' Group Presentation

**August General Meeting
Monday, August 1, 2005
at 7:30 PM**

Presented by US Postal Service

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www.fresnocomputerusers.org

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Despite their titles, FPCUG copy editors **do not** check the final **RAM Pages** before printing. Articles that are reprinted by permission are not edited by the Fresno PCUG staff.

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RAM Pages is the monthly newsletter of the Fresno PC Users Group, a nonprofit corporation chartered by the State of California. Each FPCUG member receives a subscription as a benefit of membership. A membership application and renewal form is printed on the last inside page.

Subscription Problems? Please inform the membership director Krikor Geyoghlian at 434.0941, if you miss your issue or have any changes or corrections in your address AND/OR email..

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Vendor Notice. Only review products that have been obtained by the product review coordinator and **received through the FPCUG address** shall be considered the responsibility of the FPCUG, unless otherwise indicated by the Board of Directors and with the full knowledge of the review coordinator.

Directors to Meet



The Board Meeting of the FPCUG will usually be held on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. Board meetings are open to any FPCUG member.

(see calendar on back page for specific date)

This month's will be at
 Hope Lutheran Community Center
 Fresno, CA 93727

Active SIGs

If you are a PC Users Group Member, join a Special Interest Group — a great way to share information with others having similar interests. Special Interest Groups are subgroups within the Fresno PC Users Group that meet on their own schedules to discuss specific topics. Bring items to share, programs, hints, and blank disks. **E-mail SIG Leaders ahead to verify meeting times and locations.** (some SIGs listed may be forming or temporarily dormant).

For more information about SIGs, special request for a SIG, or starting up your own, contact FPCUG First Vice-President Dean Mason's email at

vicepresident1@fresnocomputerusers.org

SIG	Leader/Host	E-mail	Meets
Digital	Nancy Mason	applelady@sti.net	1 ST Saturday of the month at
Photo	Jo Townley	donnjo@juno.com	10:30 AM at CompUSA on
SIG	Laura Barnard	lgrbarnard@yahoo.com	N. Blackstone

CompUSA is located in the RiverPark Shopping Center, just north of Herndon and Hwy 41 at 7502 N. Blackstone.

CURRENTLY NOVICE AND WINDOWS 3.1, 95,98, & 2000 SIGs ON HIATUS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Do you really know how to forward e-mails?



50% of us do; 50% do NOT. Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail? Do you hate it? Every time you forward an e-mail there is information left over from the people who got the message before you, namely their e-mail addresses & names. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses builds, and builds, and builds, and all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus, and his or her computer can send that virus to every e-mail address that has come across his computer. Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell them or send junk mail to them in the hopes that you will go to the site and he will make five cents for each hit That's right, all of that inconvenience over a

nickel! How do you stop it? Well, there are two easy steps:

- 1) When you forward an e-mail, DELETE all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message. That's right, DELETE them. Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You MUST click the "Forward" button first, then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message.

If you don't click on "Forward" first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

- 2) Whenever you send an e-mail to more than one person, do NOT use the To: or Cc: columns for adding e-mail address. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) column for listing the e-mail addresses. This is the way that people you send to only see their own e-mail address. If you don't see your BCC: option click on where it says To: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, it's that easy. When you send to BCC: your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients" in the "TO:" field of the people who receive it.



So please, in the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses! Finally, here's an idea!!! Let's send this to everyone we know. (but strip my address off first). This is something that SHOULD be forwarded.

ADVERTISING IN THE RAM PAGES

Commercial Ads must be supplied camera ready by the first of the month.

Member Ads are free to members of the Fresno PC Users Group. They may submit noncommercial classified ads for computer related items at no charge. Ads should not exceed 75 words in length.

Further information is available on our Web site:

www.fresnocomputerusers.org

Create a slide show to share your digital photos

Remember when people would gather around and watch vacation slides from a projector? You can do the same with your digital images the hi-tech way. Specialized software helps you create slide shows ready for play on a computer or on a TV.

There are many software programs that get the job done. Here's a look at three free slide show creation programs for Windows. If you're using a Mac, you also have the ability, using iPhoto.

Microsoft's Photo Story (<http://www.microsoft.com>; Windows XP only) walks you through the process of creating your slide show. It's easy to add special effects such as transitions, panning and sounds. Photo Story saves your slide show as a Windows Media video file. To use Photo Story, you need Microsoft XP.

To create a slide show, open the program and select "Begin a new story." Click Next. Click Import Pictures. Select your pictures and click OK.

Use the controls to reorient and edit the pictures. Click Next. Add titles and transition effects for each photo and then click Next

To change pan effects, click Customize Motion. You can also record Audio for the individual pictures. Click Next twice. Then click Save Project so you can edit the slide show later. Enter a name and click save.

To finalize the slide show, select "Save your story for playback on your computer."

Specify a name and location for your file and click Next. Use your CD burning software to copy it to CD. This CD will only play on your computer.

You can buy an add-in to create discs playable in a DVD player for television. Sonic's DVD for Photo Story 3 for Windows (<http://www.sonic.com>) will do the trick. It's \$19.99.

If you don't have a DVD burner, you can create a VCD (video CD). This is a CD that plays in most DVD players. Microsoft recommends Sonic's MyDVD Studio (\$69.99) to create VCDs.

Google's Picasa 2 (<http://www.picasa.com>) is a handy program for any Photo aficionado. It helps you organize your photos. That makes it easy When it comes time to create your slide show. Picasa 2 works with Windows 98 or later.

You can add entire folders or photos grouped under a label. If you don't want to include everything in a folder, give the photos a label. Photos can have numerous labels, and labels can be deleted.

Right-click on a photo and select Add Label>>New Label. Type Slide Show and click OK. Highlight the rest of the photos and right-click on them. Select Add Label>>Slide Show. They will appear in their own section. Use the rotate buttons to orient them correctly.

Click Gift CD. Under Selection and Settings, make sure there's a green check beside Include Slideshow. Type a name for the CD. Make sure there's a green check beside Include Picasa. Then, click Burn Disc. You're prompted to insert a blank CD.

To run the slide show, recipients must install Picasa. The installation files are included on the gift CD. This CD will only work in a computer.

To create a VCD or DVD, you must create a movie, not a slide show. (Select your files, click Create>>movie).

Then, the movie must be converted for use on a VCD/DVD. Nero 6 (<http://www.nero.com>) will do this for you. You must use the full version (\$80).

IrfanView (<http://www.irfanview.com>) also creates slide shows. It runs on Windows 95 systems and newer. First, use Filmstrip view (View>> Filmstrip) in Windows Explorer to orient your pictures correctly.

In IrfanView, click File>>Slideshow. Select your photos and click Add. Use the "Move



up” and “Move down” controls to change the order. If you want, change the slide advancement options or add a title. When you’re done, select Save as EXE/SCR file. Select Create EXE file. Specify the save location and file name. Then click Create.

IrfanView’s slide shows only play on computers. To create a VCD or DVD, you need the full version of Nero 6. Additionally, a free plug-in, available from IrfanView, is required.

You can use iPhoto to create slide shows if you have a Mac. First, select the album you want to use for your slide show. Then click the Slideshow button.

You can add music by clicking the Music button. The Settings button gives you other options. Here, you can change the duration of slides and add transitions.

You can turn your slide show into a QuickTime movie. Just click File>>Export. Click on the QuickTime tab and specify your options. Then click Export. The QuickTime movie can then be burned to CD. You can use iDVD, part of iLife, to burn your slide show to a DVD playable on standalone players.

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Images Saved On Your Computer Screen As Repeated “Tiles”

As the FAQ in the “Ask The Help Desk” section above explains, it can be difficult to grab images off the Web to use as wallpaper without the images appearing distorted on your computer screen. Rather than trying to stretch pictures to fit your computer’s screen, an alternative is to “tile” your selected image. This process saves the picture repeatedly in rows on your screen as a background. The result may be cluttered but probably preferable to the distorted alternative.

To tile an image as your screen’s wallpaper **when using a PC and Internet Explorer** as your browser, simply right-click on the chosen picture and select “Set As Background.” Next, right-click on your PC’s desktop and choose “Properties.” With the “Desktop” tab selected, choose “Tile” from the “Position” menu. Click “Apply” and then click “OK.”

If you are on a PC and using the new Firefox browser, right-click on the image and choose “Set As Wallpaper.” When the “Set Wallpaper” dialog box appears, look for the “Position” menu. It will list “Stretch,” “Tile,” or “Center” as options. Choose “Tile” from the list. Click on the “Set Wallpaper” button. The background of your computer screen will change to multiple rows of the picture you selected.

If you get tired of using this image, right-click on your PC’s desktop and choose “Properties.” With the “Desktop” tab selected, choose the wallpaper you want from the list that appears. Click “Apply” and then click “OK.” (This works whether using Internet Explorer or Firefox as your browser.)

If you are using a **Macintosh running OS X**, click on the image while holding down the “ctrl” key and select “Download Image To Disk.” For ease in finding it, save the file to the Desktop. (If you are using Safari, select “Save Image to the Desktop”.) Next, go to the Apple menu, then drop down to and select “System Preferences...” Click on the Desktop & Screensaver icon and click on “Choose Folder” in the left-hand pane of the window. Click on “Desktop.” The picture you downloaded to disk should be there. Click on it to select it and then click on “Choose.” Next

Tiled images cont. from page 5

to the preview picture you'll see a button that says "Fill Screen." Click on it and four choices will appear: "Fill Screen," "Stretch to fill screen," "Center," and "Tile." Choose "Tile" and then close the window. 

This information was taken from the July 2005 issue of the Sierratel online newsletter.

Printing A Section Of A Web Page


Our wonderful wacky webmaster Jan has a tip to share with us this month. He reminds us that you can save ink and paper by printing a portion of a web page instead of printing the full page.

The first step is to select the part of the page you want to print. Hold down the left mouse button (the only button on a single-button mouse) while moving over the text/pictures you want to select. Another way is to click your cursor at the beginning of the part you're selecting, then — without holding down a button — move your mouse to the end of the area you want to select. Next, hold down your Shift key and click your mouse there. This will cause the section between the clicks to "reverse" or "highlight" (dark color background with lettering in light color).

To Print a Selection

1. Select the part of the page you want to print.
2. Click File on the browser's menu (top left corner)
3. Click Print
4. Under Page Range, click Selection
5. Click Print or OK

All is not lost if you don't see an opportunity to choose "Selection." (Macintosh browsers and older versions of Netscape don't always offer it.) You have the option of copying the selected text and graphics, pasting the selection into your favorite word processing program, and printing from there.



This Quick Tip section of our newsletter is devoted to answering Internet-related questions of interest to STI subscribers. If you have a question or tip to suggest, send an email to support@sti.net. 

This information was taken from the July 2005 issue of the Sierratel online newsletter.

Why Is My Computer Screen Wallpaper Distorted?

Question: Sometimes I save images off the Internet for wallpaper on my computer screen. However, the images I save quite often look very distorted when I stretch them to full screen. How can I avoid this?

Answer: You are probably running into a couple of problems. The first is that of proportions. If the image you are grabbing from the Web isn't proportional to your screen, it will look distorted when it's stretched. Remember, your screen format is rectangular, having horizontal and vertical dimensions. So if you save an image that is much more vertical than horizontal, the image will look "fat" once it is fitted to your screen.

The other problem is that most images found on the Web are not a high enough resolution to be used for wallpaper. Many computers are set to a resolution of either 800x600 pixels or 1024x768 pixels. When grabbing an image off the Web, the image needs to be close to the same size as the resolution of your screen in order to appear undistorted. If the image is only 250x100 pixels, for example, there just won't be enough pixels to fill your computer screen in an undistorted manner, unless of course you are using a very small screen.  

Note that most site owners have copyright restrictions regarding their site's content (text and images) so you must first get permission before grabbing an image to use as computer screen wallpaper.

This information was taken from the July 2005 issue of the Sierratel online newsletter.

Scrapbooking Hobby/Craft Rescues Baby Boomer Memories

By Gabe Goldberg, APCUG Advisor and Columnist, AARP Computers and Technology Website, gabe@gabegold.com

As a baby boomer, I'm hardly unusual in having a large box of photographs in my closet. Also likely common is my photos' diversity: fading Polaroid baby pictures, travel shots, family gathering commemorations, images of people and places I can't identify, some professional photography, and quite a lot of etc. In addition, I have a few photo albums — created when my parents thought I was cute and when I worked to record and remember vacations.

But the years have generated a lot of unorganized pictures, and I'm falling further behind in making sense of them. Worse, the photographs suffer from improper storage: being folded, fading, cracking, sticking together. Even the ones supposedly preserved in albums are being damaged by invisible hazards.

An antidote to my generation's mistreating photographs and neglecting family histories may be "scrapbooking". This inclusive term can mean anything from arranging pictures in scrapbooks (what albums are called when they contain pictures) to using computers. Whether high- or low-tech, it includes rescuing pictures from hostile environments. Old-style photo albums with adhesive corners or sticky pages can damage pictures. Scrapbookers use acid-free archival-quality paper and supplies (photo-safe adhesives and pens), aiming to produce material that lasts for generations.

Some people come to scrapbooking with organized materials, with pictures already sorted and documented. Others are in my camp, with a chaotic and ever-growing stash of family snapshots. Either way — and especially if starting from scratch — there's a fleeting opportunity for this, as memories and generations are lost.

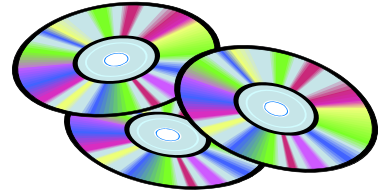
I'm told that most scrapbookers are women, many of whom start as girls, assembling books about friends and activities, then continue as young mothers recording their childrens' growth, and as grandmothers making scrapbooks about their extended and extending families. But technology

also draws men into the hobby, especially with improving capabilities and lowering costs of digital equipment such as scanners, cameras, and printers. Pixifun's [<http://pexagontech.com/pixifun/>] child- and budget-friendly kits for creating keyrings/magnets/stickers/badges/CDs include software and parts for creating instant photo keepsakes.

Scrapbookers develop unique styles and personalities, matching goals and resources available. Some keep things simple, using pictures, decorations, and a little labeling to tell visual stories. These scrapbooks are great for documenting oral history and reminiscing. They can follow themes such as genealogy, school events, family milestones, travel, etc. Beyond pictures, scrapbooks can contain anything meaningful, such as mementos, postcards, clippings, cartoons, tickets, etc. This can be supplemented by decorations made with tools such as circle-cutout tools, edge scissors, and lettering stencil templates; accessories including colored and patterned

Scrapbooking cont. on page 10

FPCUG Library CD of the Month



File descriptions for June 2005

By Dean Mason and Monica Braun, Librarians of the FPCUG

The Usual files each month

AVG free anti-virus

Ad-Aware Removes spyware

Spybot Spybot - Search & Destroy can detect and remove spyware of different kinds from your computer.

Visual Basic Run Time **Visual Basic 6 Runtime Files** are required by many programs that were written in Visual Basic. This is actually quite common and programmers leave the files out because it adds 2 megs to a download and you only need download it once. Weve provided the file here in case you get cant find COMCT232.OCX or a similar error.

This months files

Aida32 – Win All . AIDA32 is a professional system information, diagnostics and benchmarking program running on Win32 platforms. It extracts details of all components of the PC

Belarc Advisor – Win All The Belarc Advisor builds a detailed profile of your installed software and hardware and displays the results in your Web browser. All of your PC profile information is kept private on your PC and is not sent to any web server. **Free for personal use only.**

Cdex 1.60 – Win All . CDex is a tool to do all sorts of things audio related.

Cli Bench mk 3 – Win All..... CliBench is a small tool, that fits on a **floppy disk** and that checks your **CPU**, FPU, memory and **hard drive** performance. It's fully multithreaded, so you can check SMP systems with up to 128 **processors**.

DVD Identifier – Win AllDVD Identifier retrieves and interprets the pre-recorded information that is present on all DVD+R/+RW, **DVD-R/-RW** and **DVD-RAM** media

Fresh Diagnose 7 – Win All ..Fresh Diagnose is an utility designed to analyze and benchmark your computer system. It can analyze and benchmark many kinds of hardware, such as CPU performance, hard disk performance, video system information, mainboard information, and many more!

High Defination Picture Album – Win All..... High Definition Picture Album - FREE For Personal Use - to handle all your picture needs

Index.Dat Suite – Win All.....Index.dat Suite is a rather unique program that allows you not only to delete the index.dat files, temporary **internet** files, temp files, cookies and history, but it also allows you to view the index.dat files on your system.

Jet Audio – Win All .. JetAudio is integrated multimedia software made of a single compact rack. Not only does it play various music and video files, it also has features such as CD burning, recording, and conversion to other file formats.

Mem Test 3.2 MemTest is a **RAM** reliability tester. It evaluates the ability of your **computer's** memory to store and **retrieve data** accurately. A correctly functioning computer should be able to do both these tasks with 100% accuracy day in and day out

Paint .net – Win XP/2K.....Paint.NET is image and photo manipulation software designed to be used on computers that run **Windows XP** or 2000

Quick Time Alternative – Win All QuickTime Alternative will allow you to play QuickTime (.mov .qt) files.



Real Alternative – Win AllReal Alternative will allow you to play RealMedia files without having to install the official RealPlayer.

SIW (System Info) – Win All .SIW is a system information tool, that gathers detailed information about your system properties and settings. It includes detailed specs for CPU, Network, TCP/IP, Memory, Hardware, Users, Network Shares, and more, as well as real-time monitors for CPU, Memory and network traffic.

Swiss Knife 3.9.... SwissKnife is a windows program used to create/format partitions in your hard drive. Supports IDE interfaces in Internal, external like parallel, PCMCIA, USB, firewire. Supports creating FAT16 and FAT32 fixed and removable partitions

TiVo Desktop 2.1 – Win All ... TiVo Desktop allows you to access your music and photos located on a PC over the network using a TiVo. Only a TiVo Series2 is required to make use of this functionality. You no longer need to have the Home Media Option to use the program.

Ultimate Boot CD – Win All . You need the Ultimate Boot CD if you want to: Run floppy-based diagnostic tools from CDROM drives. More and more PCs are shipped without floppy drives these days, and it is such a royal pain when you need to run diagnostic tools on them.

Note (from the librarian): *When you purchase the CD of the Month we will give you this file on a separate CD.*

Unofficial Win98 SE SP2 – Win 9X ... Microsoft has never released a service pack for Windows98 SE. But I made a Service Pack for Windows98 SE users. It contains all Windows98 SE updates from Windows Update site and more.

Note (from the librarian): *It really helped my win98.*

CD Burner XP 3.. CDBurnerXP Pro is a freeware CD/DVD-Writer program. The program can write CD-R, CD-RW DVD+R/RW DVD-R/RW discs.

Each CD of the month contains approximately 20 programs and cost \$5.⁰⁰ to members. Additional programs may be added to the disk after printing of this newsletter. The shareware and freeware programs are distributed to customers free of charge. The \$5.⁰⁰ fee to members covers the cost of making the CD and any profit goes to the treasury of the FPCUG. The non-member price will remain \$10.⁰⁰. If after reading the descriptions above, you would like an in-depth description of the software on the CD of the month or you wish to make a special request, contact one of the co-librarians via e-mail. The software librarians may be reached at fpcug_librarian@fresnocomputerusers.org

You can also reach them through the the Web site of the Fresno PC Users Group at: <http://www.fresnocomputerusers.org>.

Contact Dean or Monica if you wish to purchase a CD at the General Meeting and would like to reserve your copy of the CD.

ANY READER OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS WELCOME TO ORDER A CD.

Quantities are available to other PC Users Groups. Interested groups should contact Dean or Monica through the addresses listed.

The librarian sometimes adds extra software on the CD between the time this notice is published and the time of purchase at the General Meeting.



COMPUSA

Thank you
for hosting our
SIGs!



Member of
**The Association of
Personal Computer User Groups**

To find out more information about APCUG.

See: <http://www.apcug.net>

Don Cummins (APCUG rep)

cumminsag@yahoo.com

Scrapbooking cont. from page 7

pages, border trims, themed stick-ons; and stamped images. Some enjoy feeling connected to the past by producing final works from physical memorabilia rather than working with images.

Scrapbookers call telling a narrative story “journaling”, finding this a way to create meaningful and long-lasting collections. Examples are keeping chronological scrapbooks of and for family and children, and creating time-capsules for events such as the new millennium. Pages can combine photos, captions, and decorative material so that each tells a visually appealing story. Alternatively, some people build pages with single images surrounded by cutouts, stickers, decals, lace, etc. — less interested in telling a story than creating a picture. There’s no rulebook, no single right way to scrapbook!

Scrapbooks can be wonderful gifts, conveying connections and feelings beyond those of any store bought gift. A dedicated scrapbooker I know is happy that her children will be able to leave home with their own history books.

Higher-tech approaches include using a digital camera or scanning original images into computer files, using photo-editing software to improve their visual characteristics or create effects such as the antique look, creating photo-montages blending multiple scenes, and producing “scrapbooks” on printed pages, CDs, or the Web. This technique protects precious — and often fragile — records, while allowing viewing and handling easily recreated digital replicas. And we’ve all seen “mini-scrapbooks” produced by technology: photo collages used as family holiday cards. Digital technology lends itself to producing multiple scrapbook copies — for wedding guests, for example, or even as commercial ventures.

Techno-scrapbookers often use Adobe [www.adobe.com] Photoshop Elements and Photoshop software products; the vendor features kid- and adult-friendly tutorials. Click the link and search for “scrapbook”. Other popular software includes Corel photo products [www.corel.com], Macromedia Dreamweaver [www.macromedia.com], and Pinnacle Systems Studio 8 [www.pinnaclesys.com]. As photo capture/editing/printing demands increase, so do hardware requirements. One 20-year veteran scrapbooker suggests a flatbed scanner with minimum 600 ppi (pixels per inch) without interpolation; a slide scanner for negatives and slides; 80 GB hard drive; 512 MB RAM or more; high-end graphics card with expandable non-shared memory; CD/DVD burner and minimum P4 processor. She uses a multimedia PC, digital camera, and camcorder to go beyond photo basics, adding design touches like antique finish and repairing defects such as tears and scratches.

Useful resource sites are Scrapbooking Top50 [www.scrapbookingtop50.com], Stamping Top50 [www.stampingtop50.com], and Digital Scrapbooking [www.digitalscrapbookplace.com]. Stores frequently mentioned are Michael’s and Craft Country.

People discover scrapbooking by accident or design — some take classes at community colleges or recreation departments, others discover commercial sites such as Creative Memories [www.creativememories.com] or see friends’ scrapbooks. Whether your taste runs to scissors or scanner, paper album or CD, narrative or decorative scrapbooks — get out those picture boxes and preserve those memories!

This article originated on AARP’s Computers and Technology Web site, www.aarp.org/computers, and is copyrighted by AARP. All rights are reserved; it may be reproduced, downloaded, disseminated, or transferred, for single use, or by nonprofit organizations for

If you’ve collected a box of unorganized pictures; if you’re falling behind in preserving your and your family’s memories; if your photos suffer from being folded, fading, cracking, and being badly mounted — the hobby and craft of “scrapbooking” can get you organized and preserve/share your memorabilia.



educational purposes, with attribution to AARP. It should be unchanged and this paragraph included. Please e-mail Gabe Goldberg at gabe@gabegold.com when you use it, or for permission to excerpt or condense.

There is no restriction against any non-profit group using this article as long as it is kept in context with proper credit given the author. The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you.

Tech News

By Sue Crane, Vice President & Editor, Big Bear Computer Club, California,

Sue.crane@charter.net, www.bbcc.org

AMD's Antitrust Suit Against Intel

Advanced Micro Devices complaint accuses Intel of maintaining its monopoly in the PC processor market by illegally coercing customers around the world into using its products. The 48-page complaint alleges that Intel used illegal subsidies to win sales, and in some cases threatened companies with "severe consequences" for using or selling AMD products. Meanwhile, hoping to win the support of U.S. legislators and average computer users, AMD is publishing full-page ads in 7 U.S. newspapers, explaining why it filed suit and encouraging readers to read the full text of its 48-page complaint. The AMD complaint is available online at http://www.amd.com/us-en/assets/content_type/DownloadableAssets/AMD-Intel_Full_Complaint.pdf.

Coming soon: 30Gb on a 1-inch drive

A Japanese university has shown a prototype 10GB 1-inch hard disk drive that packs data on the disk surface more densely than existing hard drives with an areal density—the number of bits per unit of disk surface areal—of 138 gigabits per square inch. The drive uses perpendicular recording technology to achieve its higher areal density. The Japanese researchers project they will be able to boost the areal density of 1-inch disks to about 500-gigabits per square inch in 2007. This could enable 1-inch drives to have capacities as high as 30GB a few years from now. Currently, the highest-capacity 1-inch drives on sale store a maximum of 6GB of data.

Court Rules against File-Swapping

In a unanimous decision justices ruled: companies that build businesses with the active intent of encouraging copyright infringement should be held liable for their customers' illegal actions. The decision will likely reshape the Internet landscape in which file swapping has become commonplace.

Man vs. SuperComputer

Michael Adams, United Kingdom's strongest chess player, is the latest player to take on a supercomputer. Adams and the Hydra computer will play up to 6 games for a prize fund of \$150,000. Some experts are already predicting that Hydra will win the contest. But correspondence chess grandmaster Arno Nickel, who recently beat Hydra 2-0 in a correspondence match, has predicted that Adams could secure a 3-3 draw. According to the team that developed Hydra, it can calculate 200 million moves per second and see up to 40 moves ahead.

Tired of waiting for Windows XP?

Giga-byte Technology has stumbled upon a faster way to boot up PCs based on the Windows XP operating system.

Tech News cont. on page 12

iRam is a PC add-in card with four DDR DRAM memory slots, designed to be used as a PC drive. iRam uses DRAM to store information, data can be retrieved up to 60 times faster. The iRam holds up to 4Gb of DRAM in four memory slots. The card fits into a standard PCI slot, which provides power, and it uses a SATA (Serial ATA) connection for data transfer. If the PC is unplugged, the iRam has an on-board battery for emergency power that can last up to 12 hours. The iRam will be available in July.

Laptop Batteries Recalled

Batteries in some notebook computers from Fujitsu Siemens can overheat, with a risk of fire. The company has recalled the batteries in some of its Amilo notebook computers, and will replace affected batteries free of charge.

No IE7 for Win 2K

According to an unnamed employee, Microsoft will not be releasing IE 7 for Windows 2000 as this would involve a lot of work for an operating system that is in the later stages of its lifecycle and some of the security work in IE 7 relies on operating system functionality in XP SP2. Win 2K users argue that Microsoft is committed to provide extended support to Windows 2000 through 2010. Microsoft was also criticized for building a Web browser that cannot run independently of the operating system. IE 7 will be available in beta this summer, offering improved security features, basic tabbed browsing and improved standards support, including support for CSS 2 and PNG transparencies.

Digitally Enhanced Photos May Be “Too Good”

Kacie Powell, a photographer for Centre College in Danville, Ky., tried to get some digital photo shots printed at Wal-Mart, but employees said they looked “too professional.” She ended up signing an affidavit that included pictures of college employees who were authorized to print her pictures. When a colleague whose portrait was included among the authorized photographers went to Wal-Mart with some candid shots from graduation, she got turned down too.. Photo Labs, fearful of being sued by professional photographers, are in a tough spot: should they anger their customers or risk a lawsuit? Don’t be surprised if your digitally enhanced personal photos are turned down by WalMart and other fast-photo labs.

Do the walls have ears?


The experimental system—which consists of a series of sensors under a baby’s mattress and a camera mounted on a wall—will monitor a child’s heart rate, temperature and movement; stream video of the infant; and even take pictures. Captured data is sent to a parent’s PC. In another experiment, researchers have tagged all of the items in a person’s house with RFID sensors that effectively will tell a remote computer whether the occupant has moved a spoon or turned on the television. Though it might sound Orwellian in the abstract, the system is being designed to provide relatives or professional caregivers information on the daily habits of the elderly.

\$100 Computer

A little-known company called Novatium plans to offer a stripped-down home computer for about \$70 or \$75. Adding a monitor doubles the price to \$150, but the company will offer used displays to keep the cost down.

Porn gets its own domain

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) that oversees Internet addresses has approved a new online neighborhood specifically for pornographic Web sites: the

.xxx domain. Proponents say this will help parents screen out the porn sites for their children, but other groups argue that it's not a reliable safeguard until its mandatory. 

There is no restriction against any non-profit group using this article as long as it is kept in context with proper credit given the author. The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member, brings this article to you.

Web sites

[http://www.dll-files.com/...](http://www.dll-files.com/) Everyone has received a "Couldn't find ***.dll..." pop-up message at some time. Well folks, your problems are over! Here you will find the most common files that may be missing or corrupted on your computer. Feel free to download at no cost!

[http://DriveInTheater.com...](http://DriveInTheater.com) **Head To A Drive-In Movie Theater This Summer.** Do you remember the fun times you had going to the drive-in movie theater on weekends with your family or friends? There were over 5,000 drive-in movie theaters located across the U.S. and Canada back in 1958. Today there are less than 600 left in North America but they are still great fun. Check out this site's database listing of drive-in theaters and then treat your family to a night of old-fashioned fun while vacationing this summer. The kids will love the experience and so will you.

[http://lawnmowerworld.co.uk/...](http://lawnmowerworld.co.uk/) **Visit A Lawnmower Museum.** Those of you who are really into lawnmowers probably have this site bookmarked already. For everyone else, this is the link to the British Lawnmower Museum. Yes, an actual museum dedicated to nothing but lawnmowers. Check out the "Gallery" section for interesting pictures of antique cutting contraptions. It will make you appreciate the improvements made in lawn mowing technology since the early twentieth century.

[http://www.SocialSecurity.gov...](http://www.SocialSecurity.gov) **Calculating Your Social Security Benefits.** There's been much debate regarding the long-term solvency of our Social Security System. Most agree that the funds will be depleted at some point in the future because of the changing ratio of the number of people working versus the number of people retiring. If you have not yet retired, have you ever figured out what you can expect in monthly social security income based on the current system? SocialSecurity.gov can calculate this for you. Simply go to the "Calculate your benefits" link and enter the requested information.

http://archives.gov/national_archives_experience/charters/declaration.html **Sign The Declaration Of Independence,** The U.S. National Archives & Records Administration restores and archives important government documents from our nation's history. Celebrating the anniversary of our Declaration of Independence during the month of July provides a great opportunity to see and learn more about our historical treasures. Go to the Declaration of Independence area of this site and click on the "Join the Signers of the Declaration" link. There you can add your name to the ranks of the 56 original signers who stood for freedom and then print off your copy to show friends and family.

http://cbs.com/primetime/the_cut/ ... **The Cut - The Next Hit Reality TV Show.** The new CBS TV show *The Cut* appears to be the next hit reality TV series. During each weekly episode, clothing designer Tommy Hilfiger pits fashion-savvy contestants against one another in real fashion world challenges to find the next great trend setting designer. One contestant is eliminated each week. For more

Web sites cont. from page 13

information about the contestants, each episode, and some behind-the-scenes drama, head to this site.

<http://www.bbb.com/> Want to find out if a company is recognized by the BBB before you buy from them? Want to file a complaint about a company? Need to locate your local Better Business Bureau? Then this is the site for you. You can even search before you buy from those online companies by name, phone or web address.

<http://www.apcug.net/> The look and feel has changed. Go to the site for find out computer related information, from locating a group in an area (outside of Fresno) to information that might be helpful in user group activities to copies of the quarterly publication of APCUG called APCUG Reports. This organization does things for the benefit of its membership and the Fresno PC Users Group is a member.

<http://www.downing-planetarium.org/> . . . Need information about the starry heavens over Fresno? You might find what you are looking for here.

<http://www.fresnocomputerusers.org/> . . . This is the official site of the Fresno Computer Users Group. If you are reading this on line, you are probably at the site. That is unless you have sent this PDF to a friend.

<http://maps.google.com/> With this search engine you can find almost any location. For fun try <http://earth.google.com/> and Google Earth combines satellite imagery, maps and the power of Google Search to put the world's geographic information at your fingertips. They have a free 10 MB download there for you.



Nice Kitty!



THE A DRIVE – Computer & Internet Services

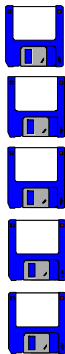
Looking to Buy a New Computer
Check with us First

*Scanners – Cameras – Monitors – Printers – Computer Parts
Laptops – Drives – Everything for your Computer*

Internet Service for \$12.95/month
5X Faster \$14.95

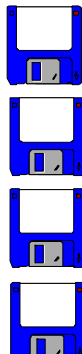
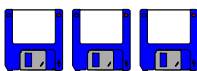
**Sign up Online At www.theadrive.com
or Phone: 559-269-4287**

FPCUG SUPPORTING BUSINESS



Please Welcome Our New Member:

1. David Sershon
2. Shirley Studt
3. Betty Wilson



Thank you for renewing your membership:

1. WandaArmstrong
2. David Carlson
3. Gary Gipson
4. Linda Wilson
5. William Wilson



- President (2004-2006)
Laura Ryals Barnard
president@fresnocomputerusers.org
- 1st Vice President (2005-2007)
Dean Mason
vicepresident1@fresnocomputerusers.org
- 2nd Vice President (2004-2006)
Stanley Barnes
vicepresident2@fresnocomputerusers.org
- Secretary (2004-2006)
Jo Townley
secretary@fresnocomputerusers.org
- Treasurer (2005-2007)
Wilda Moller
treasurer@fresnocomputerusers.org
- Directors-at-Large (2005-2007)
- (1) Regles Bellamy
directorlarge1@fresnocomputerusers.org
 - (2004-2006)
 - (2) Don Cummins
directorlarge2@fresnocomputerusers.org
 - (2005-2007)
 - (3) Monica Braun
directorlarge3@fresnocomputerusers.org
 - (2004-2006)
 - (4) Bill Myers
directorlarge4@fresnocomputerusers.org



5730 N. First Suite 105-321
Fresno, CA. 93710

Please note the types of membership available:

Individual	\$30.00
Additional Adult (same household)	
.....	\$22.50
Junior (Under 18)	\$15.00
Supporting Business	\$120.00

Benefits include the general meeting—usually on the first Monday of each month — Special Interest Groups (SIGs) that meet on schedules of their own, this newsletter, special offers and discounts, the Software Library available at the General Meetings, and more.

Info is available on-line at:

<http://www.fresnocomputerusers.org> or at the General Meeting.

August 2005

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																														
	1 FPCUG General Meeting	2	3	4	5 New Moon	6 10:30AM-12:30PM Digital Photo SIG																																																																																																														
7	8 FPCUG Board Meeting	9	10	11	12	13 First Quarter																																																																																																														
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Sanity Savers

Sanity Savers are members who have volunteered to help other members with their computing problems. SIG leaders also are a valuable information resource.

Do not expect long term counseling, house calls, or to get pirated copies of software recommended to you. Also do not expect any of the volunteers to help you if you are not the legitimate owner of a software package.

If you have any experience in an area of computing, feel free to add your name to the Sanity Savers' list. You do not need to be an expert to be listed as a Sanity Saver — patience and willingness to help count for a lot.

DOS	Dean Mason & Krikor Geyoghlian
DeskTop Publishing, Graphics, Adobe Acrobat	Susy Ball
Excel	Krikor Geyoghlian
General Computing	Bill Myers
Internet Help	Dean Mason
Audio Help	Robert Caraway
Linux	Ben Lutes
Lotus 1-2-3	Krikor Geyoghlian
Medical	Cecil Bullard
MS Word	Krikor Geyoghlian
Office 97/2000/XP	Krikor Geyoghlian & Laura Barnard
Windows 3.x	Krikor Geyoghlian
Windows 95/98/XP	Dean Mason & Krikor Geyoghlian

Contact Info

Susy Ball susyball@aol.com
 Laura Barnard .. lgrbarnard@yahoo.com
 Stan Barnes dsbarnes@sbcglobal.net
 Regles Bellamy. gjbella@hotmail.com
 Monica Braun ... Plyn2wnn@sbcglobal.net
 Cecil Bullard 221.1491 NA
 Robert Caraway www.866djtunes.com
 Don Cummins .. cumminsag@yahoo.com
 Ben Fulk benfulk@theadrive.com
 Krikor Geyoghlian
krikorg@sbcglobal.net

Ben Lutes
benlutes@cynergycomputing.com
 Dean Mason deanf@ati.net
 Nancy Mason ... applelady@sti.net
 Wilda Moller wmoller@comcast.net
 Bill Myers bill@theadrive.com
 Chris Myers chris@theadrive.com
 Don Townley donnjo@juno.com
 Jo Townley donnjo@juno.com
 David Van Dyne dvdtoxic@sbcglobal.net
NA = info not available at
 current time



The Fresno PC Users Group (FPCUG) is a non-profit organization run by and for users of IBM compatible computers. The only membership eligibility requirement is an interest in computers.

Information and messages ----- www.fresnocomputerusers.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President ----- Laura Barnard
- First Vice-President ----- Dean Mason
- Second Vice-President ----- Stan Barnes
- Secretary ----- Jo Townley
- Treasurer ----- Wilda Moller
- Director-At-Large
 - Regles Bellamy ----- Monica Braun
 - Bill Myers ----- Don Cummins

COORDINATORS

- APCUG Representative ----- Don Cummins
- Co-Membership ----- Krikor Geyoghlian & Ben Fulk
- Co-Librarians ----- Dean Mason & Monica Braun
- Program Coordinator/Vendor Liaison ----- Don Cummins
- Publicity Chairperson ----- Krikor Geyoghlian
- Co-Publications ----- Susy Ball & Nancy Mason
- Review Coordinator ----- Don Cummins
- SIG Coordinator ----- Rob Rhodes
- WebMaster ----- Chris Myers
- Welcoming Committee Coordinator ----- Don Townley

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP LEADERS

- Novice SIG ----- Bill Myers
- Troubleshooting Windows 3.1/95/98 SIG ----- Bill Myers
- Digital Photo SIG ----- Laura Barnard, Jo Townley & Nancy Mason

Supporting Business Members

These area businesses support the Fresno PC Users Group through their business membership. We encourage you to patronize them and mention reading about them here.

Computer Age Consulting

Clovis 323-2000

<http://dougbetts.com/>

The A Drive

Fresno 222-5842

www.theadrive.com



Fresno PC Users Group General Meetings

Meetings are held at the Hope Lutheran Community Center, 364 E. Barstow. The meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and are open to the public (dates listed in text below). Guests are welcome. Members and guests are eligible to win prizes at the end of the meetings.



If you have suggestions for program topics or would like to submit a donation toward the silent auction, please contact the Program Coordinator Don Cummins voicemail at 496.3974 or send e-mail to: cumminsag@yahoo.com

- August 1, 2005
- September 12, 2005
- October 3, 2005
- November 7, 2005
- December 5, 2005
- January 2, 2006

Have a donation for the "Silent Auction"?
Contact any Board of Director member
with your donation.

September 2005

Monthly Planner																																																																													
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25 Last Quarter	26	27	28	29	30																																																																								

Calendar for the Fresno PC Users Group

Aug 2005

Sept 2005

Month in Review

Month in Review

Aug

Sept

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|---|--|
| 1 | RAM Pages
Deadline |
| 1 | 7:30 PM General Meeting:
What is new
with the USPS? |
| 6 | 10:30 AM Digital Photography |
| 8 | 7:00 PM Board of Directors
Meeting |

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | RAM Pages
Deadline |
| 5 | 7:30 PM General Meeting:
TBA |
| 6 | 10:30 AM Digital Photography |
| 12 | 7:00 PM Board of Directors
Meeting |