

BGA-BYTES

Official Newsletter of the Bowling Green Area Microcomputer User Group, Inc.



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President's Message

September President's Message . . . It's Worth the Effort

Our August BGAMUG meeting was held in a new location in Building F at the Bowling Green Technical College. Our Newsletter Editor/Secretary, Peggy Beasley, who works at BGTC, secured this location for us. We appreciate the efforts of Peggy and her colleagues to provide such a wonderful location for us to meet.

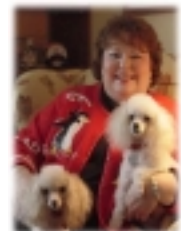
I'm typically an optimistic person, but I was a little concerned about people finding Building F. I was also concerned about there being enough 'stuff' donated for a good auction during our August meeting. BUT, I was pleasantly surprised! With a little extra effort, many of you found us and many of you bought 'stuff' for the auction. It was fun seeing everyone leave after our meeting and auction with their 'new' treasures. Everyone had a great time bidding, eating popcorn, and drinking cokes!

We are heading into our Fall meetings. At our September 23 meeting, Mike and Chuck will WOW us with information to help us get the most from our computers and our Internet searches. At our October 28 meeting, Ben Garayua, one of our newer members, will help us learn more about using our computers to manage our finances using online resources. Then, at our November 25 meeting, our Program Director, Howard Margolis, will show us more about making digital pictures and then editing and printing those pictures.

Fall is the time that BGAMUG begin to prepare for the next year. November is the month BGAMUG will elect a slate of officers to serve for the next year. The Nominating Committee will select a chair and two members at large. The officers serving on the committee are Peggy Beasley, Ginny Molloy, Mike Moore, Chuck Thomas, and Elbert Young.

This year we need to fill the following two-year positions: President, Vice President of Membership, Treasurer, Program Director, and Librarian. We also need to elect two Officers at Large to serve for a one-year term.

Serving on the BGAMUG Executive Board is a little work but it is worth the effort. If you are willing to serve in one of these positions, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee and let them know you are willing to have your name included on the ballot.



Community Education Computer Related Classes Fall 2003



**USING A PERSONAL COMPUTER,
INTRODUCTORY LEVEL**
Jerry Gillette, Instructor

Prepare yourself for the world of computers and the "Information Age." Learn the basics of Windows as you learn to use the mouse, change settings, organize files, edit documents, save and create files. Great for home users or those reentering the workforce.

6 Sessions, Mon./Wed., Sept. 29-Oct. 22 (no class Oct. 6 or 8), 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Greenwood High School 5065 Scottsville Rd. \$72.00

MICROSOFT EXCEL FOR BEGINNERS
Elaine Smith, Instructor

This course provides the foundation needed to use a spreadsheet for business applications. Design concepts, databases, & charts will be examined along with the major built-in functions. Keyboarding and mouse skills are needed.

6 Sessions: Tue. & Th., Oct. 28-Nov. 18 (no class Nov. 4), 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Warren Central 559 Morgantown Rd. \$70.00

MICROSOFT WORD
Jerry Gillette, Instructor

Learn the basics of this user-friendly program. Topics include: Editing & navigating in Word, character & paragraph formatting, controlling page appearance. Basic keyboarding & mouse skills are needed.

6 Sessions, Mon. & Wed., Nov. 3-19. 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Greenwood High School 5065 Scottsville Rd. \$70.00

INTERMEDIATE MICROSOFT EXCEL
Elaine Smith, Instructor

Still need more information on using your Excel program? Join Elaine for the 2nd part of this useful and informative class. Basic keyboarding and mouse skills necessary.

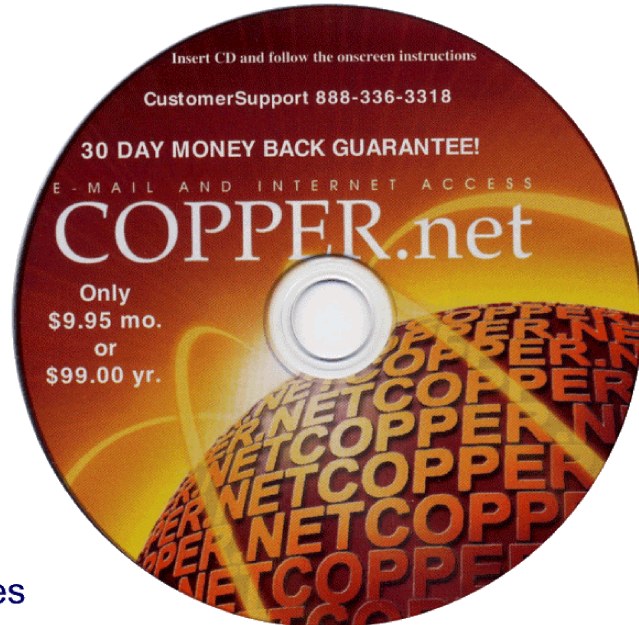
2 Sessions, Tu./Th., Dec. 2 & 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Warren Central 559 Morgantown Rd. \$25.00
SAVE! Take both Microsoft Excel classes for \$83.00

For more information check out the BGWC Community Education Website <http://bgwc-commmed.org/enrich.html>
or Jerry Gillette 781-6309 – email jagky@insightbb.com

Are you paying more than \$9.95 a month for Internet Service ?

Fast, Reliable Service
 No Annoying Ads
 No Setup Fees
 Easy Online Sign Up
 & Instant Activation
 Only \$9.95 Monthly
 \$99.00 pre-paid annually
 Nationwide Access
 email account @copper.net
 Toll Free Technical Support

No Long Distance for
 Bowling Green
 Franklin
 Morgantown
 Russellville & more area cities



Sign-up Online at www.copper.net or
 get an easy set-up CD at the meetings.

Use Promotional Code 317529 and BGAMUG makes \$ too!

2003 Officers

Linda Todd	President	Linda.Todd@wku.edu
Ginny Molloy	VP of Protocol	Charmcat@aol.com
Jerry Gillette	VP of Membership	jgky@accessky.net
Peggy Beasley	Secretary/Editor	Peggy.Beasley@kctcs.edu
Kathy Stinson	Treasurer	kathylstinson@nctc.com
Howard Margolis	Program Director	Howard_Margolis@msn.com
Chuck Thomas	VP of Technology	chuckct@insightbb.com
Patricia Vincent	Librarian	Pat.vincent@wku.edu
Elbert Young	Sergeant at Arms	yngsuel@aol.com
Jennie McCoy	Officer at Large	tootiemcc@msn.com
Edwin Phelps	Officer at Large	edolph@msn.com
Gene Iglehart	Director of Placement Program	iglehart@aol.com
Michael Moore	Historian	webstar@premiernet.net

Right Click
 Try It – You May Like It
 Les J. Kizer
 Greater Tampa Bay PC User Group
 Mid-Hudson Computer User Group
 pc.Les@Juno.com

My friends, there was a time long ago. It was way back in the early age as computer time is told. Even some of us old folks find it hard to recall; however, you know, for the children’s sake we need to remember history. It was a time before the ascent of the rodent.

In those prehistoric PC days, when we copied text from one place to another, we blocked the beginning of the copy or move by pressing ctrl-b. Then we would use the up and down arrow keys to go to the end of the block. Again we would press ctrl-b to define the end of the block. Eventually someone, who is long forgotten, highlighted the area from the beginning to the end of the block and told us the text was now selected, not blocked.

Unblocking was done with ctrl-o, which today will help you open a file. Ctrl-b now causes selected text to become bold, which in those dark days before the rodent invaded, I can’t remember having bold type at all.

Then while the text was blocked, or selected, we pressed ctrl-x for cut or ctrl-c for copy followed by using the up and down arrow keys to point to the place where we wanted the text inserted. Then press ctrl-v for paste. Ctrl-x, ctrl-c and ctrl-v still exist and are used by only the oldest among us.

When the rodent arrived and we plugged its tail into the PC, many advances came. The menu bar was enhanced buttons, and then the tool bar was added. Most application programs added rodent buttons for cut, copy and paste. With the index-finger pressing on the rodent’s hind quarter, selecting text was easier, and highlighted also.

Moving the rodent to the cut or copy button followed by a flick of the index finger gave the command to be. Then sliding the somewhat tamed rodent to the location of the insert, a quick flick and then back to the paste button for another flick of the index finger. Progress! Ease of Use! Fabulous! And rodents become famous, heralded throughout the land.

That, though, is not the end of the rodent’s march to fame. For all this fame was obtained by pressing the rodent with only the left or index finger. What about pressing the rodent’s other hind quarter?

Silently, with great stealth, someone slipped in something new. It was done so quietly and without a fanfare, we are not even sure when it began to happen. It is called simply: right-click, as opposed to click.

Now we can select the text we want to cut or copy. Then without an arduous effort of guiding the rodent to the menu or tool bar, we simply right-click. Walla! A menu pops up on the spot giving us likely choices upon which to flick our index finger. Move the rodent to the insert point, and right-click again. The same or a modified menu pops up for us to flick our choice. Neat, and so effortless.

Today, we can right-click almost anything – desktop, icons, menu bars – or anywhere, and a small menu pops up containing the choices we are most likely to flick. Such is the added triumph of the rodent and right-click.

Is there any end to what we can accomplish simply by flicking a rodent’s hind quarter—one side or the other. Long live the rodent!

There is no restriction against any non-profit group using this article as long as it is kept in context, with proper credit given to the author. This article is brought to you by the Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member.

OCTOBER 2003



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Fern Terrace 1:00—3:00 p.m.	4
5	6	7 Executive Board Meeting Lone Star@ 6:30	8	9	10 Fern Terrace 1:00—3:00 p.m.	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Fern Terrace 1:00—3:00 p.m.	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Fern Terrace 1:00—3:00 p.m.	25
26	27	28 General Meeting Bowling Green Technical College 6:30 p.m.	29	30	31 Fern Terrace  1:00—3:00 p.m.	

Grandma's on the Net!

Grandma used to make us cherry pies
and call us on the phone.
She would talk to us for hours; now
she leaves us all alone.

We miss her homemade biscuits and
I'll make this little bet -
If you want to contact Grandma,
you'll have to surf the net.

Grandma's surfin' the net, yes, she's
surfin' the net.
We've been calling her all morning
and we haven't got her yet.

She's on her e-mail network with all
her electronic friends.
If you want to talk to Grandma,
you'll have to surf the net.

Grandma's never surfed at Malibu or
caught a wave at Waikiki.
She's never seen a surf board; hang
ten doesn't mean a thing, you see.

She's never met a beach bum;
to her Moon Doggie is just a pup.
But when she heads to her computer,
you know the surf is up.

Grandma's getting older and her eyes
are getting dim.
Her random access memory is
half of what it's been.

When St. Peter comes to call,
she'll say I can't go yet.
He'll have to wait on Grandma,
'cause Grandma's surfin' the net.

--- written by just another old Grandma –



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BGAMUG General Meeting August 25, 2003

President Todd called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Bowling Green Technical College. All officers were present except Kathy Stinson.

A motion was made by Ginny Molloy and seconded by Lou Travelstead to give Gene Iglehardt a family Life time membership to the club. Motion carried. He was presented this membership by Jerry Gillette.

President Todd ask for any corrections to them minutes of the previous meeting , and with no corrections minutes will stand as printed in BGABytes.

President Todd announced that a contest is being held for club members who want to submit a mission statement for BGAMUG. The winner of the contest will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Best buy or Office Depot. She reported that a committee is looking into expanding the PC Placement Program. She stated that the nominating committee for the upcoming elections will be Genny Molloy, Chuck Thomas, Peggy Beasley Mike Moore and two other members of the membership. The following are offices that need to be filled, President, Vice President of membership, treasurer, librarian and Program Director.

Officer Reports

Jerry Gillette reported the following guest: Wayne Thomson, Ron Watts, Larry Gilligian, and H.A. McClard.

Genny Molloy announced that the Rules Committee will meet after the September 2nd Board meeting.

Chuck Thomas stated that the bulb for Dorothy has arrived. He gave an update on protecting your computers from the viruses that are attacking computers.

President Todd gave the treasurer's report with an ending balance of \$1,666,67.

Howard Margolis reported that the program for the September meeting will be the Chuck and Mike Show.

Mike Moore gave a brief report on Spy ware and tracking cookies.

Gene Iglehardt gave away 80 computers.

Howard Ragland gave a report on Fern Terrace.

The business meeting portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

An auction of many computer related items was very successful. A very special Thank You goes to Jerry Gillette for coordinating the auction and making it so successful, and to all who made donations.

Submitted by

Peggy Beasley

Hunt for the Lost Font
By Mick Topping
Springfield, Missouri User Groups
mtopping@mchsi.com

Did you ever lose a font? A year or so ago I made up and printed a sheet of business cards that I was happy with. Last week, I gave away my last one. (I go through about one card a month.) When I opened the business card again (in Corel Draw-7), it complained that it could not find the font Andy Bold, and asked which font to substitute.

Let me mention that I am not much of a font person. I usually couldn't care less about which font to use. I am an engineer, more interested in the meaning of the words than in how they are drawn. Arial, Courier, and Times New Roman are about all I ever use. But for my business card, I wanted something to reflect my casual insouciance, and convey the fact that I have a passion for informality, and that I am really not looking for work. Since I had put a good 10-15 minutes into the original font selection, I was somewhat concerned, and more than somewhat irritated that it was no longer available. So, I decided to hunt the critter down.

First, I looked for "Andy" in every font folder on 3 computers. (I couldn't remember which machine I had used to print the cards.) Nothing like **Andy Bold** anywhere. Then I remembered, Windows applications (for the most part) keep their fonts in the C:\Windows\Fonts folder, and most applications just reach into this folder to use a font. And applications rarely delete their fonts when they are uninstalled. So any font that was ever put on a computer is likely still there, unless major surgery has been done. This fact pointed to my laptop computer as the culprit, as I had recently done a clean-install of WindowsXP, whereas the other computers had been little changed over the year. Regular experimentation had caused numerous apps to be installed on the laptop, then when the new version of Windows was installed only those apps still needed were re-installed.

But which of those non-reinstalled applications came with the Andy Bold font? First a web-search on "lost font"--wow, I am not the only one who has lost a font. Over 300 web pages containing "lost font", none of which were very promising. Many of the links were inactive, and advertising overwhelmed others, and I was getting nowhere. Another search on "**Andy Bold**", only a few hits this time, and here was a "Bulkley Valley Christian" school web page, with a note that to appreciate the page you needed to have Andy Bold installed on your computer. And there was a link promising to let me download AndyB.ttf ! Unfortunately, it was another broken link. Most likely, someone had remembered that the fonts are copyrighted, and shouldn't be downloaded.

In frustration, I finally gave-up, and printed 2 new sheets of business cards in Balloon... or Plump or Poster Boldoni, not sure which. Of course, the new cards were not out of the printer when I had another thought--maybe someone at Microsoft had considered this problem. Sure enough they had. It is not easy to find, but once you know where to look,

<http://www.microsoft.com/typography/fonts/default.asp> has a search engine that will allow you to find which applications came with which fonts.

A quick lookup, and there was what I needed. **Andy Bold** is distributed with Microsoft Home Publisher, part of the never used software that had come with my laptop. A quick dig through my stack of CD-ROMs, and there it was, in the MHP\Fonts folder, an icon labeled AndyB.ttf. I drag it over to my Windows\Fonts folder, and it automatically installs, and I can now print my cards like I want them. Unfortunately, I have a 2-year supply of them done with the other font. Anyone want a card? Aw come on--please take a card.

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EBAY Hints and Tips

By Cathy Margolin, President
North Orange County Computer Club, California

BUYING ON EBAY

Ebay is the largest global marketplace with very low entry cost. Tons of new and used and collectable items are bought and sold every day as there are millions of sellers putting up items that you may not be able to find anywhere else! Last year, eBay users exchanged some \$9.3 billion worth of goods. On an average day there may be over 1 million sales occurring.

First off you should start watching some auctions to get a feel for the process. Once you get used to the process, get an Ebay id (do not use your e-mail name as your user-id, the spammers will get it!). Then start bidding on small items to learn the process and develop positive feedback. It all runs on feedback. Also multiple user-ids are still ok. Some people use one for selling and another for buying, so as not to let people know their sources.

HOW TO FIND WHAT YOU WANT

You can search titles and descriptions such as:

Haviland -johann -theo* (which means look for haviland with no johann and no theo* which is a wild card to ignore any theo-----).

You can also look under categories to find an item, but remember not everyone puts their article for sale in the correct categories.

When the seller has tons of items and you want to Only search Palm Pilot, go to seller search, go to the bottom of the page, enter Palm Pilot, and under Multiple sellers, put the person's eBay id (or several id's).

BIDDING

Make sure you check the sellers feedback--too many negatives and neutrals is NOT good. Beware of a seller with no feedback and a large dollar item for sale, they may be good or bad or just not know the ropes yet, but you do not have enough information to trust them with your hard-earned money.

If you have a concern about the seller, ask them a question a few days before the auctions end (such as cost of shipping, do they take Paypal, etc.) to see how they respond.

Use odd numbered cents, such as .99 since the bids go up in increments of 50 cents, \$1 (depending on the value of the bid), you may win an item by just one cent.

Think of any auction you have been to – it is only the last price at the close of the hammer that counts! Always snipe -- which is bidding at the last minute. In this auction format, it is only the highest bidder at the close of the auction that wins. If you bid during the week, you keep driving up the price, but bidding at the last second masks interest and usually results in a lower cost. You can use a service (www.esnipe.com which charges a fee or hammersnipe at hammertap.com which does not) or use a program on your own computer.

Bid the maximum amount you want to spend (proxy bidding -- only goes up to this amount if someone places a bid against you). Be aware of the Terms of Sale (TOS) for each seller. They differ greatly.

- What form of payment do they take?
- What is the shipping cost, as this can be very high! The Post Office uses zip codes to price shipping, so it is now less complicated.
- Check out seller feedback and what type of items they usually sell.

A set of tips is at the Vendio site (which also has an online bulletin board about ebay auctions).

<http://www.vendio.com/service/tipsandtactics/index2.html>

HOW TO PAY

To help protect yourself, use a credit card, if possible, Paypal, check or lastly a money order. If the transaction goes wrong, you can stop payment on your check and it is easier to get reimbursed (chargeback) if you use a credit card.

When the item has arrived, don't forget to give feedback to the seller.

Ebay is where the market is in online auctions – it is an ever-changing marketplace, where change is constant.

Happy Ebay-ing!

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Going in So Many Directions By Jerry Gillette

Each month I learn a lot by helping other BGAMUG members and friends find solutions for their computer problems. Many times I create the same scenarios on my system to test-things-out. Yes, this gets me in trouble some times but I enjoy a good adventure into the unknown now and then.

In this article I would like to share with you some of the computing issues some of us have encountered during the past month. Some involve new things; others are dealing with subjects that have been around for some time.

To keep the article short I have included some very good websites to visit for more information.

Lessons Learned

With the wave of email worms that swept the world in mid August, we learned the importance of keeping our systems updated and protected against invading pesky things.

Check out Microsoft's 3 Steps To Ensure Your Computer Is Protected. At this site:

www.microsoft.com/security/protect/default.asp

Firewalls

Firewalls have been around for a long time but until recent years used mostly by businesses and power users. Now every Internet user needs to realize the need and take advantage of the security offered by this technology.

To learn more about Firewalls go to www.microsoft.com/security/protect/firewall.asp

I have installed and use Zone Labs Zone Alarm. It has excellent reviews, comes highly recommended, and is free. Download it at

www.zonelabs.com/store/content/company/products/zna/m/freeDownload.jsp

New MSN Messenger Upgrade

If you use Microsoft's Instant Messenger, you may have received an email from MS urging users to upgrade to the new MSN Messenger 6.0. For security reasons Microsoft will lock down and discontinue many older versions of the service as of October 15th. Some third party developers are using the MS Messenger service as a vehicle for their programs that, according to Microsoft, could pose a security threat.

MSN Messenger 6.0 now includes features other IM programs have had for a long time. I personally upgraded to it and enjoy some of the bells and whistles, particularly playing games with buddies in real time. One of our favorites games "Bejeweled" is included. The other feature I like most is being able to instantly send a photo or a file to my online buddy immediately. Check it out at

<http://messenger.msn.com/>

Be aware that after upgrading to MSN Messenger 6.0 from older versions of Windows Messenger, you will have both messenger programs running in your systray. As Windows Messenger is part of the operating system it can not be removed from the system through the uninstall process. The setting not to run Windows Messenger at startup will be done with MSN Messenger installation but will not take effect until you reboot the system.

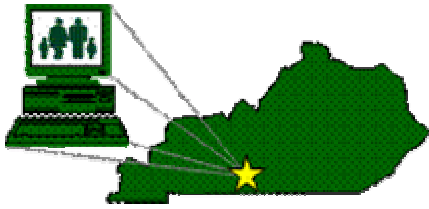
Slow Windows Startups?

Learn how to use MSCONFIG

Most people know that the more programs you have running on your computer at once, the more likely it is that your computer will either run slowly or even crash. What most people don't know is that every time you boot your computer a whole mess of "hidden" programs load in the background. Some of these hidden programs are essential, but most aren't. Turning off some of these hidden programs can significantly increase your computer's performance and reliability.

Lear how to use MSCONFIG at <http://netsquirrel.com/msconfig/> to disable some of the unnecessary programs that automatically load on start-up.

BGAMUG
P.O. Box 20384
Bowling Green, KY 42102



Visit Our Website
www.bgamug.org

«ATTN TO»
«F_NAME» «L_NAME»
«STREET»
«CITY ST ZIP»

«DUE_DATE»

**Monthly Meeting will be Tuesday,
September 23, 6:30 p.m. at
Bowling Green Technical College
Building F
1845 Loop Drive**

**For directions or information call:
Peggy @ 270-746-7461 ext 2154**