



Orange County IBM PC
Users' Group

april 2007

nibbles & bits

award winning monthly newsletter for orcopug members

april program

vol. 25 no. 4

adobe lightroom



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APRIL 10 PRESENTER
MIKE LYONS, PRESIDENT

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hectic, yet rewarding, effort

This month, I'm not prepared to write my column. It startled me to discover that this issue was due in a couple of days and nothing was done yet.

If you don't know me, I'd say among other personality traits, I'm a methodical, organized person. Since 1998, the newsletter for me has been an ongoing project. I'm always working on an issue. Some days, I work just for an hour or so. Other days, like the past two, I sit hunched over the keyboard and flip through email and files searching for the items that I've received or flagged to share with you. You will see most of my findings in the following pages.

Maybe I just had too many things going on this month. Removing and replanting all the flowers that died during the cold weather was a time-consuming project for me and for my husband.

But I wouldn't trade it to someone else to do. I love digging in the dirt and enjoy the beauty that springs up around me.

Another distraction for me is Rocky, our new puppy (see picture page 4). On Thursday, he had surgery to enlarge his nostrils. (His pug nose made breathing difficult at times.) The vet also inserted a microchip in his neck so if Rocky ever gets lost, a call to the national registry (number is on his tag), will reveal us as the owners. Finally, Rocky was neutered — all in one operation. When he woke up hurting in so many places, I bet he was a little bewildered, because he had felt fine before he went to sleep!

However, (the litany continues), our granddaughters, nine and ten, are staying with us and their father, for a week during their Spring Break. The older girl has reached an age where childhood toys and games are not very interesting and she is "bored" much of the time.

Then today, our Iowa son-in-law



and his 14-year old daughter, dropped in to visit before racing back to purchase a truck bed in Arizona and returning to Iowa.

Finally, I just found out through a succession of error messages and strange happenings that the BIOS on the motherboards in both my new work and home computers are not totally compliant with the quadcore processors that are in them.

So, I was extremely lucky to get my organization's four-color commercially-printed newsletter completed last week. And, hopefully, I'll be just as lucky with this issue of Nibbles & Bits.

With all the effort on the newsletter, which I enjoy 98% of the time, I also am very pleased to receive your notes about it.

Ted Wirtz wrote, "My boss commented yesterday that what we needed was "one of those big spin wheels" to help us decide where to go to lunch. I sent him the link you had put in the newsletter. When he pulled it up he was ecstatic. "This is perfect," he said, "Where did you get it?" I told him it was in our newsletter.

"Unfortunately, the first spin came up as "Skip lunch" and the next two spins ended on "Denny's". Oh well, nothing in the world is perfect."

Another member wrote to say, "I wanted to tell you how great "Nibbles & Bits" (is). I read the whole thing every month. THANKS! There is something I want to keep in every one, so I have quite a collection. I went through a pile a few months ago and copied to a file the things I wanted to keep. That reduced my pile somewhat."

These remarks warm my heart and make me feel like I've just won an Oscar!

I'll be glad when I've completed this issue tonight, so tomorrow I can start working on the May issue and I won't be caught short on time again!



LINDA GONSE
EDITOR/WEBMASTER
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feedback

FRANK BOLLINGER ORCOPUG MEMBER

The Ink Dot Lady (at the March meeting) made some points that I've not heard elsewhere. I actually find it astounding that HP, Canon, and Epson all build "features" into their ink jet printers and/or cartridges that disable them when they reach a certain condition. Who would expect a printer to refuse to print after some predetermined number of pages or after a cartridge reaches a certain age? Who would expect a printer to stop working after reaching the end of its "service life?" Perhaps I don't print high enough volumes to have seen these situations, but I'd be pretty annoyed if a device I'd paid for quit working for one of these reasons.

I think of this as a bit different from product activation. With the printers and ink cartridges, it seems that something that was acquired honestly may disable itself while still otherwise usable.

TED WIRTZ ORCOPUG MEMBER

Concerning Firefox, Spy Sweeper and Zango: As you know, when I updated Firefox to 2.0.0.1, Spy Sweeper quarantined one of the install files (System.dll), claiming it contained Zango. Even though the file was quarantined and not installed,

Firefox seemed to behave normally. Loss of that file didn't seem to break it.

Fast forward a few weeks – Firefox has a new update, version 2.0.0.2. Spy Sweeper has gotten several signature updates as well.

I downloaded and installed the new Firefox. This time, no objections from Spy Sweeper, nothing quarantined. This time it appears Firefox did not attempt to install a System.dll, or if it did, it installed a standard Microsoft file. Two different versions of this file are already installed on my computer. C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v1.1.4322\System.dll and C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v2.0.50727\System.dll. Both are certified Microsoft files, and appear to have been installed through the normal Windows update process.

So what happened to Zango? I guess I'll never know for sure. In any event, Spy sweeper is now happy with Firefox. I emptied the quarantine file. Time to forget it and move on.

CARL WESTBERG ORCOPUG MEMBER

Thanks for the donation of Clip Art & More. I had managed to find the "Gmail" item on the ORCOPUG website and remembered it when Mike called my name. I have tried some others when I was doing flyers, etc. for one group or another. It will be interesting to see what this has to offer.

LOTHAR LOEHR ORCOPUG MEMBER

Tom Mueller from our group has a new HP MX 705 17" flat screen CRT for sale. Normal price is \$130 and he wants \$50. Can we put an ad in our newspaper and see if somebody needs such a monitor? Tom's phone is 714/526-1088.

MIKE LYONS ORCOPUG PRESIDENT

Adobe has recently changed their update policy that makes it less customer friendly.

"A subtle change to Adobe's upgrade policy for Photoshop CS3 won't affect most of us. But, if you're working on an old version of Photoshop (6.0 or lower) you can save money getting to CS3 if you move quickly.

"Previously, anyone with any registered version of Photoshop (even Photoshop 2.0, etc.) could upgrade to the latest version by just paying the regular upgrade price. But as of Photoshop CS3, you'll only be able to upgrade at the standard upgrade price, if you have Photoshop 7, CS, or CS2.

"For users of Photoshop 6.0 or earlier; upgrade to Photoshop CS2 now (around \$169), then buy the upgrade to CS3 at the regular upgrade price – this literally saves you hundreds of dollars over buying the full version of CS3."

your favorite shot

Disaster Area — 2006

Believe it or not, no one was killed in this plane crash. The photo was taken from a tram at Universal Studios!

Photo by Dan Gonse,
ORCOPUG



Playmates — 2007

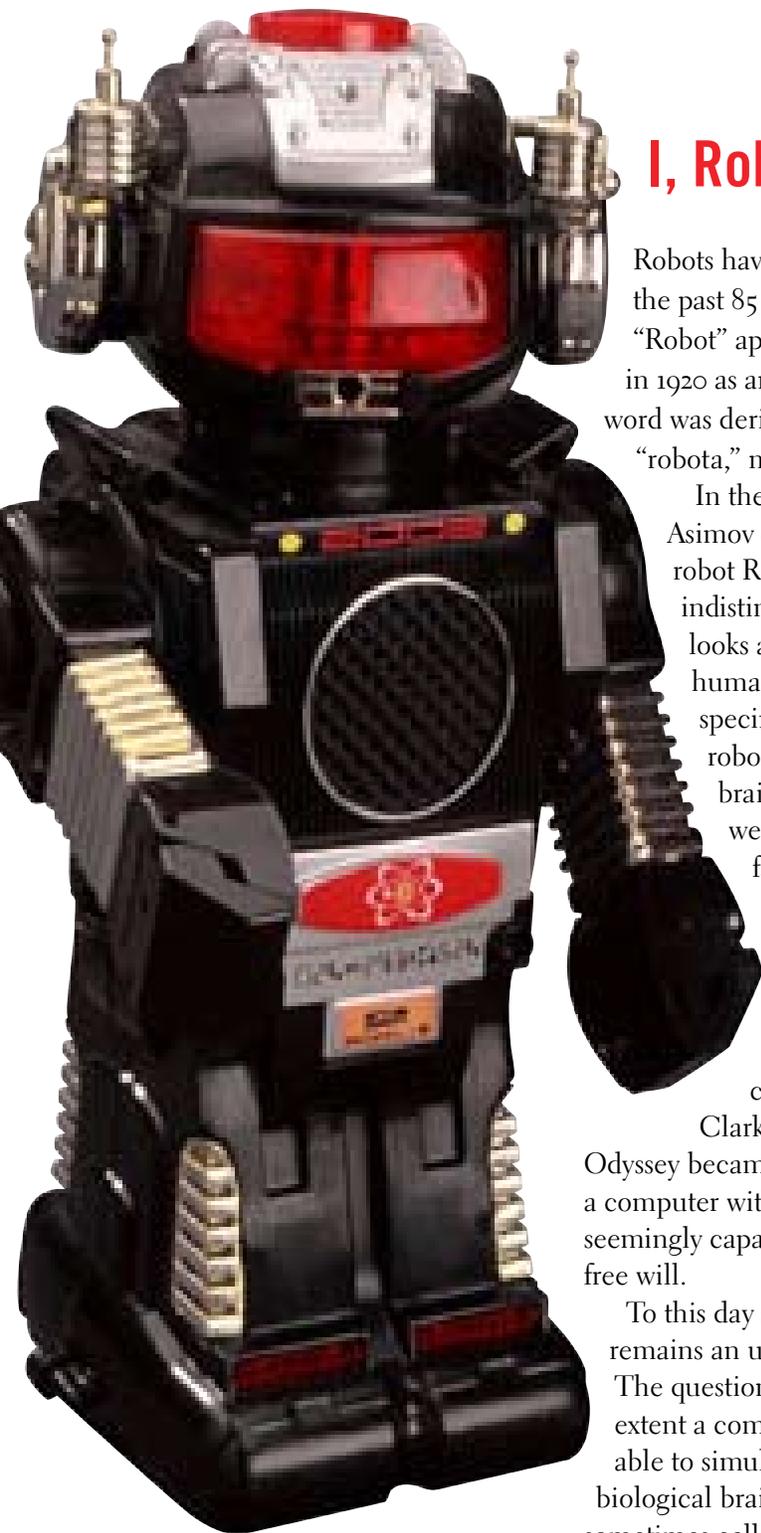
Buddy, is our two-year-old Shih Tzu, and Rocky is his young protege! While Buddy rests, Rocky continues to play with the fringe on the lap throw.

Photo by Dan Gonse,
ORCOPUG

Everybody has a photo that they like a lot. Won't you please send us your favorite photo for our next "Your Favorite Shot" page? Email your photo as a low resolution 3" x 4" or 4" x 3" JPG to editor@orcopug.org. Please provide a short description of the photo or photo trick that you used to get it. Photo subjects can be whatever you choose.

the new, the best, and the worst

by Pim Borman, SW Indiana PC Users Group, Inc.



I, Robot?

Robots have come a long way in the past 85 years or so. The first “Robot” appeared in a Capek play in 1920 as an artificial worker. The word was derived from the Czech “robota,” meaning labor.

In the 1940s and ‘50s Asimov created the intelligent robot R. Daneel Olivaw, indistinguishable in looks and behavior from humans. Asimov did not specifically equip his robots with computer brains since computers were still thought of as fancy calculators and Artificial Intelligence had not yet been defined. That happened during the 60s, and the computer HAL 9000 in Clarke/Kubrick’s 2001 Space Odyssey became a famous example of a computer with an intelligent brain, seemingly capable of using its own free will.

To this day artificial intelligence remains an unresolved problem. The question remains to what extent a computer will ever be able to simulate the workings of a biological brain. Although they are sometimes called electronic brains,

computers have nothing in common with biological brains. Electronic computers are binary digital, in that the basic elements can only be “on” or “off.” A biological brain is analog and its basic elements (synapses) can assume a continuous range of values. The materials of construction are totally different. The complexity of the brain is orders of magnitude greater than that of even the most advanced computer. And the most important difference lies in the way information is processed.

Electronic computers are literal-minded idiots. They need a program that tells them step-by-step how to do a task, and they’ll follow their instructions in sequential order. With a given input there is just one possible result (although not always what’s expected!). A robot with such a brain is totally predictable – no whimsy, no learning from experience. It never gets bored either.

On the other hand, the 100 billion or so connections in the human brain, called synapses, can assume many states, from off to fully on. They are also very highly interconnected, with some of them connected to as many as 10,000 others, and the state of each synapse depends on the states of the synapses it is connected to. In other words, the brain operates in an extremely parallel fashion. Every thought and every observation affects millions of the synapses in a process

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we know as learning from experience.

The structure of the brain makes it a relative slowpoke in performing the straightforward serial operations that electronic computers excel in. But because it learns from experience the brain excels in performing very complex tasks that are almost impossible to achieve with electronic computers. I can locate my wife in the back of a crowded store from a glimpse of the back of her head. I recognize the sender of a letter from his handwriting. I know the difference between happy and sad, love and hate, loyalty and treachery. Try that on your laptop. They are tasks I know how to do without knowing how to provide step-by-step computer instructions.

The mode of operation of the brain has been emulated with electronic computers implementing so-called neural networks. The way synapses interact and modify each other's states has been simulated in software modules, called neurons, combined in highly parallel networks. Even with a very limited number of neurons these systems achieve startling results in performing tasks that are almost impossible to achieve with traditional programming.

Neural networks are used in applications such as vehicle control, handwriting recognition, medical diagnosis, chess games, facial identification, and email spam filtering, amongst many others. Significantly, they are not programmed in the traditional way but are trained by example and experience, trial and error, similar to the way living beings learn. Values of the neurons resulting in correct answers are increased and values leading to incorrect answers are decreased. It is frustrating that there is no way of telling how and why the neural networks perform as well as

they do, even when the number of neurons is fairly small.

It is not inconceivable that someday someone will implement the hardware equivalent of biological synapses connected in a 3-dimensional network to simulate a biological brain. What all could we expect of a robot with such a brain? Given visual, auditory, and tactile sensors, it would almost certainly recognize its operators. But would it appreciate a good joke? Without the powerful stimulants of sex, greed, and ambition, what would motivate it, if anything? We might expect it to be superior at logical reasoning, but could it have artistic creativity? A possible Einstein, but never a Beethoven?

Intriguingly, would it have a will of its own to distinguish it from the robots with a serial electronic brain? It is difficult to see how this could be. Free will assumes that there is a choice between alternatives, a fork in the road. Who or what is going to make the decision which road to take? If the brain's hardware determines which road is preferable, the outcome is predetermined and there is no free will involved. If the choice is made randomly the outcome is not predetermined, but we can't call that the action of a "conscious" free will. Scientists, philosophers and theologians have not yet agreed on what this consciousness is, or if it is a figment of our imagination.

Humans feel certain that they can do things "out of their own free will," even in the face of the compulsive behavior of addicts, repeat criminals

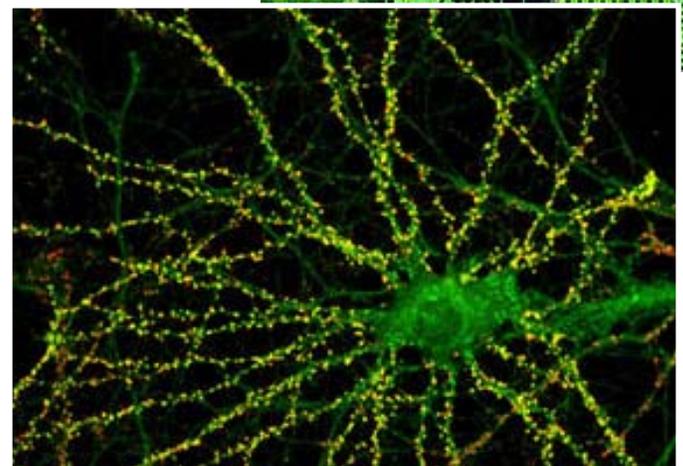
and persistent nail biters. We make some important decisions over the years that affect us the rest of our lives. Choices of schooling, marriage, career, emigration for some of us. What is it in our brains that set us on the chosen courses? If our brains did not determine the outcome based on the states of its synapses, what was it that chose which road to follow? Maybe after all, we too "ain't nothing but robots?"

Think about this next time you are tossing and turning in the dark. You'll be asleep in less than no time!

(Inspired by articles about the brain in TIME magazine of 1/29/07)

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Circuit board vs synapses





free and shareware utilities from camtech

by Ira Wilsker

Most of us like bargains and possibly free software. Most of us have a need for or utilize utility software to ease our computer activities and improve performance. There are many sources of freeware and shareware, and many authors of such software post their creations on their own websites. For those not familiar with the term “shareware”, it is software that is intended to be shared with other computer users, but is not totally free; users are typically honor bound to pay the license fee if they try it, like it, and continue to use it. One such author of dozens of free and shareware utilities

is Camtech at camtech2000.net.

Camtech has categorized its software utilities in several easy to comprehend categories including desktop, internet, utilities, system, logos, screen, games services, and stationary. Some of the shareware software listed is authored by people other than Camtech, but many of the titles are original to Camtech.

Many of us like to create catchy web pages, Power Points, and other attractive projects to which we would like to add color and animations. Camtech offers free download of animated gifs of a variety of fireworks images. Likewise many of us that use Microsoft’s Internet Explorer get bored with the stylized “e” logo on the top right corner of Internet

Explorer, or the proprietary logo placed there by our internet service provider, and would like to replace it with a different icon. Camtech offers a shareware utility explicitly for that purpose, “IE Logos”, which contains 24 replacement logos for Internet Explorer. IE Logos will work on most computers with Windows versions from 95 to XP. A registered version of IE Logos can be purchased for \$15.

Many of us have noticed how bland our desktops are, as well as the blank stationary used by Outlook and Outlook Express email programs. For those who want to jazz up the appearance of their emails and desktops with some colorful and

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humorous stationary and wallpaper are available. Camtech offers a variety of free stationary and desktop products at camtech2000.net/Pages/FlyingPigsDL.html. The classic retort “when pigs fly” can be applied to both Outlook Express emails as well as boring desktops by implementing the flying pigs selection which will display a porcine figure traversing the email or desktop, complete with optional helicopter sounds. Star Trek fans will appreciate the “Space Odyssey” stationary which displays an email message which overlays an animated fleet of phaser firing starships. Other animated choices for email stationary includes a Thanksgiving themed “Turkey Trot,” a “Smokey Ghost,” and a “Bart Moonwalks” with an animated knockoff of Bart Simpson moonwalking across the top margin of the email.

We frequently multitask while on the computer often answering phones or engaging in conversations while our computers are turned on. A cute program “**CT Stickies**” allows the user to post virtual “sticky notes” as reminders on our monitor screens. These notes can be edited, saved, deleted, or used as needed. If the user finds CT Stickies useful, the program can be registered for \$20.

As one who tries to practice good internet security, I use different passwords on many of the websites that I visit. Many programs will store passwords, sometimes only displaying them as a string of asterisks or stars. Camtech offers an easy to use and free “**Password Reveal**” utility which can quickly display the actual password hidden behind the asterisks. The program is loaded and a cross-hair cursor is dragged over the asterisks revealing the hidden password. A more sophisticated version, Password Reveal Pro, also works on most web pages displayed with Internet Explorer

5 or later, and can be registered for \$20. Both versions will work on Windows 95 through XP.

Sometimes I can not remember the passwords that I need for the many protected sites that I visit. Camtech offers a shareware password manager “**Password Vault**” (\$20 registration fee) that can track websites, usernames, and site passwords in a secured environment. The passwords and usernames are stored encrypted, and can not be read by other programs, providing another level of safety.

Casual investors may like Camtech’s “**Multi Stock Browser**” which can monitor an unlimited number of stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. Financial information can be displayed in tabular form or graphed in any of four formats. Quotes and graphs are apparently obtained from Yahoo. A symbol lookup feature allows the user to quickly locate the symbol for any listed investment. A fully functional free demo version can be downloaded, or a fully registered version, with free updates for life, can be downloaded for only \$15. As with almost all other Camtech products, Multi Stock Browser will work on all versions of Windows from 95 to XP.

One factor that contributes to slow or poor computer performance is having too many programs load when the computer boots or starts up. Many

spyware and other malware programs may be loaded in the startup process, and may be neutralized by preventing them from starting. The startup process can be manually managed on most versions of Windows by clicking on START / RUN and then typing “msconfig”. For those who want to automate the process, Camtech offers its “**Ultimate Startup Manager**” which will search for items that load at boot from the seven different places that such programs may hide. For safety reasons, this utility automatically backs up the startup listing before any changes are made making it quick and easy to restore any changed settings. This shareware program can be registered for \$20.

Many of us receive emails that have been countless forwarded by others with a series of “>>>>” symbols before each line making reading and subsequent forwarding difficult. It is also poor netiquette to forward email with all of those extraneous symbols cluttering the screen. Fortunately Camtech comes to the rescue again with its free “**StripEm**” program that cleans emails and other text files of useless characters.

Camtech produces and distributes dozens of cute and useful programs, many of which are free to the user. Most computer users will likely find something interesting on the Camtech site.

where to find programs mentioned here

<http://camtech2000.net>

<http://camtech2000.net/Pages/FlyingPigsDL.html>

http://camtech2000.net/Pages/Password_Reveal.html

<http://camtech2000.net/Pages/PassVault.html>

<http://camtech2000.net/Pages/MultiStock.html>

<http://camtech2000.net/Pages/Downloads.html>

http://camtech2000.net/Pages/Ultimate_Startup_Manager.html

<http://camtech2000.net/Pages/StripEm.html>

march keyword explained

gmail

known as Google Mail in Germany and the United Kingdom, is a free webmail and POP3 e-mail service provided by Google. It was released on April 1, 2004 as a by-invitation beta, and was opened to the public in mid-February, 2007. Gmail offers over 2.8 GB of file storage, a search-oriented interface and a unique 'conversation view'.



The service is notable for providing over 2.8 gigabytes (as of February 2007) of e-mail storage space. Google has said that it will keep increasing space by the second as long as they have enough space on their servers. Google is increasing the inbox capacity by 4.5 bytes per second and if the present growth rate continues unchanged, storage capacity will reach 3 gigabytes by the middle of 2008. Some have also used Google's email storage as an alternative hard drive.

A year after Gmail was announced, Rich Text Formatting was introduced, which allows the font size, color and text-alignment to be customized, as well as the embedding of bullet points and numbered lists. Functions for adding HTML code, tables, images and smilies are also included.

Autosave is another feature in Gmail — a system for avoiding loss of data in case of a browser crash or other error. When composing an e-mail, a draft copy of the message and any attachments are saved automatically — approximately once a minute — but saving times vary depending on the size of the message.

By default, Gmail uses an unencrypted connection to retrieve user data, encrypting only the connection used for the login page. However, by changing the URL from <http://mail.google.com/mail/> to <https://mail.google.com/mail/>, Gmail will use a secure connection, reducing the risk of a third-party eavesdropping on users' information, such as emails and contacts, which are transmitted in plain text as JavaScript data in the page source code.

Although Transport Layer Security, or TLS, is used when you send email via an email client such as Mozilla Thunderbird, it is not used when the email is sent from the Gmail servers to the destination domain's mail exchangers, so at some stage your email message will still be transmitted in plain text.

Gmail offers a spam filtering system. Messages marked as spam are automatically deleted after 30 days.

All incoming and outgoing e-mails are automatically scanned for viruses in e-mail attachments. If a virus is found on an attachment the reader is trying to open, Gmail tries to remove the virus and open the newly-cleaned attachment. Gmail also scans all outgoing attachments, and prevents the message being sent if a virus is found. Executable files are automatically blocked by the anti-virus system.



telcom & internet woes

by Carl Westberg

If SBC, who had taken over PacBell owned and maintained the lines and other equipment, had equivalent service to Worldnet, the earlier ATT service, they might possibly have newer or better maintained equipment to support the Yahoo service they were pushing and had special promotionals on.

I'm sending this from SBCGlobal.net, the service I have been trying to move to for 4 months. When Winnie was in Germany caring for her grandchildren while her son was in Bagdad and her daughter-in-law was in a hospital the DSL service that I had been using went from bad to worse. With her schedule and the time difference it was by far the best way for us to communicate. Although there were some people in the area who were "over the top" helpful, she needed some word and support from home.

I did all the usual things, reset the modem, power down both it and the computer, wait and power both up again. Inasmuch as this did not improve the operation and the service continued to run slower than previously and go down for hours at a time, I called ATT customer service as I had more than once before.

Service was not always terrific, usually being poor on Friday afternoons and evenings, but usually with some persistence in pursuing Customer Service the problem got fixed. When I had gotten to a co-operative technician in the US they would do a "refresh" and the system would operate fine thereafter.

This time was different. I got a gal with PMS and she angrily said that I was too far away from the switch and she was cutting my allowed transmission to about 25% of what I was paying for and had been running at for the last six months. I have not moved, how could I be too far when I was OK before and approved for 1.5 service? I go past the PacBell building at Rose and Yorba Linda at least weekly and it is still in the same place that it was when I moved here.

After that I decided that I would try joining them instead of fighting them.

If SBC, who had taken over PacBell owned and maintained the lines and other equipment, had equivalent service to Worldnet, the earlier ATT service, they might possibly have newer or better maintained equipment to support the Yahoo service they were pushing and had special promotionals on.

Prior to obtaining DSL I had done a fair amount of reading on it and even bought a book at Fry's that rated the available services.

The service that I obtained was the best rated service in this area at that time. That time was also before SBC bought ATT. As far as cost was concerned, cable was not an option. We get good TV reception without

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and I don't need 100 channels of trash and consequently did not want to pay for TV in order to get broadband.

I signed up with SBC for their package of telephone and DSL service to replace Worldnet.att.

One of the things they offered was a service called TrueSwitch which would do all sorts of things, including copy your stored webmail from service to service. Both of the services are ATT, that should be "no sweat" — right?

Wrong!

In order to enable Winnie to continue to have access even after she got home and while I got familiar with SBC Yahoo, I just paid for both. Then I tried to use TrueSwitch to perform the tasks it purported to do. Over a period of weeks I tried three times without much success.

I contacted SBCGlobal Customer Service and spoke with a polite fellow on the other side of the world. He told

me that I should call another number which was True Switch. I then talked to another polite fellow with a similar accent who thought he could get it fixed, gave me a case number and said he would be back in contact in a couple of days.

Neither happened, so I called again and got another fellow with a similar accent and equally polite who reviewed the case and said that he would prioritize it to engineers and it should be done in a couple of days.

Well, it wasn't, so I called again. He said it should be done soon.

The copying was accomplished the next day. I am currently checking to determine if the stored emails that I expected to be copied actually were. There are omissions for no reason that I can see. I had occasion to go to TrueSwitch for reference and noted that it now reads ATT TrueSwitch. All in the family.

In the last year I had gotten apprehensive any time I saw telephone linemen either on the pole or in the hole, because my DSL service was sure to have a bad time for hours if not days.

For instance, yesterday they were on poles

about a mile north of here and my phone has had static and my DSL slow. However, neither has gone down. Hooray!

By the way, before I did the SBC switch, I talked a tech into testing my line and yes, it qualifies for 1.5.

I use webmail because that way rather than email (Outlook or like software) I don't have to store email on my hard drive. Having lost five (hard drives) in about a year, I have more confidence in the storage capabilities of the commercial folk than in the hard drives in a PC.

All of the DSL feeds go into a multiplexer, called a DSLAM. If you try to push too much down the little bright wire, something is going to give.

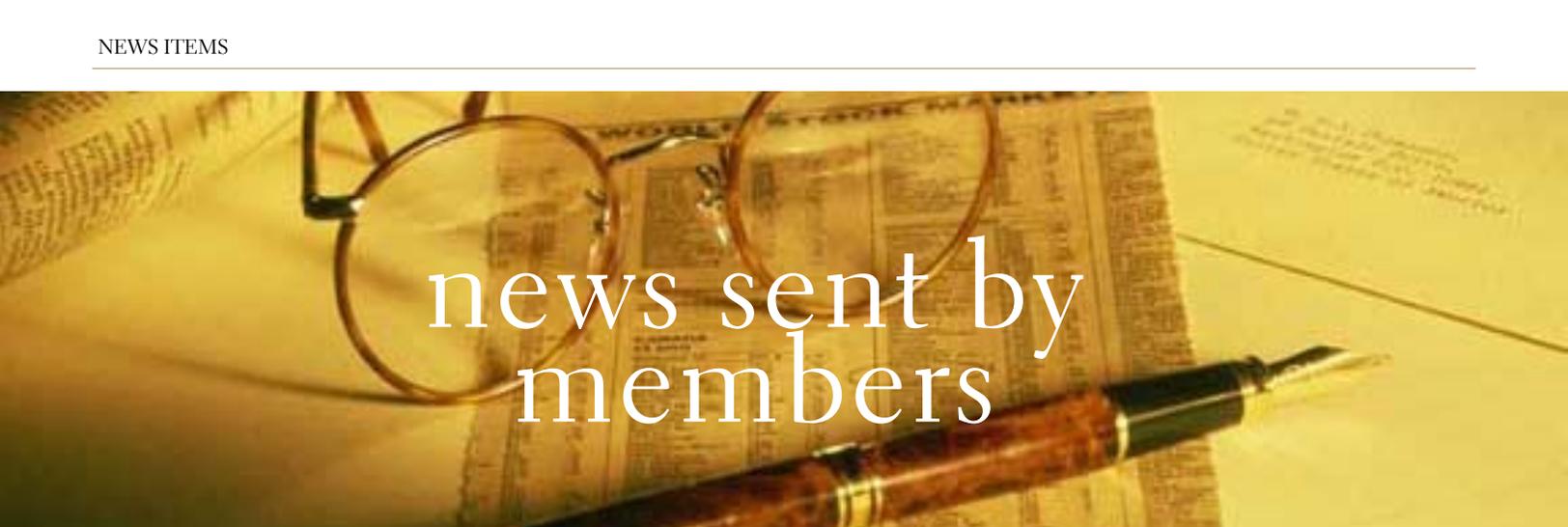
Remember the pitch about DSL vs Cable, "If more people in your neighborhood hook on, your transmission speed will drop."

If the DSLAM is not maintained, it won't put through as much. From what I have read T1 is not much different from DSL, but the equipment is better maintained because T1 creates a better revenue stream.

Think of this the next time you see a commercial with people happily surfing the Internet.

T1 is not much different from DSL, but the equipment is better maintained because T1 creates a better revenue stream.





news sent by members

compatibility issues

Adobe Drops the Ball on Vista Compatibility by Paul Thurrott, thurrott@windowsitpro.com — Adobe has informed its customers that they will need to pay for new versions of many of its products if they expect to run them glitch-free on Windows Vista. The reason? Adobe has no plans to ensure that its currently shipping products work properly with Microsoft's new OS.

"All Adobe products available as of January 30, 2007, were released before Windows Vista became publicly available and so have not been fully designed for or tested on this new operating system," Adobe noted in a message posted to its Web site. "However, many of those products run under Window Vista with minimal issues."

Although some Adobe products, such as Photoshop Elements 5 and Adobe Reader 8, were or will soon be updated for full Vista compatibility via free updates, most of the company's professional products won't be updated for free. "Adobe is already preparing to release the next versions of its professional creative products, including Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Dreamweaver, Flash,

and After Effects, in the spring and summer of 2007 and does not plan to issue updates to current versions of those products for Windows Vista compatibility."

In other words, users of these applications will need to pay for the updated versions to achieve full Vista compatibility. Many of these products cost several hundred dollars apiece.

Critics are charging Adobe with harming customers as payback for Microsoft's decision to compete directly with Adobe in various markets, including Web publishing, document creation, and high-end graphics. Adobe, to date, has been silent about these charges.

submitted by Siles Bazerman

free security software online

The Secunia Software Inspector, http://secunia.com/software_inspector/, allows you to quickly and effortlessly detect missing security patches and insecure versions of software installed on your computer. List of features:

- * Detects insecure versions of applications installed
- * Verifies that all Microsoft patches are applied

* Assists you in updating your system and applications

* Runs through your browser. No installation or download is required.

Besides being completely simple to use, Secunia's software inspector has some great features to help you stay on top of your program updates. Informing the users of necessary updates is key, but even better are instructions, including links from the application manufacturer on how and where to update the software.

Anyone concerned with patching security holes on their system may want to bookmark the Secunia software inspector and run it as part of your regular security routine. It's fast, easy and tremendously helpful. Take advantage of Secunia's software inspector so hackers can't take advantage of your unpatched system anymore!

submitted by Carl Westberg

clip art "gotcha"

Here's a link to an article on "Connected Photographer," about purchased clip art by Broderbund that isn't totally free to use, <http://tinyurl.com/2nbbv6>. A font package that contains the same restrictions is also mentioned.

submitted by Mike Lyons

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time for your membership renewal?



FEBRUARY 1— Ann Carnahan (2nd month)

APRIL 1— Lothar Loehr

MAY 1— Lloyd Boutwell, Terry Schiele,

Harold Wann

JUNE 1— Joe Melfi, Richard Metzger, Peter

Romeo

JULY 1— Joe Francis, Walter Jackson, Ralph

Seymour

submitted by Charlie Moore

recycle cartridges for cash

Please bring your Hewlett Packard, Canon (BC-02, BC-05, BC-20 or BX-3), Lexmark, Dell, Compaq, Kodak, Samsung, or Sharp inkjet cartridges; or any laser cartridge for our ongoing club fundraising project.

march raffle winners

- **Marine Aquarium, \$39**
Stan Leese, Winner
- **iolo System Mechanic, \$79**
Linda Gonse, Not Present
Stan Leese, Winner
- **APCUG t-shirt, \$10**
Terry Schiele, Winner
- **SWUG t-shirt, \$5**
Milton Gorham, Not Present
Michael Moore, Not Present
Leonard Prince, Winner
- **Phonics 3b Level II, \$39**
Michael Moore, Not Present
Michael Lyons, Winner
- **Spanish Marine Aquarium, \$39**
Joe Gionet, Winner
- **Novell Cluster Services book, \$50**
Ron Schultz, Winner
- **MS SQL Server 2005, \$60**
Donald Bickel, Not Present
Michael Moore, Not Present
Linda Gonse, Not Present
Leroy Kaump, Winner

submitted by Charlie Moore

new member

Welcome Bill McGraw. From Anaheim, he is a retired electronics test engineer, and is interested in the Internet, hardware, software and programming.

New Member

membership application

Renewal*

* Please fill out all the blanks below to help us keep your information updated in our database.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Nickname _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ E-mail Address _____

Areas of Interest/Comments _____

Meetings are the second Tuesday of every month. See www.orcopug.org for more details.

Don't lose your membership benefits... renew now!

Expired members are not eligible to win raffle prizes or to access the Members Only web page.

Make check for \$25 payable to **ORCOPUG** — mail to:
ORCOPUG, P.O. BOX 716, Brea, California 92822-0716

secret keyword

The March keyword was discovered and claimed by Carl Westberg. A new secret keyword raffle begins again this month with one prize, a USB 4 port connector.

Look for the new keyword in this newsletter or hidden somewhere on the ORCOPUG website. If your name is called at the next meeting, correctly name the secret keyword and the prize is yours!

thank you

newsletter contributors!

Carl Westberg, Charlie Moore, Dan Gonse, Frank Bollinger, Herb Goodman, Ira Wilsker, Linda Gonse, Lothar Loehr, Mike Lyons, Pim Borman, Siles Bazerman, Ted Wirtz, Tim O'Reilly

DEADLINE
FOR MAY ISSUE IS
APRIL 21

members' only! page benefit of membership

ORCOPUG membership entitles you to access the Members' Only page at www.orcopug.org for special discounts. User name is first initial+last name (lower case). Password is member letter+number.

computer swap meet scheduled may 27, 2007

The ACP Computer Store swap meet is held every other month, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1310 E. Edinger, Santa Ana. Admission is free. www.acpswapmeetbyhyperactive.com

free item table at april meeting!

by Mike Lyons

Do these remarks sound familiar? "I need more room." "I don't use it, but I hate to throw it away when it still works."

Several members have asked about bringing their unused items to be claimed by anyone who wants them. After a test run, we decided to have a free item table for members with certain rules.

Free items can be books, magazines, hardware, or software. Members must label their items so other members know whom to talk to about a certain item.

Any item not claimed by the time the item's owner is ready to leave, must be taken home with the owner at the end of the evening. We will not be allowed to dispose of any of the items we bring in the library's wastebaskets.

thanks to generous 2006 donators!

We sincerely thank the following companies for donating prizes to our 2006 fundraising raffle: 2nd Story Software, Adept Computer, Aviar Inc., AskSam, Help Me 2 Learn, Iolo Technologies, Millennia Corp., NotePage Inc., Pearson Education, Prolific Publishing, Smart Computing, Stardock Systems, and User Group Relations (Gene Barlow). Special thanks to: Charlie Moore and Mike Lyons for building a custom pc as the raffle's top prize, and to the Toshiba notebook donator.

magazine discounts for user group members

These prices are for new subscriptions and renewals. All orders must be accompanied by a check, cash or money order. Make payable to *Herb Goodman*, and mail to: Herb Goodman, 8295 Sunlake Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33496. Call or write: 561-488-4465, hgoodman@prodigy.net.

	1	2	3
	Y	E	A
	R	S	
Computer Games	\$12.95	—	—
Computer Gaming World	\$14.95	\$28.95	\$41.95
Computer Shopper	\$16.97	\$32.95	\$47.95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	\$15.95	—	—
Mac Addict	\$10.97	\$19.97	\$28.97
Mac World	\$152.95	—	—
Maximum PC	\$ 9.95	\$18.95	\$27.95
Microsoft System Journal	\$21.95	\$39.95	—
PC Gamer	\$12.95	\$23.95	\$33.95
PC Magazine (22 issues/year)	\$25.97	\$48.95	\$68.95
PC World	\$16.95	—	—
Videomaker	\$11.95	\$21.95	—
Wired	\$ 6.00	\$12.00	\$17.00

Revised November 2006

Please allow 10 to 12 weeks for your magazines to start. You must supply an address label from your present subscription when renewing. I carry over 300 titles at excellent prices. Just email me for a price.



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- Product & "How To" demos
- Free raffles and magazines
- Help from other members
- Newsletter and web site
- Special offers & discounts
- Monthly meetings
- Affiliation with worldwide group

User groups represent the spirit of the frontier, a community getting together to do things that no individual ought to have to do alone. The pioneers of the American west got together for barn raisings, cattle roundups, and the occasional party. The pioneers of new technology get together for installfests, new user training and support, and just plain fun. Being part of a user group is the best way to get more out of your computer, and lets you make friends while you're at it.

Tim O'Reilly
President, O'Reilly & Associates

our website's got it all!

- Program of the month
- pdf & site search
- newsletters
- top 10 viruses & hoaxes
- weather map
- personalized map
- antivirus/antispysware links
- help & tips
- RSS feeds
- contact information
- membership application
- Members' Only! specials
- free online spyware scan and virus scan
- awards

www.orcopug.org

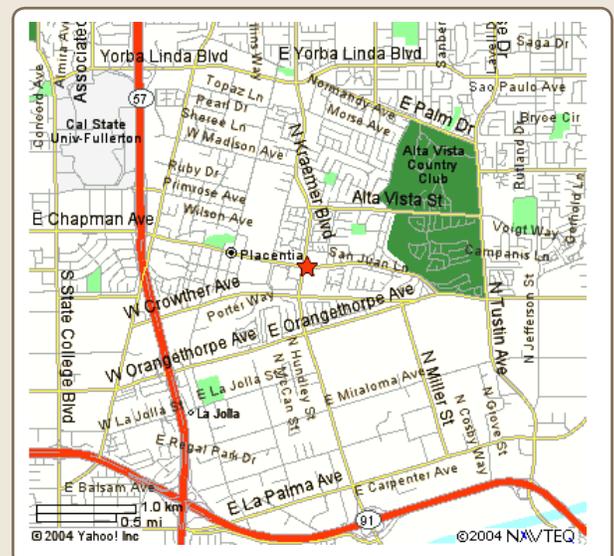


where are the meetings and when are they held?

Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Placentia Library, 411 East Chapman Avenue.

Placentia, California 92870, (714) 528-1906. Call (714) 990-0580, for information. Meetings are free and the public is welcome!

Planning meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at Downey Savings & Loan, one block east of Harbor at Bastanchury in Fullerton. All members are welcome to attend planning meetings!



next meeting: tuesday, april 10, 6:30 p.m. placentia library, placentia