

Web Site Design

Charles Thompson is the owner of *No Sheep Designs* and has been creating websites for an incredible variety of clients since 2001. Over the years he has developed sites for not-for-profit agencies, municipalities, and businesses in a multitude of sectors. He not only creates the design but does all of the programming ensuring that the finished piece is as functional as it is beautiful.

Charles will be discussing web development as well as sharing his video and photographic expertise.



Don't forget to change your smoke alarm batteries when you change your clocks.
Spring will be coming soon!

Tuesday, March 3, 2015 — 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 12 members in attendance called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM on February 3, 2015.

BUSINESS

Bill G. opened by describing 3 interesting web sites:

1) On the Kim Komando web site komando.com/, that Google Earth Pro (normally \$400, is available for free; you need to register), Bill suggested giving them MVPCUG.COM as the website. If any difficulty, check with Bill on his web-site;

2) The site, www.book.bub, just register, this is for all e-readers, kindle users, etc. The site will send 4-5 books daily on any subject you select, some free, some \$0.99, and others \$1.99. Bill has down-loaded a stack of these e-books, but is now trying to find the time to read them;

3) Son, Steve Gorrell has used YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opRMrEfAII> to view a video on "Passwords" that was interesting.

Jerry F. announced that the New Hartford Library will continue to be available to the MVPCUG for future meetings. Good news, good location for almost everyone.

A member of the audience asked if there were any more MVPCUG shirts available for sale, he lost his in the wash.

Answer: Out of luck...no more available at this time!

PROGRAM

Jerry F. introduced the speaker for the evening, Michael Haman, the Home Installation Manager at The Big Apple store on Seneca Turnpike to acquaint us with some of the many innovations coming into the Computer/TV market.

He began by providing many of us with a litany of new technological terms for our vocabulary, such as: curved TV'S, 4K Ultra HD TV, Quantum Dots, 4K Blu-ray and many more interesting terms/products.

Michael's talk was very informative, enlightening, with frank reservations about the industry and where it stands at this time and some of the draw backs. These new features quite clearly make viewing on the TV spectacular with the increase in pixel density

making the picture so much more vivid. He also spoke with some reservation that there are still some hurdles to cross in regard to achieving even more enhancements. He emphasized that the TV used to exploit these new features must be of a certain quality to accommodate all these new innovations.

Michael was very gracious and welcomed us to visit him at The Big Apple to obtain a complete understanding of the industry as it now stands and how it can meet our own needs and desires. The MVPCUG thanks him for time and sincere presentation.

DOOR PRIZES

[furnished with club funds]

- 16 GB Micro SD Card..... Don Jennings
- 15 HDMI Cable..... Jerry Grega
- 3 Rolls of Tape. Bill Gorrell
- 18 Pentel Pens..... Rod St. Clair
- Note Pad..... Joe Penabad
- 12 Bic Pens..... Bill Gorrell
- Car to USB Power Adapter..... Nelson Robinson

[Donated by Rod St. Clair]

- Photo Paper..... Stu Culp

Respectfully submitted by Joe Penabad, secretary ♦

EDITOR'S NOTES:

On February 6, 2015 John Paul Nagy, age 32 died unexpectedly in Buffalo.

John was employed by Rural/Metro Medical Services as a paramedic.

Most of us knew him as "Webster", our teenaged webmaster in the late 1990's. He created and maintained the website for several years in the capacity of webmaster while in high school. He also gave several presentations to the club and other organizations in the community.

Our heartfelt sympathies go to his family.

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!

* * * * *

Smart Quotes

Smart Quotes [a.k.a. Typographer's Quotes] are modern angled/curved style quote marks that are considered more stylish and used in place of the original [old-fashion] straight up-and-down variety. Smart **Apostrophes** are the modern and stylish equivalent of the original straight up-and-down variety.

Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi is the common term used to denote the radio-frequency standards outlined by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' [IEEE] 802.11 protocol for wireless local area networks [WLAN]. Since almost every modern WLAN is based off the IEEE 802.11 standard, the term Wi-Fi has become synonymous with it.

By combining a wireless access node with a wireless antenna within the device [such as a residential router with Wi-Fi capability and an iPad with a built-in Wi-Fi antenna], Wi-Fi allows users to enjoy wire-free network access as long as they are within transmission range of the Wi-Fi node. Such areas of Wi-Fi coverage are known as "hot spots".

Wi-Fi speed and security has increased greatly since its introduction in the late 1990s. Early Wi-Fi networks, using the 802.11b standard, were slow [11Mbit/s max. speed] and poorly secured [WEP, an early Wi-Fi encryption technique was very easy to crack]; more recent revisions like 802.11n have a max. speed of 600 Mbit/s and employ significantly more secure encryption methods like WPA2.

Wi-Fi Bands

A portion of the wireless communication spectrum is dedicated to wireless local area network [WLAN or Wi-Fi]. Within this dedicated portion of the spectrum there are four distinct frequency bands, as specified

by wireless networking standard IEEE 802.11: 2.4 GHz, 3.6 GHz, 4.9 GHz, and 5 GHz.

Wi-Fi Channels

Within the designated Wi-Fi bands, such as the 2.4GHz band, there are specific channels Wi-Fi access points may use. Although there are 14 available channels in the 2.4GHz band, each individual channel has a spread of approximately 22Mhz, which significantly overlaps surrounding channels. Multiple devices set to adjacent channels in a small physical space [such as an apartment block] will interfere with each other. If you are having problems with Wi-Fi connectivity and sustained data transmission through your Wi-Fi router, check the operating channels of all detectable Wi-Fi access points to ensure your Wi-Fi access point isn't operating on the same or adjacent channel as nearby access points.

MPEG

MPEG [Moving Pictures Expert Group] is a family of video compression standards that encompasses everything from DVD encoding to satellite video transmission. DVDs, for example, are encoded in MPEG-2, where as more modern HD video sources are encoded using MPEG-4.

H.264

H.264 is a popular video compression standard based on MPEG-4. It is widely used for both HD video sources like Blu-Ray discs and for streaming video from sites like *YouTube* using minimal bandwidth while maintaining quality video. While there are other H.X compression standards, none have achieved the same level of widespread adoption as H.264.

OAuth

OAuth is an open standard for authorization used to allow users to authorize themselves on web applications or mobile apps by using existing credentials. If you've ever used a web application that gave you the option to authorize yourself using your Google Account credentials in place of signing up for a totally new login for that service, you've used OAuth.

Ping

Ping is a common computer network administration tool used to test whether or not a host is reachable on an Internet Protocol [IP] based network and to measure the amount of time it took to reach that host and receive a reply. ◆

Surfin' the 'Net

— John Hunter



I have come to believe that a majority of judges at all court levels are merely political hacks too lazy to work in private practice who spend a majority of time on the bench kissing the glutes of the politicians and rich people who placed them on the bench in the first place. A fine example of this comes from a ruling by a Federal Court in San Francisco on a lawsuit filed by the Electronic Frontier Foundation regarding mass spying by the NSA on A T & T customers.

The 2008 Fourth Amendment challenge to the unwarranted spying on innocent citizens was dismissed by Judge Jeffrey White because proof of standing of the claimants might depend on the disclosure of classified information. In other words, according to Judge White, “state secrets” trump the judicial process and the Fourth Amendment right to privacy. Ironically, Edward Snowden provided evidence that such spying was unnecessary for national security concerns. For more click on <http://tinyurl.com/o6dt734>.

School Districts Need to Plan 1 To 1 Roll-outs

Many school districts find themselves in a position to adopt a policy of providing electronic devices for all students. The most frequently chosen device to give to students is the tablet or iPad. Yet some device roll-outs have failed spectacularly such as the 1 to 1 program in the Los Angeles School District which caused the resignation of several key administrators. The T.H.E. Journal has checklists available for free download for school districts planning to provide tablets or laptops to all students. To get the checklists, visit <http://tinyurl.com/nytuqtc>.

Hiding in Plain Sight

According to **The Nation** magazine, the most common terrorist operating in the US is a white male with a gun and a grudge. The article cites the recent murders of three Muslims in North Carolina, the murder of Sikhs in 2012 and other attacks perpetrated by Americans on Muslims and mosques. The FBI reports that in 2013 more than 160 anti-Muslim hate crimes occurred. For someone who grew up being told that America was a melting pot for all races and creeds, I find this behavior troubling. For more visit <http://tinyurl.com/kgdcark>.

How to Protect Services in a Storm

Hurricane Sandy caused many on the East Coast to appreciate electrical services as the wait to be reattached to the grid stretched from days to weeks to months. The city of Hoboken, New Jersey took that experience to heart and now works to create micro-grids which the city hopes will prevent future problems. Micro-grids provide efficient and renewable energy that power mission-critical facilities in the event of a grid system failure. To learn more about Hoboken’s public-private partnership visit <http://tinyurl.com/p2fsfyw>.

Useful Products

[Www.thegrommet.com](http://www.thegrommet.com) provides consumers with innovative products that require marketing help which small companies usually cannot afford. The devices/products represent all aspects of modern life. For example, at a recent visit I found an iRoller. The iRoller cleans touch screens found on tablets, laptops and cell phones.

The device’s sticky rollers lift fingerprints and smudges from touch screen without the use of liquids or cleaning cloths. The iRoller costs \$20 and can be ordered directly from the manufacturer through a link on the website. To sign up for the daily RSS feed featuring new products, visit the URL listed above. The manufacturer’s website provides buyer feedback that appears to be genuine assessments of the product’s usefulness.

Tips on Saving

The week of February 23-28 was America Saves Week. To support this program, the website www.kids.gov provided a number of useful links to articles such as: “5 Simple Saving Tricks”; “Managing Money: Making a Saving Plan”; and “Savings Calculator.” Teaching kids about money is one of the most important skills young people need to learn. The site also provides teachers with a lesson plan for creating a budget. While the site focuses on elementary school age children, budgeting skills are useful for individuals of any age. To visit the site featuring the general idea of saving visit <http://tinyurl.com/ndued8h>. For a website specifically on budgeting visit <http://tinyurl.com/ntwgnl6>.

On a personal note, a non-profit organization I volunteer with provides budgeting classes to low income adults who need help making their money last all month.

Until next time . . .





Did You Know . . . — Donna Gorrell

. . . that Lenovo computers may have preinstalled adware that hijacks encrypted Web sessions and may make users vulnerable to HTTPS man-in-the-middle attacks that are trivial for attackers to carry out.

The critical threat is present on Lenovo PCs that have adware from a company called Superfish installed. It installs a self-signed root HTTPS certificate that can intercept encrypted traffic for every website a user visits. When a user visits an HTTPS site, the site certificate is signed and controlled by Superfish and falsely represents itself as the official website certificate.

Even worse, the private encryption key accompanying the Superfish-signed Transport Layer Security certificate appears to be the same for every Lenovo machine. Attackers may be able to use the key to certify imposter HTTPS websites that masquerade as Bank of America, Google, or any other secure destination on the Internet. Under such a scenario, PCs that have the Superfish root certificate installed will fail to flag the sites as forgeries—a failure that completely undermines the reason HTTPS protections exist in the first place.

It's also unknown if PCs from other manufacturers come with Superfish pre-installed. Be aware that even after uninstalling the Superfish adware, the Superfish root certificate will remain.

Lenovo has released a list of models that may have had Superfish installed:

G Series: G410, G510, G710, G40-70, G50-70, G40-30, G50-30, G40-45, G50-45

U Series: U330P, U430P, U330Touch, U430Touch, U530Touch

Y Series: Y430P, Y40-70, Y50-70

Z Series: Z40-75, Z50-75, Z40-70, Z50-70

S Series: S310, S410, S40-70, S415, S415Touch, S20-30, S20-30Touch

Flex Series: Flex2 14D, Flex2 15D, Flex2 14, Flex2 15, Flex2 14(BTM), Flex2 15(BTM), Flex 10

MIIX Series: MIIX2-8, MIIX2-10, MIIX2-11

YOGA Series: YOGA2Pro-13, YOGA2-13, YOGA2-11BTM, YOGA2-11HSW

E Series: E10-30] ◆



Byting Remarks — Jerry Finkelstein

The following was taken from Howtogeek.com:

“Your iPhone’s keyboard offers some hidden tricks that can help you type faster. iPads offer some hidden tricks, too. Some of these tricks are well hidden. You may never discover them until someone tells you — or you read about them in an article like this one.

Double Tap the Space Bar to Type a Period

When tapping out a sentence, you tap the large space bar in between each word. When you reach the end of a sentence, you don’t have to reach for that small period button. Just double-tap the space bar to insert a period and a space so you can start typing your next sentence.

Split Your iPad’s Keyboard in Half

if you’d like to more easily type with your thumbs on your iPad, you can place two fingers on your iPad’s keyboard and spread them apart. Half of the keyboard will appear at the left side of the screen, and half at the right — perfect for gripping your iPad in two hands and using thumb-typing. Place a finger on each side of the keyboard and move them together to switch back to the larger, full-width keyboard.

There’s some leeway at the sides of each keyboard to help you type faster. For example, tap the empty space to the right of the T and you’ll get a Y. Or, tap the empty space to the left of the Y and you’ll get a T.

With the keyboard split, you can move it up or down to reposition it on the screen and see the app behind it. Just touch the button at the bottom-right corner of the keyboard that normally hides the keyboard and move your finger up or down to move it around. You can also long-press this symbol to get options for docking, undocking, merging, and splitting the keyboard. This works whether you’re using the full-width keyboard or the split, thumb-optimized keyboard.

Whether you’ve typed, deleted, pasted, or cut some text, you can shake your iPhone or iPad to get an “Undo” option. This option doesn’t appear on the keyboard, so you’d have to shake your iPhone to stumble upon it.” ◆

explorer

The MVPCUG *EXPLORER* is published monthly from September through June by the Mohawk Valley Personal Computer User Group, Inc. (MVPCUG), PO Box 586, Marcy NY 13403-0586.

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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.

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\$25 for initial sign-up - or renewal

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what's.coming ~ American Red Cross Month ~ March 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Monthly General Meeting 6 PM N Hartford Library	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10 Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM	11	12 	13	14
15	16	17 	18	19	20 	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	March 3 - National Anthem Day March 8 - Daylight Savings Time Begins March 12 - Girl Scout Birthday March 20 - Spring [Vernal Equinox]			