



How do I turn this thing on?
 How do I find the Start button?
 How do I get to the desktop?



Bill and Donna Gorrell will try to answer these questions and some of yours. Bill will concentrate on Windows8.1 and Donna will cover Windows7. If you want to know how to do something in either operating system bring your own questions.



Annual Food/Toy Drive







Each year we ask you to bring a new toy and/or non-perishable food to the December meeting.

In return for your generosity you will receive one extra door prize ticket for any amount of food and one for any amount of toys. Together with your regular member ticket, you could receive up to three tickets for chances to win door prizes.

Jerry Grega will be coordinating the collection.

Please remember those less fortunate than yourself and bring all the food and/or toys that you can.

THANK YOU



Happy Holidays!

SLATE OF OFFICERS - 2015

President.	Jerry Finkelstein
Vice President.	Lisa Britt
Treasurer.	Bill Gorrell
Secretary.	Joe Penabad
Director-at-Large.	Rodney St Clair

PROPOSED BUDGET - 2015

Income	
Member dues.	\$1350
Interest.	10
Total Income.	\$1360
Expenses	
Door Prizes.	\$300
Equip & Misc.	700
PO Box rent.	60
Donations.	150
Web site.	125
Domain name.	25
Total Expenses.	\$1360

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 — 6 - 8:30 PM
New Hartford Library
Meeting Open to the Public — Free — Bring a friend

MINUTES

— Joe Penabad, Secretary



The MVPCUG General Meeting was held in the Sammon Room of the New Hartford Library. President Jerry Finkelstein with 20 members in attendance called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on November 04, 2014.

BUSINESS

Bill Gorrell presented the Treasurer’s Report for the period of 10/01/2014 to 10/31/2014, details are available from Bill G. or the Secretary. A motion to accept the report was not required, as Donna Gorrell informed the membership present that the report does not require approval per Robert’s Rules of Order. From Robert’s Rules of Order —“No action of acceptance by the assembly is required...on a financial report...unless ...as an annual report.”

It was noted that the printer problem that a member had described at last month’s meeting was resolved.

It was also mentioned that the official debut of Windows 10 should be sometime in 2015.



PROGRAM

The program for the evening by Mr. Richard Scalise, Device Expert from Verizon was not presented because of speaker unavailability.

Jerry Grega gave us an impromptu look at his observations of a preview copy of Windows 10. It was noted that Windows 8.0 is less mouse friendly but more finger friendly than previous versions of Windows and that Windows 8.1 and 8.2 are more mouse friendly. Windows appears to work well with Google and Google Earth. Windows 10 does not appear to have any specific hardware requirements and the graphical interface appears to be more mouse friendly. It was noted it’s not easy to make a user account, however, it will not support bootleg accounts.

Donna G. also made an impromptu presentation on Windows 7.0 and 8.0 “Calculator” demonstrating how to use it.

DOOR PRIZES

[furnished with club funds]

- Walmart Gift Card..... Nick Dudish
- Staples Gift Card..... Crystal Eades
- Best Buy Gift Card. Rich Lapera
- 32 GB Flash Drive..... Rod St. Clair
- 12 AA Battery Package..... Joe Penabad
- HP Photo Paper..... Jerry Finkelstein
- Post Notes..... Lisa Britt
- 12 Bic Pens..... Fred Cole
- HP Photo Paper..... Steve Gorrell

[Donated by Rod St. Clair]

- Storage cabinet. Jim Pease

The meeting was adjourned by Jerry Finkelstein at 8:02 PM. Respectfully submitted by Joe Penabad, secretary



EDITOR'S NOTES:

If you missed the demonstration of Calculator see the links in the DYK column on page 5. Calculator does a whole lot more than just add or multiply. It will give you the temperature in Celsius if you enter the Fahrenheit; it calculates the difference between two dates; it will calculate the monthly payments on your car loan and give you the fuel economy. It can also tell you the volume conversion between liters and quarts or gallons. A very nifty tool!



On Dec 3: In 1621 Galileo perfects the telescope. In 1775 first official US flag raising [aboard naval vessel Alfred]. In 1833 Oberlin College in Ohio, 1st truly coeducational college opens. In 1910 Neon lights are 1st publically seen at the Paris Auto Show.

In 1922 the 1st successful technicolor movie [Tall of the Sea], is shown in NY city. In 1931 Alka Seltzer went on sale.

In 1950 Paul Harvey began his national radio broadcast. In 1952 the 1st TV broadcast in Hawaii. And in 1967 the 1st human heart transplant was performed by Dr Christian Barnard in South Africa. And now you know!

Random Access — Donna Gorrell

Jason Fitzpatrick who writes for How-To-Geek.com is the author of the glossary on that site. I've captured his info and offer it to you — both experienced and novice users will gain some knowledge as we go along. Enjoy and Learn!

* * * * *

HARD RESET *or Boot

In computing, a hard reset is a hardware operation that restarts the system hardware and, in the process, ends all current software activity. Pressing the physical reset button (or holding the power button down for 3-5 seconds) is the most common way to perform a hard reset on a computer.

SOFT RESET *or Boot

In computing, a soft reset is a software initiated reset of the hardware and software states. The soft reset is started by the operating system (either automatically or at the request of the user) and a set process is followed to shutdown applications, close out system files, and otherwise gracefully bring the system to a halt before starting it up again. Soft resets are preferred to hard resets (which halt all processes on the hardware level and can cause file corruption and system instability).

SAFE MODE

Safe mode is a feature in operating systems that allows you to enter a troubleshooting mode wherein only essential components (such as the OS kernel and basic drivers for the display and input devices) are active. While in safe mode, problems with updated drivers, corrupt data, or other issues can be resolved.

ASCII

Stands for the American Standard Code for Information Interchange and is a character-encoding scheme originally based on the alphabet that encodes 128 specified characters, numbers letter a-z and some punctuation symbols.

ASCII Art

ASCII art is artwork created using the set of 128 symbols in the ASCII character set (English letters,

numbers, and symbols). By aligning various characters the illusion of or the symbolic representation of an image is achieved. While many examples of ASCII art are multi-line, even a simple combination of characters, such as <(o.o)> , can yield a recognizable pattern.

ANSI (Code Standard)

ANSI stands for the American National Standards Institute. The Institute is nearly a century old and responsible for maintaining a wide variety of standards across many industries including nuclear energy, chemical production, and health care information technology, but in computer lingo ANSI is used to refer to ANSI code standard.

ANSI Art

ANSI art, based on the 256 ANSI character set, was a natural outgrowth of ASCII art. Just like ASCII art uses letters, numbers, and basic symbols to create images out of computer characters, ANSI does the same only with the additional 128 mathematical and foreign characters unavailable in the ASCII character set.

EMOTICON

An emoticon is a string of ASCII text intended to represent a face or emotional state using common keyboard symbols. The most widely recognized emoticon is colon and curved bracket combined to form a smile shape, like so :)

FILE VIEWER

A file viewer is an application designed to quickly view a file without requiring the user to open up the file in the application the file was originally created in. A common example of this arrangement is that of digital image files such as JPEGs—the vast majority of JPEG image files are opened in a file viewer of some sort and not in the application which originally created or altered the digital image.

FILE TYPE

File types are broad classes of digital files categorized by their general type. The document file type, for example, encompasses Rich Text documents, basic text files, and files created by a word processor. The file type is different from an extension in that the extension describes the specific kind of file (e.g. a .RTF); the type describes the class (e.g. document). ◆

Surfin' the 'Net

— John Hunter



As winter comes on, we are all concerned about weather and weather change. That our weather is changing is not a debate. Determining the cause of the change has generated much heat and some little light. But some facts are not in dispute: rainfall and moisture levels are measurable.

One way to see for yourself what weather exists worldwide is to click on esa.int/Our_activities/Observing_the_Earth/SMOS/. When the homepage comes up, click on Five Years of soil, moisture, ocean salinity and beyond. This brings up a world map which indicates moisture levels all over the globe.

According to the European Space Agency, use of satellite data indicates accurate land cover classification which serves in climate modeling. Desert areas show white, rain forests show green and land in-between shows yellow, tan or brown.

Other buttons on the page link to articles on air quality and land stability as measured by the ESA satellite SMOS. Now you can talk about weather change knowledgeably at Christmas parties. Isn't it wonderful the things space science can do?

Help Has Arrived



Recently, President Obama signed an executive order to help protect individuals from identity theft. This White House initiative will assist victims of credit card fraud and identity theft by improving payment security and fighting cyber breaches that threaten personal data. For more info visit <http://tinyurl.com/nvzj8g7>. This is your government at work.

Learn How to Choose Healthy Food

The Union of Concerned Scientists released an electronic toolkit that allows consumers to navigate the food policy system to make healthy affordable food available in your neighborhood. Click on <http://tinyurl.com/pvp4q56>

If you live in a food desert, this toolkit may help you attract food stores to your neighborhood. Scientists have found that rural areas are food deserts because rural residents without transportation have difficulty obtaining healthy food at an affordable price.

Is IBM About to Commit Apostasy?

PC Magazine reports that IBM will sell its

semiconductor business to Globalfoundries for \$1.5 billion. The article estimates that IBM may also spin-off its semiconductor research unit as well. According to the magazine, the company has spent too many resources on semiconductor research when compared to the relatively small amount of semiconductor product it uses.

Having lived near the IBM East Fishkill semiconductor manufacturing plants and just a stone's throw from the Watson Research Center, this news comes as a shock. To read more click on www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2470814,00.asp

Talk about changing your business plan. Wow!

Why Jews Vote Democratic

According to *The Jewish Daily Forward*, the reason that Jews primarily vote Democratic is that Jews know what it is like to be considered outsiders. This history also accounts for the large number of Jews who actively work to achieve social justice for all. In light of the mid-term elections, it is clear that the states with small Jewish populations elected the largest number of very conservative politicians who seem to support the interests of the rich over the interests of the poor. Enjoy the Anne Roiphe essay.

For more information about Jews and Jewish voting patterns visit <http://tinyurl.com/k6eal5e>.

Is Technology the Answer for Educational Improvement?

One of the best educational technology journals is T.H.E Journal. For those parents interested in how technology use affects their children, this magazine provides unbiased, researched articles. Recently the Journal published a letter from a parent to a district superintendent asking about the implementation of 1-to-1 computer technology in the early grades.

The parent questions should be asked of all school leaders, especially those who tend to jump on bandwagons too early. To read the article and find the questions to ask visit <http://tinyurl.com/kfkp7el>.

Did You Know?

Infant mortality rate in Iceland is 2 per 1000 births. In Afghanistan, infant mortality is 165 per 1000 births. For more statistics click on <http://tinyurl.com/m66gI7c>.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Until next time . . .



? Did You Know . . . — Donna Gorrell

. . . that you could see what web pages are setting cookies on your computer?

In **Firefox**, you can list cookies for a particular web page by right-clicking a blank part of the page, then selecting the *View Page Info* option. You will find a *View Cookies* button in the *Security Tab*.

In **Chrome**, you have the same *View Page Info* option which opens a dialog that drops down from the address bar. A link near the top will take you to a listing of cookies.

. . . that Win8 has handy keyboard shortcuts? All use the windows key in combination with another key. Hold the windows key and press the following to get the results you desire. Windows key alone takes you to the tiled start screen.

- + M minimizes everything that's showing on the desktop
- +D on the start screen, press to get to the desktop
- +Tab opens a list of currently running programs
- +Print Screen takes a screen shot and saves it in a screenshot folder nested in your Pictures folder
- +Q opens a global search menu
- +W opens a search in your system settings
- +F open a file and folders search
- +Pause opens the system properties page to show you a quick look of your specs
- +, makes all windows transparent
- +. snaps a window to the right or left side
- +R prompts the Run command—useful for quickly launching apps
- +I opens the Settings menu
- +O locks orientation on devices with an accelerometer



+Volume Down on chassis takes a screenshot on a Windows8 tablet

. . . that between 1949 and 1952 The White House was completely renovated from the inside out? The entire internal structure was removed and for a time the building was a shell supported by steel beams.

. . . that Calculator [shown at the Nov meeting] can be accessed by typing *Calculator* in the Search area or by finding it under Accessories in the programs listing? If using the keyboard, Windows Key+R, then type *Calculator*. <http://tinyurl.com/lfz5ncs> has a good explanation of how the calculator works. For a list of shortcuts, go to <http://tinyurl.com/laa6xyw>. ♦

Byting Remarks — Jerry Finkelstein

The government that doesn't want government in our private lives just voted to keep government poking around our private lives. The *New York Times* on November 19th reported that the Senate “blocked a sweeping overhaul of the once secret National Security Agency program that collects records of Americans' phone calls in bulk.” Millions are under surveillance. According to writers on the Internet, that number could easily expand to everyone else. It all has to do with everyone being wired/connected to everyone and everything. And everyone keeps tabs on everyone and everything. They even got a name for it. It's called The Internet of Things.

It's not all in the future. There's plenty of interconnectivity going on right now. Motorola found a way to link your car keys to your smartphone. You can page your keys up to 100 feet away. And if you have your keys but can't find your phone, there's a button that makes your phone ring from up to 100 feet away. If you lose both your phone and your keys you're out of luck. Maybe you can access them from someone else's phone. And remember, NSA is keeping track.



Of course, more serious connections are going on (perhaps not if you're locked out of your car). For instance, pricing online. Did you know that e-commerce sites tailor their prices to specific shoppers based on their digital habits and demographics, such as their ZIP code? A team of researchers at Northeastern University looked at major e-commerce sites, including Home Depot, WalMart and Hotels.com, and reported that their online prices were all over the map. In some cases these prices were personalized to the behavior of particular shoppers, including whether they shop on a phone or desktop. Travelocity admitted to offering special deals to mobile-only (smartphones or tablets) shoppers.

Advice for shoppers: Run your searches on all platforms you have access to.

That means your regular browser, your smartphone or tablet. Then, if you want to be extra thorough, ask a friend in a different ZIP code to do the same thing and see what results turn up.

And remember, NSA is keeping track. ♦

explorer

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The MVPCUG was founded in 1981 by individuals interested in IBM compatible computers and consists of volunteers whose expertise range from novice to professional.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm, usually at the New Hartford Library, 2 Library Lane, New Hartford.

Meetings are open to the public. Membership fee is \$25.

Stay connected . . . to the M V P C U G

Mohawk Valley PC User Group, Inc.
\$25 for initial sign-up - or renewal

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what's.coming ~ Spiritual Literacy Month ~ December 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Monthly General Meeting 6 PM N Hartford Library	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 	17	18	19	20
21 	22	23	24	25 	26	27
28	29	30	31 	December 7 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day December 15 - Bill of Right's Day December 17-24 - Hannakuh December 21 - Winter Solstice		