

BGA-BYTES

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

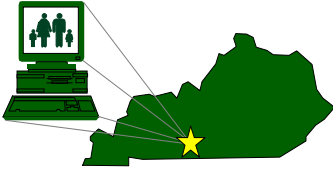
BGAMUG

Volume 17, Issue 8; August 2007
PO Box 50882, Bowling Green, KY 42102-4182

Member of



Association of PC User Groups



August Meeting Presentations

The August BGAMUG Program will be a two-part presentation. For the first 20 minute presentation, Linda Todd will present information regarding: Good File Management Principles.

The second 20 minute presentation will be by Chuck Thomas and John Walker regarding: What To Transfer To A New Computer, And How To Do It.

Great Words of Wisdom

Blessed are those who go around in circles, for they shall be known as wheels.

Door Prize and Member's Door Dollar Prize

At the July General Meeting the door prize was won by Charley Tully. The prize was a keychain digital camera.

The Member's Door Dollar Prize was not paid at the July meeting because the winner in the drawing was not present. Consequently the August Member's prize will be \$ 20 instead of \$10. If you get a thrill playing games of chance, then be sure to come to the August meeting. Even if you don't get the money you will at least have the thrill of getting a chance, provided you are a member. If you are not a member, then sign up. Only \$25 for annual membership for one person.

Non Profit Special Interest Group

The non-profit SIG met on July 19. There are still problems with the phones at our local Big Brother / Big Sister, but the group is working on it. The Franklin Boys and Girls Club, which needed computers, has received twelve Pentium III computers from Gene Iglehart. Good show, Gene! That is community service.

Dairy Queen is Back in Town

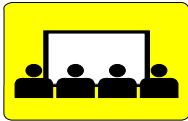
Many of us miss the Dairy Queen on Russellville Road. It is where we had social meetings following each BGAMUG General meeting. Well, that one is gone, but a new Dairy Queen has opened on 31W, just South of Campbell Lane. It is too far away from the BGTC for us to go there right after meetings, but if you like Dairy Queens, there is finally one back in town.

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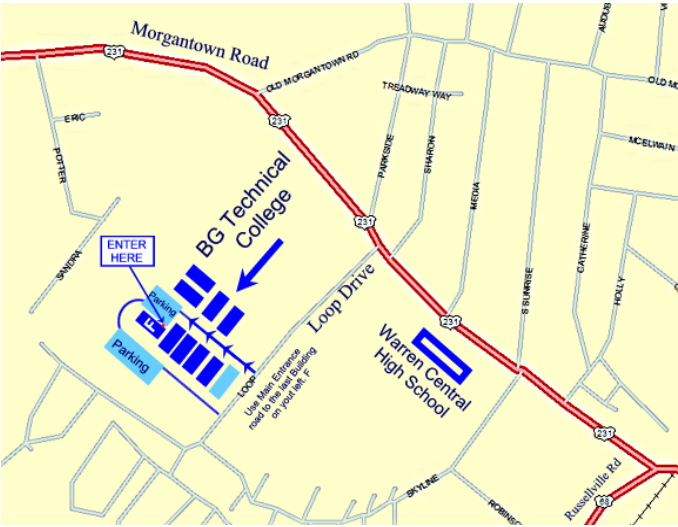
August 2007

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September 2007

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BGAMUG General Meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The next two meetings are August 28 and September 25. These meetings will be at the Bowling Green Technical College, Bld 5, at 6:30 PM. See the map above. Entrance to the BGTC campus on Loop Drive is clearly marked. Building 5 is the last building on the left, down the road through the campus. Following the meeting, there is an optional social meeting at Hardee's Restaurant at Russellville Road and Campbell Lane. Ask for explicit directions at the meeting.

BGAMUG Board Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month. The next board meeting will be on Sept. 4, in the Alamo Room of the Lone Star Restaurant, 2425 Scottsville Road. It is located between the Greenwood Mall and the Best Buy store. The meeting starts at 6:30 PM and is open to all. An optional dinner at your own expense starts at the same place at 5:30 PM. The regular Lone Star Dinner Menu is available.

BGAMUG Treasurer's Report

Balance July 1, 2007	\$ 2,466.22
July Deposits	86.67
July Checks	573.56
Balance July 30, 2007	\$ 1,979.33



Membership dues were responsible for the majority of our deposits made in July. Our major expenses were for insurance premiums and a recent order of more BGAMUG branded pens.

As always, the treasurer's records are open for inspection and a detailed report made available at meetings upon request.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Gillette, BGAMUG Treasurer



Checkmate by Computer

Editor's note: This article was obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups.

Man-vs-machine has been a theme that has intrigued the public for many ears. The Turk was a chess playing automaton that was a sensation in Europe in the 1770s. The Turk was a wooden cabinet with a chess board on top played by a life-sized mannequin dressed in Turkish style. This mysterious device could play against and often defeat human chess opponents including Napoleon Bonaparte and Benjamin Franklin. In truth, the Turk was a clever illusion as the cabinet concealed a human chess expert who moved the Turk's arm and played the games. The Turk was created by Wolfgang von Kempleur and was not only a success in Europe but later in the United States. Eventually the Turk was no longer popular and was destroyed in a fire in Philadelphia in 1864. Edgar Allen Poe wrote a widely read 1836 essay proposing that the Turk concealed a human chess player.

The best known of the man-vs-machine devices was the world-famous Deep Blue. Deep Blue began as a chess program named Chipset (later Deep Thought) and was created by Fenghsuing Hsu and Thomas Anantharman at Carnegie Mellon University. The creators later joined IBM Corporation which supported the development of the system. Deep Thought was eventually renamed Deep Blue, a twist on IBM's corporation nick name, Big Blue. Deep Blue was a RS/6000 SP parallel processor with specialized microchips for chess and calculated 200 million chess moves per second. Deep Blue lost a six-game match to world chess champion, Gary Kasparov, in 1996. But in the 1997 rematch, Deep Blue made history by defeating Kasparov 3.5 games to 2.5 games.

Many in the chess world believe that Gary Kasparov is the greatest human chess player. He had never lost a game previously and was unnerved at his loss and began ascribing almost human features to the computer. While Deep Blue had access to all of Kasparov's games, Kasparov was not allowed to see Deep Blue's previous games for study. He received \$400,000 for his loss and would have received \$700,000 if he had won. IBM retired Big Blue after the match.

Another famous chess playing computer was Deep Fritz backed by a German company ChessSise and written by two programmers, Franz Marsh and Mathias Feist. The word, deep, is a nod to IBM's Deep Blue. Deep Fritz was in the news in 2001 when a chess match ended in a 4-4 tie with Russian chess expert, Vladimir Krammick.

In 2003, the long awaited chess match between Gary Kasparov and Deep Junior, a three-time world champion computer developed by Amir Ban and Shay Bushinsky who were both from Israel was played in New York City. The match ended in a 3.0 to 3.0 tie. Kasparov quipped to his mother, "at least I didn't lose." Well, this subject is getting too "deep" for me. Now I don't have to worry about anymore literary "moves" since I have been officially "checkmated."

Regarding the Great American Chestnut Tree

By Carlisle Barnes from material in the Christian Science Monitor and from other sources on the Internet.

In the Eastern Woodlands of North American, there was once a giant and dominant tree larger than the ancient oaks, and taller than the tallest elms. It lived for centuries, growing to as much as 120 feet tall, with trunks as large as four feet in diameter. It was the mighty Chestnut, and was a characteristic of the Eastern forests in our country. Does anyone remember the lines: "Beneath the spreading chestnut tree, the mighty smithy stands." Well, English classes have changed, but there was a time when every high school student knew those lines. Also, there were songs about roasting chestnuts by the open fire, but relatively few people now roast chestnuts (European or Asian only) because the popularity has diminished. What happened to this dominating and characteristically American tree? Why did this tree go the way of the American Carrier Pigeon.

What happened is that the "Chestnut Blight," probably introduced from China, killed virtually all the American Chestnut trees. First reported in 1904, it was probably present ten to twenty years earlier but had not been noted before 1904 because to that point it had been only a local killer. After that was a national killer. Fungus from infected trees was carried to healthy trees by Gypsy moths, a pest which was also an import. There were probably other carriers also.

Western Kentucky is not usually included as part of the native range of American Chestnut trees, but those of us who are old enough to remember the depression years of the 1930s can not only remember the giant dead ghosts of Chestnut trees standing in forests in Warren and adjoining counties, but we can also remember seeing a few live trees here and there and occasionally picking up fresh chestnuts. I have indeed eaten American chestnuts roasted by an open fire. In the war years of the 1940s, live Chestnut trees were virtually gone, but many dead trees still stood. By 1950, even those giant skeletons had fallen, and American Chestnut trees and their chestnuts were gone. Hopefully, not gone forever, but it seemed so at the time.

It is reported in the Christian Science Monitor that long term cross breeding has produced blight resistant Chestnut trees. These are 15/16th American Chestnut and 1/16th blight resistant Chinese Chestnut. Close enough to work. In three more years, the US Forrest Service expects to plant thousands of these trees in forests through parts of Kentucky and West Virginia. If successful, and there is every reason to be optimistic, they will bear fruit when six years old. So soon, American Chestnut trees may once again exist in our Eastern forests. It should happen within the lifetime of many club members.

The New, the Best, and the Worst

Collected by Pim Borman, Webmaster, SW Indiana PC Users Group, Inc. <http://swipcug.apcug.org/> Used by permission

Computer Globalization

University and industrial research laboratories in the United States can be proud of having spawned the computer revolution almost single-handedly. AT&T's Bell Laboratories invented the transistor and developed the Unix operating system that in turn formed the basis of DOS and Linux. The C and C++ programming languages originated at Bell Labs also. The basic configuration of desktop computers originated with the IBM PC which in turn was the seed for the current Intel and Microsoft dominance in desktop computers. The Internet grew out of a collaboration of mostly American researchers, sponsored by universities and government labs. Microsoft's near-monopoly created *de facto* software standards, including the Windows operating system, Web browser, Office programs, and related software. Not surprisingly, even though computers have spread out all over the world, the standards governing their behavior are still strongly American-dominated.

Increasingly, foreign governments are objecting to some of the US-based standards. One bone of contention is ICANN, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a [California non-profit corporation](#) that manages the assignment of [domain names](#) and [IP addresses on the Internet](#). There is widespread feeling that this task should be taken over by an international committee. Also, *de facto* standards imposed by the dominant MS Windows operating systems and the proprietary nature of its Office software are being challenged with a world-wide move towards Open Source software, including the Linux operating system and notable software such as the OpenOffice suite of office programs.

The latest version of Microsoft Office, version 7, uses a different proprietary format, based on the XML hypertext markup language. It is not only incompatible with earlier MS Word and Excel formats, but also with the internationally established standard Open Document Format, equally based on XML. This is regrettable since much documentation generated since computers came in use is already inaccessible in electronic form because of obsolescence. General acceptance of the Open Document Format is an essential step to avoiding further loss of documentation due to changing technology. There is a growing trend amongst private and governmental organizations to abandon proprietary document formats in favor of international standards. Microsoft may be forced to accept the open Document Format for use with its Office programs sooner or later.

The computer revolution clearly originated in the USA, and we can be proud of that. But now that the technology has spread to the rest of the world, opposition is growing to the continuing domination of American companies and standards. Globalization may have to extend to the acceptance of internationally generated and approved standards.

Random Spam

Have you noticed that a lot of spam lately appears to be totally pointless? Instead of trying to sell pornography, get-rich-quick schemes or ED medication (aka Viagra), the subject lines and content appear to consist of random words and sentences. Its intent is to neutralize spam filters that depend on keywords such as Viagra to identify and intercept spam. Swamping the Web with these decoys makes it harder to distinguish spam carrying messages from random noise. Same trick as used by Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles. Most of these decoys are sent out by zombie computers, personal and institutional computers lacking adequate firewalls and virus protection, that have been hijacked by spammers and are transmitting spam unbeknownst to the owners. Are you sure yours is not one of them?

Free Software

As long as it has been available, I have been using tax preparation software for the annual IRS ritual. Mostly, I have been using the plain version of Tax Cut, because it has been the cheapest and done the job. Since my tax return is much the same from year to year I used to get irked by the roundabout way Tax Cut forces you to prepare your return. Last year Tax Cut sent free copies of its program around to previous users and as inserts in PC Magazines, so I just put up with it again. But this year I haven't seen any free copies and decided to try the free **Tax Act**. It has the reputation of being a solid program, but with less hand holding than Tax Cut and Turbo Tax provide – just what I wanted.

I downloaded the program from www.taxact.com and used it to prepare a provisional return. It worked just as I wanted, straightforward question-and-answer steps, or by directly filling in the forms as preferred. It told me about the tax credit for previously paid federal telephone taxes and otherwise took care of the calculations and printing the forms. It also offered to file electronically without charge, but I am still waiting for some 1099 forms, and the government still hasn't finalized some of the supporting forms for 2006. The only minor downside was that it didn't import my personal data from last year's Tax Cut-prepared return, but that was typed in quickly enough. If you really need more help (from J.K. Lasser) you can download the Deluxe version for 9.95, or for 15.95 if you also want it to do the state return.

If you are interested in protecting your computer with a firewall and anti-virus software you might look at the Comodo Group. They offer a completely free firewall program, **Comodo.firewall 2.4** that has received good reviews for effectiveness and ease-of-use. They also have **Comodo.antivirus** that is still in beta, but free for the downloading. Comodo Group is an organization providing commercial security software worldwide, making it likely that they know what they are doing. They provide this free software, as well as some other free security programs, to improve their name recognition. More power to them! Find out more at <http://www.comodo.com/news/>

What's New in the Library

By Carol Brodeur

Our Librarian, Karen Wickliff, has acquired two new books that will be of great interest to some of the members.

(1) "Windows Vista Plain and Simple" by Jerry Joyce and Marianne Moon

If you are thinking about purchasing a new computer with a Vista operating system, this book will give you all the information you need. It gives step by step instructions from starting your computer to advanced multimedia functions. The chapter which I found to be most helpful was "What's Where in Windows Vista"

(2) "Office Excel 2007 Plain and Simple by Curtis Frye

For the experienced Excel user, you can go to Chapter 2 to learn how to find the functions and tools you used in Excel 2003. If you are just starting out with Excel, this book will guide you from chapter to chapter on how to use all the amazing functions of Excel 2007.

Karen brings the library books to the membership meeting each month where you can sign a book out for a month. Other books in our library are listed below. You can read a review of these books in the June 2006 edition of the newsletter by going to our website at <http://www.bgamug.org/>



Step By Step – Microsoft Office Systems 2003
Faster, Smarter – Microsoft Office Systems 2003
Web Design
PHP-Nuke
Linux Desktop
Digital Photography Pocket Guide
Adobe Photoshop CS One-on-One



Share With Us

By Jerry Gillette

When most of us joined BGAMUG, we did so because we wanted to learn more about the magical world of computers. We immediately found ourselves surrounded by others with similar needs and interests. In our minds, the speakers and presenters became thought of as gurus with advanced levels of computer knowledge. In some cases, this was true. But often we find ourselves, regardless of our level of expertise, sharing small bits and pieces about our computing experiences with each other. Whether the information shared be about what you did or how you did it, you are actually becoming a presenter by just sharing the information.

Computer user groups are based on the basic concept of users helping users. The presenters therefore do not have to be professionals in their fields, nor should they be expected to have all the answers. Some of the best presentations come from the common users sharing little bits and pieces about a given subject. When done in an open forum with an audience, there are usually questions that the presenter can not answer. Those answers will most often come from someone in the audience.

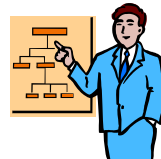
Last month's presentation by Ramona Bobbitt was a perfect example of a real user group presentation. Many meeting attendees got involved by asking or answering questions, and even Ramona said she learned a lot herself.

Having taught many classes and having put on several presentations, I can truthfully say I have learned something from each and every one. When a student or member in the audience asks a question and the answer comes from the floor, or we have to search for the solution our selves, we also learn.

Then there are those who are not comfortable speaking in front of large groups of people. Well, experience helps take away the discomfort. We are now using microphones so all can hear. "I could never speak with one of those things", you might say. Try it! You may like it! Again, experience helps.

At BGAMUG meetings, we should all feel like we are in a family. Honestly, no one will laugh *at* you if you sound funny or make a boo-boo. We all find those moments as simply relaxing added entertainment.

Please consider sharing some of your computing experiences and adventures with us during an upcoming meeting. I am sure Program Director Linda Todd will welcome your volunteering and we will all chip-in and help you thru it all.



Review of *Spin It Again*

Written by Rod Rakes, APCUG Advisor; President & Editor, Gwinnett SeniorNet PC Users Group, Georgia; Editor & Webmaster, Huntsville PC User Group, Alabama. Used by permission of The Editorial Committee of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG), an international organization of which this group is a member.

Spin It Again by **Acoustica** is a software program that will make it easy to convert your collection of cassettes, 33's, 45's and even 78's to MP3/WMA/WAV files or directly to CDs. Some folks have even used the program to rip 8-Tracks. Remember those?

Cost? \$34.95 retail, but \$27.96 for User Group members. This 20% discount is available online from the link above. You must use the code "CLUB2007." You will receive a registration code via email. But, you can try it free for three times. (3 albums).

Where do I get it and/or read more? <http://www.Acoustica.com> The program is an 8+ MB download.

System Requirements: If you have a Windows computer with a soundcard you're ready to use the software!

Recommended? YES!

How good is it? REALLY GOOD! First off, I was impressed by the voice instructions when the program starts. There is a Hookup Wizard with photos of how to connect to your amplifier, cassette player or turntable. Songs are automatically divided into files based on the lull between songs. A Level Wizard sets the volume level automatically based on playing a portion of your loudest song in an album.

You can save the files as MP3, OGG, WMA or WAV files. A variety of choices are available to clean up the recordings, e.g., Damaged Record, Damaged Tape, Tape clean with Equalizer, Tape Noise Begone, Warped record, even a No-preamp blues setting, etc. Someone referred to this as a Mikey cereal eater that eats Snap, Crackle and Pop. Accept the defaults and it's very easy work.

I recorded three record albums and two cassette tapes of music using a stereo amplifier, cassette player and turntable. The result was free of any clicks, pops and hiss of the original recordings, at least to my ears. The only "problem" I had was a song by Judy Collins that had long silent passages which fooled the software into thinking there were several songs. But, it was easily fixed with the Merge options. (Be sure to read the tutorial.) I chose to save the songs in MP3 format and gave each a name in the chart before actually hitting the Save/Convert button. You can embed in the files the Artist, Title, Genre, Year and add comments. On the last test I chose to record an album directly to CD using the Spin It Again software. It worked like a charm with no need to make a later recording from the MP3's using Nero, Roxio, etc.

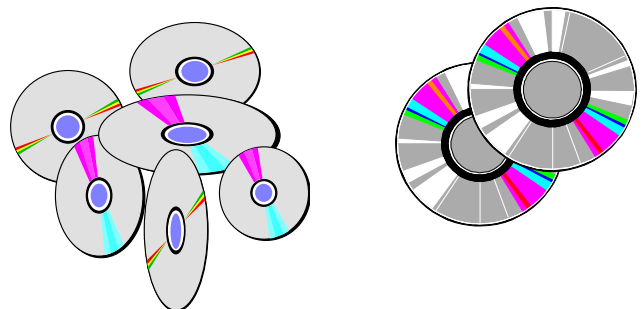
I had a priceless cassette tape of family nonsense that had been re-recorded from reel to reel tapes from long ago when my children were small. The volume varied greatly. I placed the cassette tape in a small inexpensive hand held player (Walkman type) and connected a cable between the speaker jack and the Line In jack in the back of my computer. This meant I could adjust the sound during the low and high volume sections of the tape by using the player's volume control. That worked satisfactorily since the tape was not perfection in the first place. The recording was even better than the original with little or no hiss and a more consistent volume level! There is an option for auto-leveling the volume for a given song to eliminate distortion on high peaks.

An MP3 file of LaPaloma had a loud click at the 51-second mark that could not be cleaned properly even with the special peak click filtering after manually isolating the click. I was finally able to eliminate the click but each side of the original click had a warble that was worse than the click. The Help file said if this happens, try to make a better recording somehow. Since it was only one click, I would guess there was a spot of something on the vinyl surface or a pin point gouge. You can't make a purse out of a sow's ear, huh?

One of the fun and useful features is the ability to adjust the speed of a recording. I recorded several old 78 RPM records using the 45 RPM speed of my turntable and increased the speed accordingly using the drop-down menu until it sounded normal. I'm trying to find my 78 RPM copy of Roy Acuff's "Sixteen Chickens in a Frying Pan." Everybody needs to hear that. For the tinkering types out there, many tweaks are available including a change in sampling rates, sensitivity of track detection, recording levels, etc.

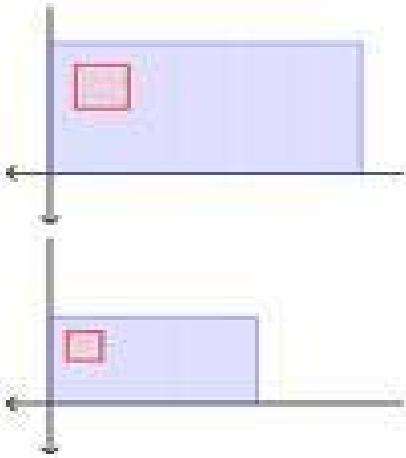
The program is highly recommended. *Rod Rakes*

Editor's Note: This program is but one of several Available of the same general type. We will try to give reviews of some others over the next months.



Resizing Images

By Michael L. Moore



A question came up at our last meeting about how to resize images that are to be e-mailed, or once you receive a photo that is too large, how to you shrink to a size that is easy to view. Although your grandson's eyes are his best feature, you probably don't want to print and frame just the eyes!

There are many reasons why one would want to change the size of digital photo images, but for the purpose of this article, we'll assume you want to shrink the size of the image because you want to e-mail it, or you want to view it or print it in a reasonable size format.

Why do we worry about the file size when sending a photo attached to e-mail? Because some ISPs will refuse to deliver very large files, and you may send it to someone who has a dial-up connection, causing a delay during the download of the e-mail with the photo attachment.

Today's digital cameras produce very large image files, even at the default settings. These files can be tens or hundreds of megabytes in size, and it's quite possible to shrink both the file size and the resulting picture format size without reducing the quality and resolution of the photo.

One suggestion was to utilize a very old Microsoft program, Paint, to resize images, which led me to wonder if Paint is the answer to *every* technical question we receive. It sure seems to be, but in this case, you really can load a photo into Paint and then save it at a smaller size after utilizing the Image/Stretch-Skew (Ctrl-W) feature. The problem with Microsoft Paint is it is a little cumbersome to use if you have an entire directory full of image files from your camera that need to be resized. There are a slew of so-called "free" image resize programs out there, but as we've mentioned before, *free* on the internet means that the author is free to define free anyway he or she chooses, including the freedom of the author to levy a gullibility tax on you for downloading the program or giving away your e-mail address. So stay away from "free" unless the source is unimpeachable, such as Microsoft.

I can hear the screams from Gene's garage from here. "Microsoft?? Unimpeachable???" But just wait, let me explain what I mean by that, which is this: The bigger they are, the harder they fall. Microsoft has an interest in giving users exactly what is advertised. They are under a very big microscope, and should there be any shareware, freeware or even for-profit ware that is released under any kind of false pretense (as with spy-ware), the user community backlash would be tremendous, and this would hurt Microsoft even if only their pride. And believe me, there are people that look for Microsoft false pretenses every day, before breakfast.

So, when Microsoft says free, you can pretty much bank on that as long as you've made sure to spell the web site correctly. Just don't expect any customer support. Microsoft has a line of free small tools that they call PowerToys, (which must be cool since the name has no space between "Power" and "Toy") that are somewhere between applications and software engineer daydreams. Fortunately for us, they are free and usually work well, if you get them for the correct operating system. Some of them only work on Windows XP.

The one we want for shrinking photo images is called, naturally, the Image Resizer tool, and it can be found for download on the right hand column of this page (click on the link or type it into your browser):

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/powertoys/xppowertoys.msp>

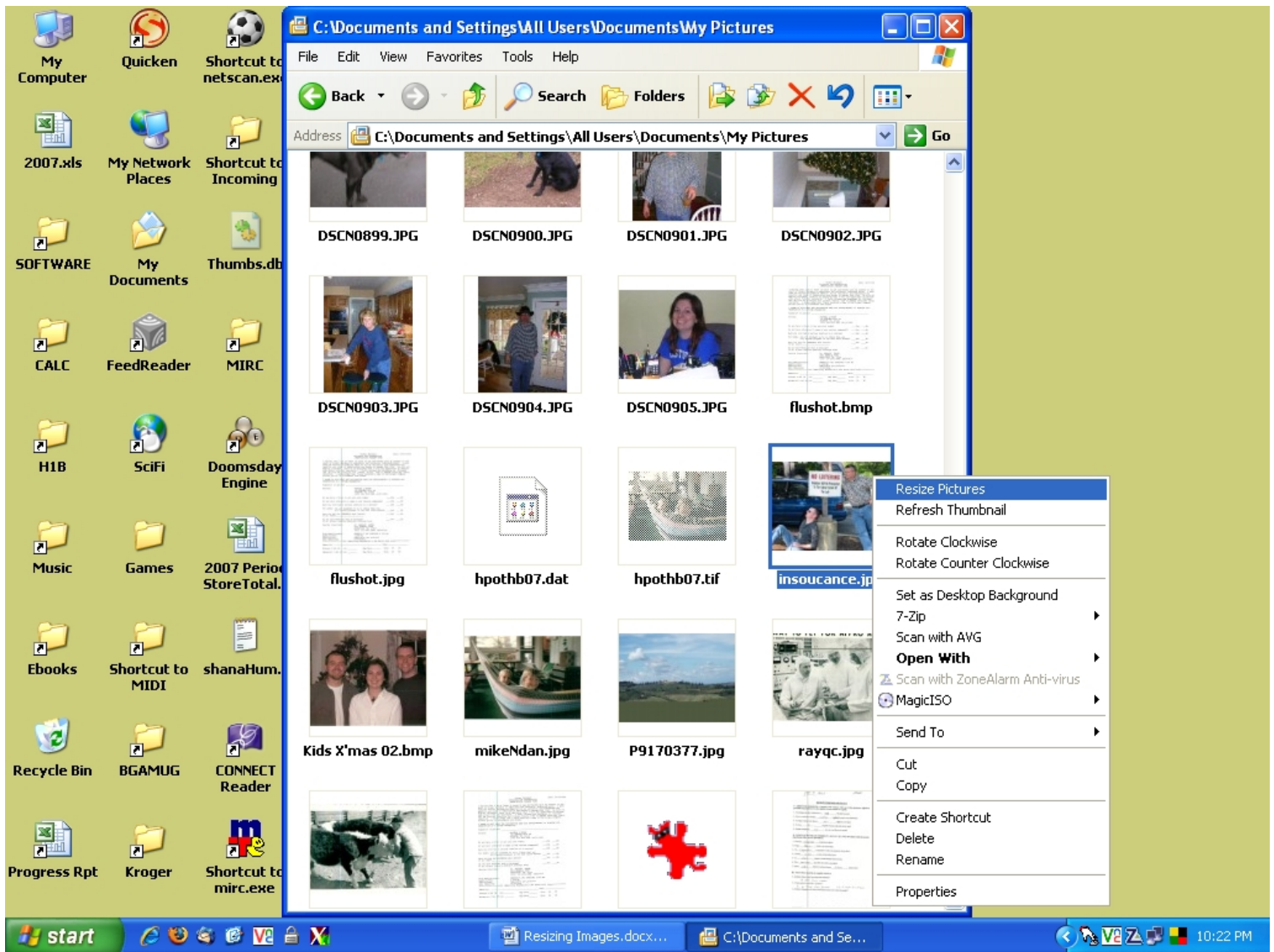
The nice thing about PowerToys is whatever they do, it's accessible using a context (right-click) menu. So that means that without actually having used this tool before, I know that it's going to be easy to use. All I will need to do to load the program would be to right-click on a particular image file that I wish to resize, and there should be some reference on the menu that pops up to the Image Resizer. Another click on that should load the PowerToy and at the same time load the photo image.

I start by downloading the Image Resizer program to my desktop. I do this so I can find the blame thing after it's done downloading. It's only half a meg in size and could easily get lost in the vast Narnia behind the wardrobe. Installing is a breeze: just double left click, accept Microsoft's End User Licensing Agreement, and the thing's installed, just like that. However, if you go looking for it in the usual place (Start, Programs, Image Resizer), it won't be there.

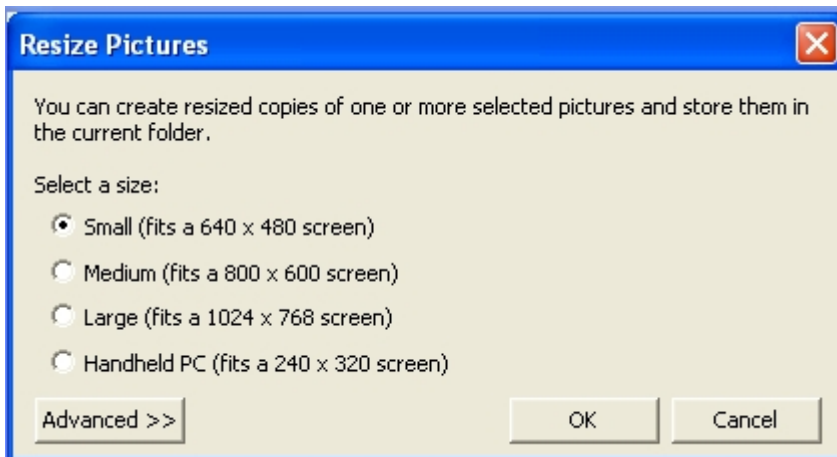
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Resizing Images Continued from page 7

Instead, find a photo file, and right click on it. The very first option on the context menu will be “resize pictures.” It looks like this:



I click or press the ‘enter’ key on “Resize Pictures,” and I get this:



Selecting the Small size saves a copy of the image file to the same directory with the word “small” in parentheses in the file name.

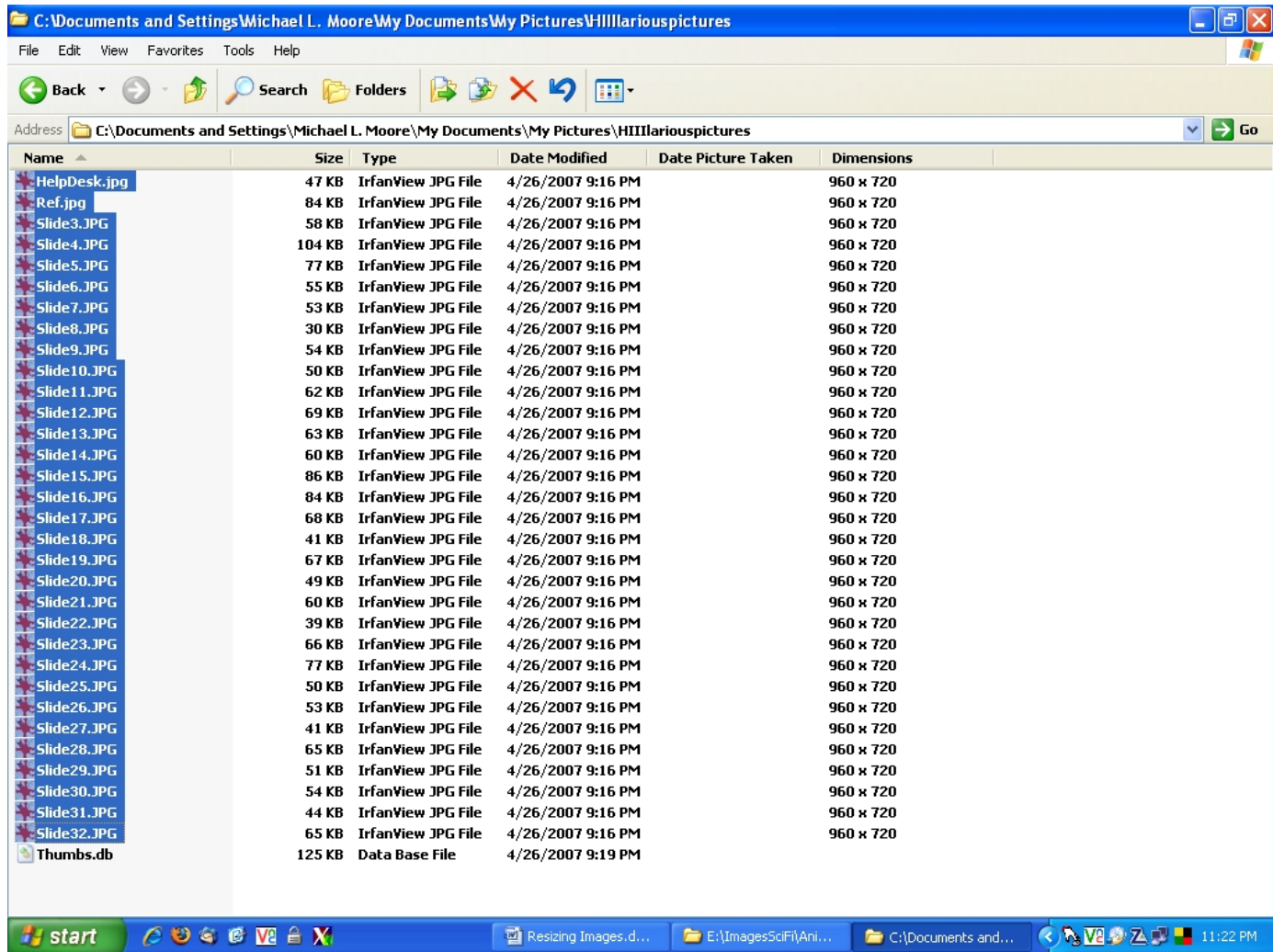
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Resizing Images Continued from page 8

The original file was just over 100 kb, and the resized file was about 65kb, so not much of a savings for this particular photo.

Using the same setting to resize one of Howard Margolis' APCUG photo contest entries, resulted in a much larger byte savings, from an original size of 1.12 megabytes reduced to about 60kb, a reduction of nearly 120%!

The Microsoft Image Resizer tool also allows you to resize entire directories of digital photos. Here is a screen capture of a directory of JPG images that someone sent me:



I have selected all of the JPGs in this directory by left-clicking on the top one, holding either Shift key down, and then left-clicking on the bottom one. Doing this highlights all of the files in dark blue (your screen colors may vary of course). There is also a keyboard shortcut (Ctrl+A) that you could use, but it selects all of the files including the index file called thumbs.db, which we do not want to change or resize. Now with the files thus selected, I right-click anywhere on the screen and get the same context menu and the same options as above, but the program simply resizes all of these files, again writing them to the same directory with the word "small" in the file name. The original files are not touched or deleted.

Beware, Microsoft's Image Resizer PowerToy is not for .BMP (Bitmap) images. It works, but it actually makes them bigger, quite a bit bigger! If you do need to resize .BMP images, consider using a program such as Paint, and also be aware that reducing the size of bitmapped images almost always severely degrades their quality.

If this article helped you, I'd sure like to know about it, along with suggestions for other topics relating to image processing on your PC.

Mike Moore
ml.moore@insightbb.com

Part of BGAMUG's Community Service

By Jerry Gillette

Computer user groups like BGAMUG frequently do more than just help their dues paying members. Often they provide services and support, usually within their communities, through a variety of programs. Unfortunately, many BGAMUG members know virtually nothing about the program recipients, except for some groups outside our community. We do know, for example, who we were helping in New Orleans because that was clearly and explicitly explained by Gene Iglehart. Not so for local organizations. In an attempt to enlighten members about who our club is helping locally, and about the sort of help that we are giving, some explanations will be given in BGA-Bytes articles over the next few months.

This month's focus is on Fern Terrace Lodge. Next month the focus will be on Able Court Apartments. Other non-profits will be explained later. We hope that enlightening members about our community service programs will induce some additional members to volunteer for help with these programs.

Fern Terrace Lodge is an assisted living facility located on Shive Lane in Bowling Green. It has a computer laboratory as a featured benefit for its residents. BGAMUG's role in supporting Fern Terrace is to provide assistance in that lab for two hours each Friday afternoon.



Fern Terrace Lodge first set up their computer lab in 2002 and currently has six computers with high-speed Internet service. After meeting with the staff as a private consultant, I (JG) learned of their need for ongoing volunteers to assist residents. The BGAMUG e-Board and membership accepted this challenge and during the first year or two several members made visits to Fern Terrace each Friday between 1:00 and 3:00 PM. Fern Terrace will also open the lab at various times during the week if and when staff members are available.

During the first year a considerable amount of instruction was necessary because few of the residents had any computer experience. However, as they progressed and became more computer savvy, our instructional duties shifted to simply providing supportive assistance.

During the past 2 – 3 years Raymond Hunton, his wife Florence, Kitty Hildreth and several others have kept BGAMUG's service to the Fern Terrace Computer Lab alive, but more and more members have faded from the schedule.

Raymond recently announced Florence can no longer be on the schedule as she needs chemotherapy treatments.

Clearly, we need more members to become involved with this program if it is to simply survive.

If you would consider helping at Fern Terrace any Friday afternoon, then please visit the blog site <http://bgamugftproj.blogspot.com> and also contact Raymond Hunton at rhunton@insightbb.com or by phone at 781-2380 .



BGAMUG Club News



September Birthdays

John Atkerson 8th
 Michael Denney 3rd
 James Gegner 25th
 Michael Moore 11th
 Phyllis Siddens 11th
 Alberta Smith 6th
 Derek Van Buren 13th



September Anniversaries

Jay Eatherly 10th
 Karen Wickliff 28th
 Donna Woods 7th

**For Kroger Cares™ Information,
 contact Jerry Gillette at
jagky@insightbb.com 781-6309**

**For Fern Terrace Information,
 contact Raymond Hunton at
rhunton@insightbb.com 781-2380**

**For Abel Court Information,
 contact Debbie Fugate at
aca0401@bellsouth.net 842-4114**

**For BGAMUG SIG Information
 Contact Mike More at
ml.moore@insightbb.com 843-9535**

2007 Club Officers	
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<p style="text-align: center;">VP of Membership Dick Schultz 393 0120 dschul41@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Web Master Chuck Thomas 843-6380 chuckt@insightbb.com</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">PC Placement Program Gene Iglehart 842-4570 iglehart@aol.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BGAMUG Historian Ginny Molloy 846 7274 charmat@aol.com</p>

Medical Problems

Florence Hunton, wife of Raymond Hunton, started Chemotherapy treatments recently. We wish her well in what is almost always an unpleasant but necessary procedure. We will report her progress as she hopefully returns to good health.

Our president, Michael Moore, is doing better after a long combination of problems, including gall stones, vertigo, nausea, and etc. He has had his gall bladder removed, which has improved his condition, but not all the problems are gone. Mike feels an obligation to complete some of his public service projects (he has specifically mentioned the Boys and Girls club in Franklin) but he simply cannot do everything this year. Consequently, he is forced to give up some of the hands-on seminars which he has given on Saturday mornings in previous Summers. Another year, God willing, and Mike will again be directing "Build Your Own Computer" projects, and similar.

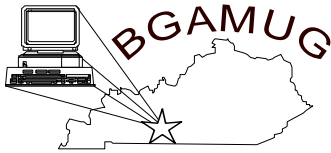
Gene Iglehart has had back problems followed by more back problems. He first hurt his back carrying a heavy monitor from his basement up to his garage. He re-injured his back by lifting a light monitor in the garage. Gene has been to the Medical Center Emergency several times. He says that he thinks he should own Treatment Room 19 at the Center, considering that the totaled bills from his and Florence's six recent trips there must surely exceed the value of the room. The chairs and recliners in that treatment room didn't help Gene at all. To escape the pain of using them, Gene lay flat on the floor until personnel told him about a "quiet room" with a couch where you can lie down flat. If you should go to Medical Center Emergency Services and need a place to lie flat, ask about this room. Gene recommends it, assuming that you must go to Emergency. Try to avoid doing things which will put you in Emergency, if at all possible. As Gene can tell you, don't lift monitors if you have a back problem.



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Bowling Green, KY 42122-9770



**Don't forget our August meeting at
the B G Technical College,
Building F,
August 28, 6:30 PM.**

For contact with BGAMUG not related
to return mail for BGA-Bytes, please
use this mailing address:

BGAMUG
P.O. Box 50882
Bowling Green, KY 42102-4182

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BGA-bytes is the monthly newsletter publication of the Bowling Green Area Microcomputer User Group, Inc. (BGAMUG), which is a nonprofit, charitable educational society recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt charitable organization. Donations to BGAMUG may be tax-deductible.

The views expressed in BGA-bytes are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official views of the organization. BGAMUG is a member of the Association of PC User Groups (APCUG) membership.

BGAMUG holds regular presentation/membership meetings the fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Bowling Green Technical College (BGTC) on Loop Drive in Bowling Green, Kentucky. **The public is invited to attend our regular presentation meetings. To join, our annual membership dues are \$25 for an individual and \$35 for a family.** Loop drive intersects Morgantown Road just West of Warren Central High School. There is a stoplight at the intersection. The access road to BGTC from Loop is clearly marked with a sign. The meeting building is Building F in the last group of buildings down the access road. A map is inside this newsletter.