



Scug News

November 2009

Newsletter of the Sandwich Computer Users Group

WWW.SCUG.ORG

Last Month

Last month, we had a PIAB (Program in a Box) from LapWorks. It provided interesting facts about the problems associated with overheated notebooks, information on Ergonomics (what it is and why it's important to you) and much more. Door Prizes were provided by LapWorks.

November Program ~ Working with photos online

This month Jerry Kell will display three items made with photos on the Walmart photo center web site. He will explain how the site works and how he uses it. Debbie Olson will present the photo web site "Shutterfly." This web site will print your pictures and mail them to you or you can pick them up at a Target Store. Shutterfly offers many different options of decorating the pictures, adding text, etc.

We meet at the Federated Church in Sandwich 403 N. Main Street on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm unless noted otherwise. The meeting is a great place to learn about computers and meet new friends. Next meeting is November 19, 2009. Visit our web site at www.scug.org for more info. Membership forms are available at: http://www.scug.org/About_us.htm

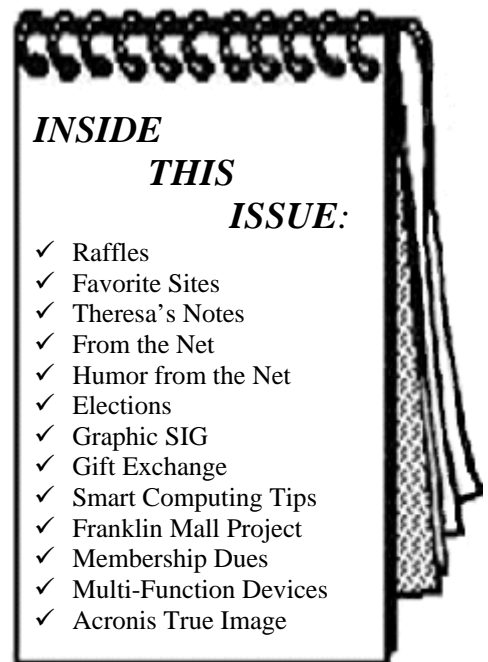
December Program

The December meeting will be our annual SCUG Christmas Party. The party is on our regular meeting night, December 17th. Setup starts at 5pm and we will eat at 6pm. Please plan on coming early or staying late to help setup or tear down. We will provide meat, drinks and table service. Please bring a dish to pass that will feed 8 to 12 people. If you would like to participate in the gift draw please purchase a gift with a value of \$10 with no white elephants. Santa Claus will have something for each membership. You must have your dues up to date to receive this Santa gift and to vote in the elections.

Local Business Celebrates 25th Anniversary



The Office Works in Plano is celebrating 25 years in business this year. *Congratulations to a great local business.*



Hours:
Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.— 6:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.
Sunday Closed

THE OFFICE WORKS

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5 E. Main Street
PO Box 173
Plano, IL 60545

www.the-office-works.com

November Birthdays

11/2 Bob Carpenter
11/6 Tom Smith
11/9 Joyce Dell
11/18 Greg Urech

11/5 Jake Dykstra
11/7 Diane Hawkins
11/14 Conrad Michalowski
11/28 Donna Leonard

December Birthdays

12/1 Allie Mikyska
12/5 Jerry Leonard
12/8 Jonathan Lieser
12/14 Oweta Newhauser
12/26 Sherry Gartner

12/2 Elizabeth Ivins
12/8 Debbi Kell
12/12 Hal Lieser
12/21 Louise Erbrederis
12/28 Arlene Niemann

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Monthly Raffle

Monthly Raffle

This month's raffle prizes are being provided courtesy of Sandy Henne. She has been most generous and I'm sure you will not be disappointed.

Year End Raffle

YOUR YEAR END RAFFLE

What is it and how does it work

When you buy a raffle ticket for the year-end raffle you will receive one ticket for the year-end drawing. This drawing will be held at the annual Christmas party. The payout will be determined by the amount of money collected. The winning ticket will receive 50% of the money collected, the second ticket drawn will receive 25% and the other 25% will be used to further the goals of the club. The raffle is open to members only and you need not be present to win.

The November meeting will be your last opportunity to purchase Thickets for this Year's Year End Raffle.

Special Raffle

Special Raffle

Our special raffle began with the October meeting. The raffle will conclude at the Christmas party. You do not need to be present to win. The tickets will cost one dollar each. Each raffle item will have a paper bag beside it. Purchase a ticket, write your name on the back of the ticket and place the ticket in the bag of the raffle item you want a chance to win.

Jerry Kell

Favorite Sites

The government has a website for kids and it is not only educational but, entertaining as well. The grandkids will love it and think you are totally cool. It is a website that you can feel comfortable about them using a computer.

www.kids.gov

Louise Dieden

Another good website for kids, from our government, is the NASA Kid's Club.

<http://kids.msfc.nasa.gov>

Jerry Grommes

The HP Learning center offers free online classes, available 24/7:

www.hp.com/go/learningcenter

Debbie Olson

Theresa's Notes

Theresa's Notes:

There were 27 members at the meeting and no guests. We had a great program on laptop care. Very informative. The members who won the door prizes, which were donated by Lapworks, were: Bob Dell, Evan Bagg, Art Lyman, Rosaleigh Halstrom, Betty Ivins, and Roberta Dykstra.

Treats for the November meeting will be Lorraine Hacker, kitchen set up is Joan McEarhen, and set up is Tom Smith. Anyone who can come early and help is always appreciated.

Theresa Bagg

From the Net

Prevent Swine Flu - Good Advice

The only portals of entry are the nostrils and mouth/throat. In a global epidemic of this nature, it's almost impossible to avoid coming into contact with H1N1 in spite of all precautions. Contact with H1N1 isn't the real problem, it is proliferation.

While you are still healthy and not showing any symptoms of H1N1 infection, in order to prevent proliferation, aggravation of symptoms and development of secondary infections, some very simple steps, not fully highlighted in most official communications, can be practiced (instead of focusing on how to stock N95 or Tamiflu):

1. Frequent hand-washing (well highlighted in all official communications).
2. "Hands-off-the-face" approach. Resist all temptations to touch any part of face (unless you want to eat, bathe or slap).
3. Gargle twice a day with warm salt water (use Listerine if you don't trust salt)... H1N1 takes 2-3 days after initial infection in the throat/ nasal cavity to proliferate and show characteristic symptoms. Simple gargling prevents proliferation. In a way, gargling with salt water has the same effect on a healthy individual that Tamiflu has on an infected one. Don't underestimate this simple, inexpensive and powerful preventative method.
4. Similar to 3 above, clean your nostrils at least once every day with warm salt water. Not everybody may be good at Jala Neti or Sutra Neti (very good Yoga asanas to clean nasal cavities), but blowing the nose hard once a day and swabbing both nostrils with cotton buds dipped in warm salt water is very effective in bringing down viral population. Neti pots and sinus rinse kits are available at the drug store and relatively inexpensive. under \$15.
5. Boost your natural immunity with foods that are rich in Vitamin C (Amla and other citrus fruits). If you have to supplement with Vitamin C tablets, make sure that it also has Zinc to boost absorption.
6. Drink as much of warm liquids (tea, coffee, etc) as you can. Drinking warm liquids has the same effect as gargling, but in the reverse direction. They wash off proliferating viruses from the throat into the stomach where they cannot survive, proliferate or do any harm.

I suggest you pass this on to your entire e-list. You never know who might pay attention to it - and STAY ALIVE because of it...

Humor from the Net

WHY WOMEN SHOULDN'T TAKE MEN SHOPPING

After I retired, my wife insisted that I accompany her on her trips to Target. Unfortunately, like most men, I found shopping boring and preferred to get in and get out. Equally unfortunate, my wife is like most women - she loves to browse. Yesterday my dear wife received the following letter from the local Target.

Dear Mrs. Samuel,

Over the past six months, your husband has caused quite a commotion in our store. We cannot tolerate this behavior and have been forced to ban both of you from the store. Our complaints against your husband, Mr. Samuel, are listed below and are documented by our video surveillance cameras.

1. **June 15:** Took 24 boxes of condoms and randomly put them in other people's carts when they weren't looking.
2. **July 2:** Set all the alarm clocks in House wares to go off at 5-minute intervals.
3. **July 7:** He made a trail of tomato juice on the floor leading to the women's restroom.
4. **July 19:** Walked up to an employee and told her in an official voice, 'Code 3 in House wares... Get on it right away'. This caused the employee to leave her assigned station and receive a reprimand from her Supervisor that in turn resulted with a union grievance, causing management to lose time and costing the company money...
5. **August 4:** Went to the Service Desk and tried to put a bag of M&Ms on layaway.
6. **August 14:** Moved a 'CAUTION - WET FLOOR' sign to a carpeted area.
7. **August 15:** Set up a tent in the camping department and told the children shoppers he'd invite them in if they would bring pillows and blankets from the bedding department to which twenty children obliged.
8. **August 23:** When a clerk asked if they could help him he began crying and screamed, 'Why can't you people just leave me alone?' EMT's were called.
9. **September 4:** Looked right into the security camera and used it as a mirror while he picked his nose.
10. **September 10:** While handling guns in the hunting department, he asked the clerk where the antidepressants were.

11. **October 3:** Darted around the store suspiciously while loudly humming the 'Mission Impossible' theme.
12. **October 6:** In the auto department, he practiced his 'Madonna look' by using different sizes of funnels.
13. **October 18:** Hid in a clothing rack and when people browsed through, yelled 'PICK ME! PICK ME!'
14. **October 21:** When an announcement came over the loud speaker, he assumed a fetal position and screamed 'OH NO! IT'S THOSE VOICES AGAIN!' And last, but not least:
15. **October 23:** Went into a fitting room, shut the door, waited awhile, then yelled very loudly, 'Hey! There's no toilet paper in here.' One of the clerks passed out.

If you don't send this to 12 of your dearest friends, your property taxes will go up, your stocks will go down, and your middle will spread. (How's that for a curse!?) What? It's already come true? Then send it anyway--you've got nothin' to lose!

Elections

As the Election committee chairman I am asking that the membership at large be my committee and assist me in putting together a slate of officers for our December Election. Officers shall assume duties and serve a two-year term starting January 1 of even-numbered years.

In order to hold an office or to vote in the December one has to be a *Member in Good Standing* so if you are not up to date on your dues, now would be a good time to do so. Also we expect officers have a good meeting attendance record.

Please consider running (or nominating someone) for an office and help guide SCUG into the future. Elected positions are as follows:

- President**
- 1st Vice President**
- 2nd Vice President**
- Secretary**
- Treasurer**
- Board Member at Large**
- Sergeant at Arms**

Their Duties as listed in our Constitution are:

The President

shall be the administrative head of the organization; shall preside at all meetings; shall enforce the laws and regulations relating to the administration of the organization; shall in the absence of the Secretary, appoint an acting Secretary; shall in the absence of the Treasurer, sign checks as deemed necessary; shall appoint other committees as deemed necessary; shall call meetings of the Board as needed.

The First Vice-President

shall serve as an assistant administrative officer serving the needs of all Computer users, subject to the duties assigned by the President; shall in the absence of the President, have all the powers of the President; shall in the vacancy in the Presidency, serve as President to fill the remainder of the term.

The Second Vice-President

shall serve as an assistant administrative officer serving the needs of all Computer users, subject to the duties assigned by the President.

The Secretary

shall record the minutes of all meetings of the organization and the Board, and distribute them to the Board of Directors; shall handle such correspondence of the organization as requested by the President; shall maintain the files of the organization.

The Treasurer

shall receive all monies due the organization; shall make all disbursements by check; shall report the condition of the treasury at each meeting of the Board; shall assist the officers of the organization in the preparation of an annual budget and the Internal Revenue Service Report.

Board Member at Large

shall be the liaison between the board and the membership.

Sergeant at Arms

shall be responsible for maintaining order at the general meetings.

Jerry Grommes
Election Chairman

Graphics SIG

October Graphics SIG

There were 8 people attending the last SIG and all had a variety of questions which Jerry answered to everyone's satisfaction.

The variety of questions were concerning attaching pictures to email; moving docs from folder to folder; which would be better way of marketing art work, a catalog, web site or CD; and many more topics.

We watched a video produced by Roberta, which included pictures and video footage, showing the bringing home a car that they owned years ago that they recently located and purchased out in California. Good job!

Laura Caupert

Gift Exchange

Christmas Party Gift Exchange

Our gift exchange played at the Christmas Party will be the same as last year. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift with a value of around \$10. Please no gag gifts.

As your name is drawn you will choose a gift from the table but not open it. The next name drawn can take your unopened gift or take a new gift from the table. At the end of the game we will open the gifts. At that time anyone can exchange their gift with anyone else wanting to trade gifts.

Jerry Kell

Smart Computing Tips



Smart Computing Tips

As a member of the Smart Computing User Group Program, you are welcome to reprint these tips in your user group's newsletter.

- **Display Issues:** If the images on your computer screen are fluctuating (one second they're there, and the next they're not), check your connections. If the connection between your PC and your monitor isn't perfect, the data may have difficulty making its way from the computer to the screen. Take a look at the cable running between the PC and the monitor. Is it bent or crimped? Are the pins not straight? Are the connectors loose? If you answer yes to any of these questions, you may need to replace or secure the cable.
- **Dry Out That Cell Phone:** Cell phones are tougher than they look. Although most mobile phone manufacturers don't claim that their phones are water-resistant, many phones can undergo a quick dunk. "The key is to minimize the time the phone is wet and the time the battery is on the phone while it is wet," says John Wernecke, spokesperson for Motorola. "Remove the battery. Give it time to dry before replacing the battery. Some have reported that wrapping the phone in a thick towel to absorb liquid works very well."

In our own experience, we've found that phones often need as much as 48 hours to completely dry. Once you've dried and then reassembled the phone, power it on and place a test call to make sure the phone works properly. If your phone displays problems (or doesn't power on at all), it's probably time to find a new phone.



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- **Sunglasses For Your Camera:** If you've ever tried to take pictures on a sunny day and noticed bright reflections, it might be helpful to get your camera a pair of sunglasses. In a pinch, you can use average polarizing sunglasses held over a camera's lens to help reduce glare. A better option, however, is to use a polarizing filter that works the same way, but that is better suited to your camera. Regardless, you're sure to take better pictures by reducing glare.

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Franklin Mall Project

Franklin Mall Food Boxes

If you would like to contribute to the Franklin Mall project bring a non perishable food contribution to the November Meeting.

Each year the Sandwich Lions Club distributes approximately 8000 pounds of non perishable food, plus gift certificates to purchase additional items at a local grocery store to needy families! They reach between 100 and 150 families and this is a true community event with community members working beside Lions at each step in this process. Food donations are collected at schools, churches, and local businesses. Scouts, students, senior citizens, and everyone in between help the Lions pack the food into boxes, which are usually delivered the Saturday before Christmas.

This project was started many years ago by long time Sandwich resident Franklin Mall. The Sandwich Lions Club has continued the practice after his death. Sandwich Lions accept cash donations and groceries during December to support this project. Cash contributions may be mailed to:

Sandwich Lions Club
P. O. Box 32
Sandwich, IL 60548

Please specify contribution is for Franklin Mall project.

Membership dues

Membership dues

SCUG (Sandwich Computer Users Group, originally Sandwich Commodore Users Group) dues have never been increased since our inception in 1985. Not many organizations can boast being able to contain costs despite inflation. During this past year many of our members have chosen to receive their News Letters online via an email link and this has helped offset our operating expenses somewhat this year.

As we are a Non-Profit organization, the Board of Directors is recommending reducing membership dues for those that renew (*and choose to receive the News Letter online*) to \$17.00, for those renewing (*and requesting a mailed hardcopy*) dues will remain at \$20.00. This change to our dues will require a majority vote of current members present at the November 2009 meeting. If approved by the membership, the new rate will take effect with renewals starting January 1, 2010.

Multi-Function Devices

The Green Credentials of Multi-Functional Devices

By Gino Hitshopi

The term multi functional devices encompasses office items such as copiers, printer, faxes and scanners, especially when one of more of these is combined together in one device. Some multi functional devices combine all of these functions in one.

There are many reasons for choosing such a device. The main reason is usually the amount of space that will be saved. Imagine how much space a traditional photocopier, fax machine, printer and scanner all take up if located individually around a room. For a modern-day office, or indeed for a home environment, this kind of layout is not particularly practical, and doesn't look attractive.

Most modern offices choose to use multifunctional printers which copy, print and scan. Another reason companies choose to use such devices is that it boosts their green credentials.

A device which encompasses many functions can reduce a company's impact on the environment because it reduces the amount of electricity used to perform functions. Think about it - four devices dotted around a room or even a building will use up to 50 per cent more electricity than multi functional devices will.

As the public consciousness gradually shifts to becoming more environmentally aware, one of the biggest consumer

trends of recent years has been for 'green' products and services. Research shows that many customers are willing to pay slightly more money for a product or service that has good green credentials, and so by stating to customers that you are making a conscious effort to cut down on your carbon emissions and electricity consumption, you are showing to them that you care about the environment, and are likely to gain business over a company which disregards such concerns.

Perhaps you are looking to buy a device for your home, but don't know where to start. There are many reputable retailers of multi functional devices, both on and off line. A good company will take time to talk through your options with you, taking into account your needs and your budget.

Be wary of any salesperson who gives you the hard sell and walk away if you feel uncomfortable or pressured. A good device will last you for years if you look after it, and so you don't want to end up with something that isn't quite right for you. Take time to shop around and conduct some research of your own on the internet, taking time to read the reviews of devices left on sites from people that have bought them.

Gino Hitshopi is an expert on multi functional devices. For more information visit <http://www.bts-ltd.co.uk/>

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Acronis True Image

Announcing Acronis True Image Home 2010

By Gene Barlow

User Group Relations

Copyrighted October 2009

Acronis recently announced a significant new release of their top rated backup utility, **Acronis True Image Home 2010**. This new release adds many practical new features to a product already packed with excellent function. The product may be ordered now on our secure web site at www.ugr.com/TrueImage.html for only \$29 (as a download) or \$29 plus shipping (on a CD).

Here are a few of the new features included:

- **Support for Microsoft® Windows 7** – Thoroughly tested to run on the new Windows 7 operating system. It also delivers more comprehensive functionality over Microsoft Windows 7 backup capabilities. So, if you are planning a move to Windows 7 in the future, you need to backup first with True Image 2010.
- **Acronis Nonstop Backup** – Near-CDP (Continuous Data Protection) is now available to Acronis True Image Home users. You will be able to revert your documents to previous states in time. This may come in handy when you

accidentally deleted an important document or made some corrections that turned out to be wrong and you need to return the document to the state in which it was, for example, two weeks ago. When you need to recover a file, a Windows Explorer-like browser with integrated search makes searching for a file you need to recover very easy. But Acronis Nonstop Backup is much more than a versioning tool. It also provides for recovering your system if you ever need that.

- **Online backup** – you can make your critically important data much more secure by storing it off-site. Because files are stored on a remote storage, they are protected even if your computer gets stolen or your house burns down. So the risk of data loss as a result of fire, theft, or other natural disasters is practically eliminated. And you can safely recover any corrupted, lost or deleted files on your computer. Integrating online backup into Acronis True Image Home provides a single solution for all your data backup needs.
- **Powerful scheduler** – The scheduler became more powerful and flexible. We expanded the set of already existing scheduling options. The new scheduler allows you to specify the date when a scheduled task should run for the first time. While scheduling a monthly task, you can use a month calendar for specifying the date (e.g. 1st day of the month) or dates for running the task (e.g. on 10th, 20th, Last day of the month). If you do not need to run a scheduled task for some time, but intend to use it again in the future, you can disable the task for the time being and then re-enable it when required. So it is not necessary to recreate the task from scratch. You can clone a scheduled task and then introduce some minor changes into the duplicate. This may be useful when creating several similar tasks. In combination with a selected backup method and automatic consolidation rules, the scheduler allows implementing various backup strategies.
- **Selective validation** – Earlier versions of Acronis True Image Home could validate only a whole backup archive. Sometimes this may be inconvenient. Suppose, you have a full backup archive with a size of 20GB and a longish chain of differential backups having sizes of several gigabytes each and amounting to 100GB. In this case Acronis True Image Home validated the whole 120GB archive and this could take quite a long time. Now the program will validate just a single selected differential backup and the full one.
- **VHD format support** – Virtual Hard Disk (VHD) is a file format containing the complete contents and structure representing a hard disk drive. Furthermore, Windows Backup utility included into Windows Vista (except Home editions) and Windows 7 operating systems now uses this format for backing up an image of the system hard drive when users select the "Complete PC Backup" option. Acronis True Image Home can convert vhd files into tib

files and vice versa, recover operating system from vhd files, and even boot from vhd images of Windows 7.

- **Booting from tib images containing Windows 7** – Users of the Windows 7 Enterprise and Windows 7 Ultimate can boot from a tib image containing a backup of their system partition. This will allow testing the bootability of the backed up system without actual recovery. If the operating system boots from the tib file, then it will definitely boot after recovery from that tib file.
- **Try & Decide New features** -- Try & Decide now can protect your system not only to Acronis Secure Zone, but to the protected volume itself, or any other volume. Now users can protect not only a single system partition during Try & Decide session, but as many volumes as needed. This is very handy when the applications being installed make changes on two volumes and in many other cases.

Acronis True Image Home 2010 is available from us for only \$29 (as a download) or \$29 plus shipping (on a CD) and you get a full new license of the product and not an upgrade license. If you order the product on a CD, you also get our Perfect Backup Approach tutorial to help you understand the best way to do backups. There is also a step by step *Starter Guide* for installing and using the product for the first few times. The full Acronis *User Guide* is also on the CD for your use. In addition, I try to help my customers when they have questions about True Image. You also have the normal (first 30-days free) technical support through Acronis to assist you. You can order your copy of *Acronis True Image Home 2010* from us at:

www.ugr.com/TrueImage.html.

Make sure you use the order code of **UGTIH2010** when placing your order.

If you are a current user of *Acronis True Image*, then you will want to get this new release and put all of the new features to work for you. If you have not started a backup plan for your computer, then this is the best product to accomplish this important task on your computer. In either case, place your order today so that you can enjoy this new product soon. If you have any questions about this article or *Acronis True Image Home 2010*, please send them to support@ugr.com. I look forward to helping you if I can.

Gene Barlow

User Group Relations

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