

MEMBER
APCUG
FACUG

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PASCO AREA COMPUTER USERS
GROUP



NEWSLETTER

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**Daylight-saving time
Begins March 11.**



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I hope your Valentine gave you something special for that special February day. Steve knows that he can't go wrong giving me something for my computer.

Pictures for the photo contest are really being entered quickly now. We have over thirty at this time, so when the March general meeting comes, it should be fun to judge them. If you haven't entered your photos yet, please make sure to enter soon. Don't forget that the membership will be judging all entries.

Ann Andle has agreed to become the club social director and we will all benefit from that. She is planning a hot dog, salad, and dessert dinner for the April general meeting. The club is going to furnish the hot dogs, buns, and a sign-up sheet will be available for people to volunteer to bring salads and such. Ann will let us know what we need to bring.

Shirley Finefrock, Vice President, Virginia Stunkard, Treasurer, Nancy Smith, Secretary, and I are getting ready to go to the FACUG Spring Conference in Kissimmee, Florida. We always come back with some great ideas for our club. We will be involved in round tables from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

If you have any ideas for a class you would like to see represented, please let one of the board members know and we will see if it is possible. The board members try hard to satisfy as many of our members as possible.

Until next month,
Marie



CLUB OFFICERS

President—Marie Vesta	813-782-2015
Vice President—Shirley Finefrock	813-788-1884
Secretary—Nancy Smith	813-782-0123
Membership—Janet Brandon	813-780-7335
Treasurer—Virginia Stunkard	352-567-7241

Board Members-At-Large

Melissa Akers	352-583-4405
Judi Betz	352-458-9537
Harold Gillman	813-782-0667
Ruth Ray	352-523-2947

Information About Club

Vivian Barnard	(352) 567-3373
Marie Vesta	(813) 782-2015

For Membership Application

Janet Brandon	(813) 780-7335
Virginia Stunkard	(352) 567-7241

What will it Cost?

Regular membership	\$25.00 per year
Associate or Student member	\$15.00 per year

Make checks Payable to PACUG.

For more information—go to web

PACUG WEB ADDRESS

www.pacug.org

E-MAIL ADDRESS

pacugfl@yahoo.com

CALENDAR FOR March 2007

Board meetings the first Tuesday of each month.

Mar. 6—Board Meeting at 6:30 PM

Classes begin at 7:00 PM

Mar. 1—Beginners class

Mar. 8—GM Photo Contest

Mar. 15—Word

Mar. 22—Games

Mar. 29—Q & A

SUNSHINE CHAIRPERSON



Ruth Ann Ray who is the PACUG Sunshine Chairperson, needs to hear if anyone needs to have a greeting card sent due to illness, death, or just needs a hug. Please e-mail her at raray@3oaks.com and put the word “**sunshine**” in the subject line.

MEMBERSHIPS

A hearty welcome is extended to the following new members:

Dan Morgan
Judy Zatarain

A hearty welcome to these members who recently renewed:

Shirley Finefrock
Dan Shanbeck

FEBRUARY DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

Opal Akers—Backgammon
Willis Bennett—BK Design to Sell
Willis Bennett—Mouse Pad
Sharon Cissney—Win Games
Shirley Finefrock—Typing Instructor
Goose Goslin—Smart Computing
Gladys Jackson—50/50
Peggy Pinaire—CD Cases
Jane Martens—Photo Album
Audrey Norris—50/50
Nancy Smith—Backgammon
Steve Vesta—T Shirt
Steve Vesta—Mouse Pad
Jan Wall—10 Jewel cases
Marg Wanamaker—Cribbage
Marg Wanamaker—Blast Thur
Marg Wanamaker—Geographics Design Paper
Janet Winland—Proffessor Teacher XP
Janet Winland—Mouse Pad
Judy Zatarain—50/50

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

By Vivian Barnard

Ida Smith has been a member of PACUG since 2005 and found out about the group from a newspaper article. She came to this area fourteen years ago from Phoenix, Arizona.

She enjoys coming to meet people and because it's something to do. This brave soul was a school bus driver.

Her computer is a Dell and she uses XP. She has no favorite game because she doesn't play games. She mostly does E-mail and research.

She likes the group as it is, but would like more individual help. She needs to check out the help list in the newsletter and call some of those people listed that may be able to help her.

She's still at the point where all she learns doesn't quite make sense to her, but if she'll hang in there, one of these days it will begin to become clearer to her. We're glad she comes the meetings, as that's one of the best ways to learn about the computer.

**Happy St. Patrick's Day
Don't forget to wear green.**



PACUG HELPLINE

Internet

Marie Vesta 813-782-2015

Reviews

Shirley Finefrock 813-788-1884

Word Perfect or Word

Virginia Stunkard 352-567-7241

Beginners

David Akers 352-567-1412

Digital Imaging

Marie Vesta 813-782-2015

Games

Janet Brandon 813-780-7335

Genealogy

George Varney gvarney@verizon.net

Call Virginia Stunkard or Marie Vesta to add your name to the list or make changes.

SMART COMPUTING/TODAY

Magazine Offer

Sandhills Publishing, publisher of **Smart Computing** and **PC Today** will provide a complimentary 12-issue subscription for every five paid subscriptions received from PACUG members. *Smart Computing* is definitely recommended for beginners and *Today* is great for the small business and the home office.

Contact Janet Brandon for forms. To qualify, **renewals and new subscriptions must include the club ID#5351**

**O n l i n e A T : h t t p : / /
www.smartcomputing.com—OR—Call:
1-800-733-3809**

**THANK YOU, SANDHILLS PUBLISHING
(Mon. – Fri. 7 AM – 8 PM, Sat 8 AM – 4 PM
CST)**

PHOTO CONTEST

This year is going to be an easy one to enter the club photo contest. There will not be any theme that has to be used. We will accept pictures of most anything. Here are the few rules:

1. Pictures can be sent to svesta@tampabay.rr.com, given to Marie via floppy, cd, or whatever means necessary, starting the first of October. The cutoff for entries is the February 28th.
2. All entries must have been taken with a digital camera, and by the person making the entry.
3. Three entries per person, and each entry needs a title.
4. Entries can be entered at the resolution of your camera, resizing is not required.
5. There will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize awarded after the General Meeting in March and all members there vote for a winner.

Good luck!

CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER

Donna Beaulieu has been taken member's photos for over a year now, as well as our general meetings. Just a note of thanks for her contributions to a successful club.



AHA-SOFT IconLover 4.13

Review by Virginia Stunkard

IconLover 4.13 is a comprehensive suite of icon tools. IconLover is used for creating and editing Window icons and cursors and managing icon libraries. This program can be used by those who would like to add some new icons and cursors to their computers. IconLover is used by software developers all across the planet. It is designed to minimize the time developers spend creating the icons, cursors and small images that are used in program development. Good for a creative mind.

You can create a new window icon, icon library, image list, new cursor, animated cursor, or a cursor library. You can even create animated icons. There is a tool palette where you can pick lots of different tools for drawing and painting.

You can search PC for icons and cursors, including the ones inside executables. This application has an option to download icons from the Internet. Icon editor can be used to create new icons or edit the existing ones. The editor has a standard set of tools and effects, like drop shadow, opacity, smooth, negative, grayscale, rotate, roll and mirror. Some of the new features also include the ability to draw smooth lines and shapes, and print icon images. You can adjust brightness, contrast, smooth and sharpness effects. They also have a new color palette.

An image list is a set of icons to be used as button images in menus, toolbars, etc. All icons in the image list are of the same size and color depth.

One of the ways you can add individual Icons to the Library is by pasting icons from the clipboard or dragging icons from a Windows Explorer window or any other file manager that supports drag'n'drop and drop them onto the library workspace. You can import graphics to use for icons.

This program fully supports Microsoft Vista which supports 32-bit icons, which are 24-bit image with an 8-bit channel. This allows icons to display with smooth edges that appear to blend into any background.

A fully-functional trial version is available at www.aha-soft.com/products.htm for \$49.95. It entitles you to free upgrades and technical support.

CAPTUREXT SCREEN CAPTURE 2.2

Review by Shirley Finefrock

CaptureXT is a great screen capture program.

Installation was very simple and included a shortcut on the desktop. The program is very easy to use. By clicking the "Capture" button you can capture anything that appears on your monitor's screen. You can edit the captured screen and also apply special effects. The effects can make your finished project look really great.

There is an image-editing feature that lets you adjust brightness, resize, rotate and flip the image. You can add special-edge effects and borders. I was astounded by all the functions that the program offers and really enjoyed trying all the different features to make my project very special.

After you complete the editing, you can save as an image format (jpg or bmp). You can copy and paste the image to a PowerPoint presentation, and it can be applied to a word processor document or included in an Email message. You can even print if you need a hard copy.

I really recommend this program to anyone who works with web sites and prepares any type of presentation, be it PowerPoint or even product manuals. Because of all the editing features, the finished product gives a very professional appearance.

A single user license costs \$29.95 with free technical support if you experience problems with the program at www.capturext.com/support or by Email info@belltechsystems.com.

MICROSOFT MONEY 2007 Premium

Review by Shirley Finefrock

Microsoft Money 2007 has a lot of features that make it well worth the time to learn to use them for your financial management and planning.

The program was very easy to install, especially when I already had an MSN Hotmail address. MY MONEY is pass-protected to assure that only you can access the information in your accounts

The Microsoft Money 2007 "USERS GUIDE" is very helpful providing tutorials and tips to help you understand how to use all the features that it offers.

Setting up checking and savings accounts lets you update manually or automatically by using information that your bank provides to support the system. Creating a budget was quite easy, and since I had never before worked with a budget, I found this very useful to keep track of my monthly expenses. TOOLS even provides a calculator which I used and found to be very handy.

When setting up your checking account, savings account or investment account, you have a lot of choices to provide you with as much information as you could possibly want.

When entering transactions in the account register, you list as withdrawal, deposit or transfer. If listing payment by check, when you enter first check number. The program automatically keeps a record of numbers and will advance the check number in subsequent entries. If you pay bills by electronic fund transfer, you enter EFT in the space designated for check number, and the check numbers will remain in their proper sequence. The account balance is updated with each entry. The entry lets you record the amount by category which applies it to your budget. At all times you can compare your expenses to budget. Your current month expenses are shown in a color graph by category.

You can generate reports by category, payee, monthly budget, credit card debt, or monthly reports.

All reports have the option to print when a hard copy is needed.

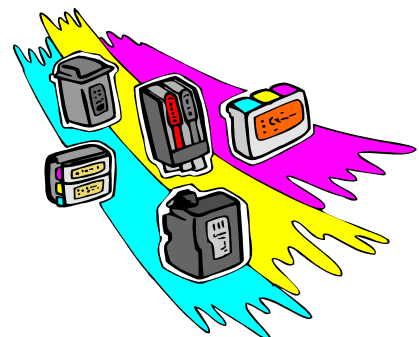
Every time you exit the program after working with the account, the program automatically does a back-up. You can also back up on CD or DVD when the amount of information in the accounts warrants it.

The program has the capability to help manage your investments and the Lifetime Planning gives you the tools to plan for retirement and long-term financial goals.

The entire program provides everything you could possibly need to manage your financial matters on a daily basis, and also your long term goals. I found all features to be of great value to me and I would definitely recommend Microsoft Money 2007 Premium to all those who manages their own financial affairs.



**Be sure to save
your empty ink
cartridges for our
fund-raiser.**



VHS to DVD 2.0 Deluxe

Review by Marie Vesta

I have been watching my old VCR tapes getting older and older, and worried that they would fall apart before I would be able to get them converted to DVD's. I have looked into quite a few different programs that claim to be the best for transferring those VCRs to DVDs and was not even tempted to purchase the program until I came across Honetech's VHS to DVD 2.0 Deluxe. I stood in front of the program display rack reading the box and finally decided that this was the software that I would purchase and try.

To my amazement, I was converting the old VCRs to DVDs within an hour of installation. The instructions for installation of the software and the hardware (the converter) were extremely easy to follow.

Everything went well until my third VCR when an error message came up on the screen telling me that this was a copy-protected tape. Well, since I made the tape, I knew it wasn't and so I wrote a quick e-mail to the company asking what was happening. I had an answer within an hour that sent me to their website and where a patch was available to correct this problem. Needless to say, I was very impressed with the tech support.

I was making quality DVDs out of my old VCR tapes as fast as I could run the tape through the machine. What a joy! I immediately sent a copy of certain ones to my sons who were delighted to see their grandparents, who have since passed away, up on their TV screens and being able to hear their voices again was special also.

I had one old VCR tape that would play for only a few minutes before the tape would break and I had to quit recording. Using the advanced option of this software, I was able to record a few sections of the tape at a time and then hook them all back together to record the DVD. I don't think I would have been able to save these precious photos without this program.

I would also like to say that the user guide is ex-

remely helpful, but as long as you follow the prompts, you truly will not need to use the help or the user guide much for doing this process.

As president of our local computer user group, I would and did recommend this to our members

USES FOR YOUR OLD DIGITAL CAMERA

Don't throw away your old digital camera - here are some ways to get some use out of it.

After purchasing a new digital camera, you may be considering what to do with your old camera that may have fewer megapixels, less zoom range, and fewer features than your new one.

Give your old digital camera to your parents or friends to introduce them to the world of digital photography (be prepared to spend time showing them how everything works!).

Keep your old digital camera as a backup in case your new one fails.

Donate your digital camera to a charity or a school (this may be tax deductible - contact your accountant and/or charity for information).

Sell your old digital camera, if it is in good condition, on an auction site such as eBay.

Sell your old digital camera in your club or local newspaper classifieds.

If you are ever followed by an unmarked police car with its lights flashing, dial *677 on your cell phone, which will go directly to the police dispatcher to make sure it is an official police car. This could save your life.

INTERNET TIPS

DON'T SHOUT!

Whatever you do, whenever you speak or chat, do not type in all capital letters. Many people on the Internet deem this 'shouting,' and will look down upon you if you type in all caps. Only use capital letters for words or phrases that you extremely wish to emphasize and not for your entire web page or chat session.

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?

The Internet is a great place to find old family and friends—if you know where to look. Two websites you should check out if you need to find an old colleague are WhoWhere <<http://www.whowhere.com>> and Bigfoot <<http://www.bigfoot.com>>. These sites give you a variety of ways to search for people on and off the Internet, and just might help you find someone you haven't talked to in years.

SEARCHING BY ASKING QUESTIONS.

Tired of learning cryptic keyword languages when searching for items on the Internet? While learning search engine intricacies allows you to perform more powerful searches, there are times when you may wish that you could just ask a simple question to a search engine and have it produce a result. For those times, you may wish to try AskJeeves at (<http://www.askjeeves.com>). With this 'search engine,' you can "Ask Jeeves" a question and receive responses to your question as webpage links.

GET E-MAIL ADDRESSES THAT DO NOT CHANGE.

If you change ISPs, jobs, or schools a lot, you probably have dealt with changing e-mail addresses. Doing this can be a hassle if your address changes frequently, so you may want to consider getting a free e-mail address from one of the major

portals such as <http://www.yahoo.com>, or <http://www.hotmail.com>.

Getting a free e-mail address from these companies does have pitfalls (sometimes lax security, sites can go down, dealing with Internet spam, etc.), but you may never have to worry about changing your e-mail address again. Plus, the ability to access your mail over the web (like you can do with HotMail and others) may be a nice bonus.

DAYLIGHT-SAVING CHANGE MAY CAUSE A GLITCH IN TIME

Tampa Tribune, February 14, 2006

By Keith Reed

The Boston Globe

COMPUTER MAY BE OUT OF SYNC

Will your computer be ready when daylight-saving time comes?

In case you didn't know, that will happen four weeks earlier this year, thanks to congressional fiat.

And though "springing forward" in March instead of in April might not seem like a big deal, consider this:

Every e-mail you send is stamped with the time it was sent, as are important transactions such as the automatic deposits you make to a savings account or payments you make online on a credit card balance.

In some cases, your computer's clock being off by an hour can make a difference, and many computers are still operating under the assumption that daylight-saving time is coming April 1, not March 11—meaning that precious hour could very well be lost.

So what to do? Start checking all of your computer hardware and software now to see what needs to be fixed before you run into a problem, said William J Kryouz, network services manager at law firm Goodwin Procter LP.

You have to take an inventory of all of your stuff and check with the vendors to see if you should care about the daylight-saving time issue," said Kryouz, whose job is to make sure the firm's network runs smoothly. He's nervous because little has been reported about the impending daylight-saving time bug, and with good reason: He worked for a company that didn't take adequate precautions against the Y2K bug, and its computer network crashed as a result.

Site Can Help Microsoft Users

The first thing to do, he said, is start checking with the makers of the computer equipment you or your company use. The fewer gadgets there are, the easier that should be.

For a home user running one computer on the dominant Windows operating system, a quick visit to Microsoft's Web site will tell you whether you have anything to worry about: If your computer is running Windows XP with the Service Pack 2 upgrade, or Windows Vista, carry on as usual—your system will update itself. But if you're running XP and didn't take the SP2 upgrade, now's the time to do so.

With older versions of Windows. Such as Windows 2000 or NT, you need to visit Microsoft online to get specific instructions. Or you could wait until your clock is inaccurate and change it manually.

Microsoft's top rival, Apple Computer, says its OS X operating system was "patched" for the problem months ago. Anyone running the system should have gotten an automatic update and won't have a problem, said Anuj Nayar, a spokesman.

Congress approved the change in daylight-saving time two years ago to improve energy efficiency. Instead of starting on the first Sunday in April, as it had, this year it will start on the second Sunday in March. With one more month of "longer" days and more sunlight during waking hours, the thinking goes, consumers will use less energy.

But the effect on computer systems, many of which perform tasks on a schedule dictated by internal clocks, got little attention.

Problem Should Be Cheap To Fix

Fixing the problem probably won't cost companies much, Kryouz said, because in many cases all that's required is a patch that can be downloaded for free. If you're running a network that includes many computers or other electronic devices, expect to spend more time and money, he said.

The change in daylight-saving time is no Y2K bug, the experts agree. For that problem, a tremendous amount of work was done and money spent to avert what could have been a catastrophe.

(Words have been omitted do to lack of space.)

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Ann Andle has graciously accepted the position of PACUG Social Director. She did such a great job with the club's Christmas party and has agreed to host the Spring picnic in April. The board decided that since she was willing to handle all the social sides of the club, she needed to have a title. Thank you Ann!




SPRING PICNIC
 On April 12th, the club is going to have a hot dog picnic, and the club is picking up the tab for the dogs and rolls. Ann Andle, our new Social Director, will be handling the sign-up list for salads and such. This is for **members only**. We will eat at 6:00 p.m. and then have a short general meeting with door prizes.
