

Volume XXI, Issue IV.

"The All Types of Computers" Club

August, 2005

We meet at the Simi Valley Public Library, August 11th and August 24th 7:30 pm.

Meetings are for beginners through advanced computer users and are free and open to the public.

For info.email: <mailto:info@svcug.org>, or website: <http://www.svcug.org>.

Thursday, August 11th, 7:30 pm

Computer Q & A Rod Grimes

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Computer Troubleshoot

Howard has had a lot of problems
with his computer,
so we'll see how to fix it
at this meeting

SEE DOWNLOAD PAGE

At this sight at bottom of page find two files, one lite and one pro. Both are free, They creat a boot recovery CD for you with all the necessary tools u need to fix XP
<http://ebcd.pcministry.com/>

RG (rod_grimes@yahoo.com)

Wednesday, August 24th, 7:30 pm

Computer Q & A Rod Grimes

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Writing a Web Page using various programs by Connie Green

**Refreshments, Raffle, and
Special User Group Prices
will be offered at the meetings.**

*For further details of next meeting presentations,
check the website <http://www.svcug.org>,
or your eMail.*

*Please, send eMail to info@svcug.org
if you haven't been receiving email announcements*

Windows: *Better Safe (Mode) Than Sorry*

By **Gabe Goldberg**, APCUG Advisor and Columnist,
AARP Computers and Technology Website

Though the Windows operating system isn't usually dangerous, it includes a special "Safe Mode". This is a handy way to boot a PC to investigate and fix problems. You may have read advice about when to use this, and even how to run it. But scarce and fragmented Safe Mode information can make it sound more exotic than it is.

Windows XP books' indexes provided surprisingly few entries for "Safe Mode". I found the best coverage in two O'Reilly books [www.oreilly.com], "Windows XP Pro: The Missing Manual" and "Windows XP Home Edition: The Missing Manual". Naturally, Google found a gazillion hits. But they're mostly "just the facts" writeups targeting people who already know "what" and "why" and just need "how" information. So this article provides background for this built-in Windows facility.

Over the years, as it became more powerful and reliable, Windows grew significantly from its slender 1992-era Version 3.1 self. There's no free lunch; learning new tricks required more software. But that complexity gets in the way when problems occur. Just as doctors rarely diagnose patients through heavy winter coats, Windows needs to shed layers to expose problems' causes.

Safe Mode slims Windows down, only loading and running specific pieces needed for basic operation. So your video display looks strange in Safe Mode because Windows doesn't load the monitor's specific driver program. This lets you recover from problems caused by buggy drivers you may have just installed. There are other restrictions: you likely can't get online and may not be able to print. But Safe Mode lets you perform tests, fix problems, and install/uninstall programs.

- If you think your PC may have a virus or spyware, it's worth installing the antidote in Safe Mode, since some malware prevents installing anti-virus software.

- If installed anti-virus software can't remove a virus, Safe Mode may let it succeed. (Some experts recommend always running virus/spyware scans under Windows in Safe Mode.)

- If defragmenting your hard drive [www.aarp.org/learntech/computers/howto/Articles/a2004-06-16-defrag.html]

never finishes, Safe Mode may remove programs that keep interrupting it. And it lets you erase files that Windows normally says are in use (though only do this when you're sure what you're doing).

Windows XP defines two kinds of user accounts: "administrator" and "limited". An administrator can install/remove software, change settings, etc., while a limited user can only run programs and use facilities. Even if only one account is defined, a secret companion called Administrator is available. Booting in Safe Mode lets you access this account, handy when normal accounts won't work -- for example, uninstalling software that doesn't want to leave.

Enter Safe Mode by repeatedly pressing F8 as your PC boots, just after BIOS information displays; then select Safe Mode from the options list. Leaving Safe Mode is simple -- just reboot via the Start button and your usual procedure; Windows will return looking normal again, not holding a grudge for being run in diagnostic Mode.

Here's an important point: It's worth practicing booting into Safe Mode when you're relaxed and your PC is working properly. Consider running a PC in Safe Mode to be like starting your car's engine with the hood up at a service station. It's routine; there's nothing alarming about it. But just as you wouldn't want to open the hood for the first time (Where *is* that latch release?) when something is wrong with your car, you shouldn't first use Safe Mode when you're already worried about a PC problem.

And a PS: It's sometimes hard picking between a dozen competing books on a topic. A helpful technique for evaluating choices is searching for a few topics -- like Safe Mode -- in the books' indexes and judging them on coverage.

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Microsoft: Virus target won't be in Vista

By Joris Evers
Staff Writer, CNET News.com

A new scripting tool targeted by a virus writer will not be part of Windows Vista, the next Windows client release, Microsoft announced Friday.

Instead, the software maker is looking at possibly delivering the command-line shell tool, code-named Monad, as part of its next major server operating system release, a Microsoft representative said. That release, code-named Longhorn Server, is due in 2007.

"Monad will not be included in the final version of Windows Vista," Stephen Toulouse, a program manager in Microsoft's security group, said in a blog posting. "So these potential viruses do not affect Windows Vista."

Microsoft is responding to the online publication of five examples of malicious code that target Monad. The tool was initially intended to be included in Vista. When news of the exploits came out, it triggered reports that they would be the first viruses for Windows Vista.

With the announcement, Microsoft is making it clear that the Monad viruses will not affect the client version of the operating system update, formerly known as Longhorn.

Monad, also known as MSH, is the replacement for the simple command shell in the current versions of Windows. A command shell lets users enter text-based commands, as in the predecessor to Windows, DOS. Monad has much more functionality, similar to shells in competing products, such as Bash in Unix.

Monad is available to testers, but is not part of the first Vista beta, released last week, Microsoft said Thursday. However, at the time, the company left open the possibility that it would be included in later test versions of Vista, saying that it had no further details on a specific delivery vehicle for the command line shell in Win-

dows. Friday's announcement ended any confusion over Monad's inclusion in Vista.

Taking stock

Toulouse's posting follows comments from a Microsoft developer in another blog posting on Thursday criticizing security company F-Secure's claims of a possible first Windows Vista virus. "It's a misleading title, as it's an issue that affects any vehicle for any executable code on any operating system," wrote Lee Holmes, who works on the team building Monad.

"The fact that MSH is used as the execution vehicle is really a side-note, as it does not exploit any vulnerabilities in Monad," Holmes wrote. "The guidance on shell script viruses is the same as the guidance on all viruses and malware: protect yourself against the point of entry, and limit the amount of damage that the malicious code can do."

Toulouse gave no details on why Monad won't be part of Vista. He did say that the new shell is "being considered for the Windows operating system platform for the next three to five years."

While it is now clear that the new command line shell won't ship as part of Vista, it is still unclear how the technology will be delivered. Microsoft representatives have said Monad would first ship as a feature of Exchange 12, the next release of Microsoft's e-mail server, due in the second half of 2006.

In a TechNet Web chat for developers and technology professionals in December, Microsoft representatives said Monad will support Windows Server 2003, Windows XP and Longhorn, which then was the code name for both the client and server versions. Microsoft could release Monad as an operating system update or downloadable add-on.

earth.google.com.

Explore, Search and Discover

Want to know more about a specific location? Dive right in -- Google Earth combines satellite imagery, maps and the power of Google Search to put the world's geographic information at your fingertips

Click on earth.google.com.

Quoting from the site, "Fly from space to your neighborhood. Type an address and zoom right in. Search for schools, parks, restaurants, and hotels. Get driving directions. Tilt and rotate the view to see 3D terrain and buildings. Save and share your searches and favorites. Even add your own annotations."

There are three versions of the downloadable software.

- **Free version**, described above, which also allows you to print images at screen resolution.
- **Google Earth Plus**, that addition-

ally provides drawing tools, allows GPS data import, allows spreadsheet data import, and provides higher resolution in printed images.

- **Google Earth Pro**, for \$400 per year, also provides more spreadsheet data import, allows you to measure area, includes modules for movie making, premium printing, and GIS data importing, provides GDT traffic counts data and

NRB shopping center data, and prints images at the highest resolution. Google Earth Pro is available for a 7day free trial.

A word of warning: Even the free version requires a high speed graphics capability. The software will warn you if it determines that you have insufficient graphics capability, but will allow you to continue so that you may see for yourself.

submitted by *Howard Engel*
<mailto:engelh@adelphia.com>

When cell phone marries landline

By David Pogue, *The New York Times*
Published: August 6, 2005, 6:00 AM PDT

What's the best-selling piece of personal electronics on earth? What's more popular than computers, camcorders, digital cameras or even iPods?

It's the cell phone. Cell phone sales dwarf everything else. According to the Gartner research firm, 40 percent of the earth's population will be carrying cell phones by 2009. Developing countries are skipping the landline phase altogether, going from no phones to wireless ones.

In this country, we're stuck in transition. Most people have both kinds of phones: wired and wireless. They maintain two phone numbers, have two voice-mail setups and pay two bills, without ever fully appreciating how redundant and silly that is. And here's the kicker: Most people use their home phone lines, running up the home phone bills, during precisely the hours when using the cell phone instead would be free (nights and weekends).

A few people have the courage and the signal strength to cancel their home phone lines altogether. But last month, RCA unveiled a less radical solution: the RCA Cell Docking System (under \$130 at, for example, Best Buy and Circuit City).

Once set up, this intriguing device looks like a standard household cordless phone. It has a nice heft and shape, the handset doubles as a speaker phone and room monitor, and it operates on the 2.4GHz frequency (yes, that's the one that sometimes crackles if you have a wireless network).

But its two biggest buttons, right up at the top, are nothing you've ever seen before on a phone: Home and Cell.

Dial a number and press Home, and you're making a phone call on your home line. Dial and press Cell, and you're routing the call through your cell phone, which sits elsewhere in the house (more on this in a moment). Similarly, you can answer all incoming calls--home or cell--with this one handset.

If you have one of the 60 compatible



cell phone models, there are two important benefits to this arrangement.

- First, you can milk your cellular carrier's "free nights and weekends" clause for all it's worth. Every time you make a call, just check your watch; if it's after 9 p.m. or a weekend, hit the Cell button for your calls. (It would be nice if the handset's screen showed you the current time, so you could skip the "check your watch" part. Maybe the designers felt that that feature would be flaunting this device's money-saving purpose a bit too publicly.)

- The second benefit is that you now have two home phone lines. You can be faxing on your landline and chatting over the cell line. Or your teenager can be using one line while you're using the other. You can even conference the two lines together.

Head scratcher

How it all works isn't easy to understand, even after you've seen the setup. There are two semi-cylindrical base stations. They are not, ahem, likely to wind up in the Museum of Modern Art; the black-and-silver plastic design looks dated and kitschy, like something futuristic as imagined by a Disney designer in 1960.

One of these base stations holds and charges the cordless handset; it plugs into a phone jack. The other base is topped by a cradle in clear acrylic, like a Barbie chaise lounge. The occupant, though, is supposed to be your cell phone. You open it up (if it's a flip phone) and connect it to the black, four-inch adapter cable that protrudes from the cradle. This base both charges the cell phone and wirelessly connects it to the rest of the system.

Because you won't actually be touching it (except when you want to leave the

house with your cell phone), you can put this cell phone base anywhere. You can leave it up high, next to a window--anywhere that gives you the best signal strength indoors.

It's nice to have the freedom to place a call on the cell phone whenever it might save you money. And it's certainly convenient to answer calls made to your cell phone on a nice, big, comfortable handset, anywhere in the house. For \$48 each, you can even expand the system by buying one or two more cordless handset extensions. You can park them anywhere in the house that has a power outlet; they don't require connections to a phone jack.

As a final convenience, the docking station keeps track of how many minutes' worth of airtime you use while the cell phone is at home.

There are a few causes for pause

The big one is compatibility. At the moment, all 60 of the phones on the Docking System's compatibility list come from Nokia, Motorola or Sony Ericsson. (The cellular carrier you use doesn't matter.) A complete list appears at communications.rca.com/en-US/SupportedPhones.html. At that Web page, you can also sign up for e-mail notifications of newly compatible phones.

If your cell phone comes from Samsung, LG, Palm or any other maker, you're out of luck--for now. RCA plans to add phone models and manufacturers in the coming months, and has devised a clever system for upgrading existing Cell Docking Systems. A USB connector on the back of the cell base station lets you pump in software upgrades from a Windows PC. And if the newly compatible phones have different connectors, RCA will offer new versions of those four-inch black adapter cables for \$15 each.

Clearly, the company has thought a lot about how a combo cellular-landline phone should work. For example, the handset has buttons for standard cell phone functions--voice mail, 50-number address book, ringer on/off button - as well for standard multi-handset cordless phones, like Intercom, Speaker and Mute.

Continued on page 5

The execution of this great idea is not seamless, however. When the phone rings, for example, two signs tell you which number the call is coming in on: the ringer sound itself and little lights next to the Home and Cell buttons. To answer, you must press the appropriate button--but why? If you don't especially care which line is ringing, you should be able to pick up the phone and say "Hello?" without pressing a button.

Second, the handset buttons are not illuminated (although the screen is). Dialing in the dark is darned difficult.

Finally, although this is scarcely RCA's fault, the Docking Station offers an embarrassingly direct demonstration of the difference in sound quality between a cell phone (terrible) and a landline (excellent).

Now, the Cell Docking System isn't the first attempt to bridge the great landline-cell phone disconnect. For example, a discontinued gadget called the CellSocket let you route all incoming and outgoing cellular calls to your home line. But it didn't tie those two lines together the way RCA's system does, so you couldn't choose which to use on a call-by-call basis.

For \$10, plus \$3 a month, Cingular's FastForward cradle redirects calls made to your cell phone to your home number. It happens "upstream" in the network, so incoming calls don't use cellular minutes. But only incoming calls are affected; all outgoing calls still use your home line, so you don't get the two-line effect of the RCA. (These other gadgets work with a similarly limited list of cell phone models. What's so special about Nokia, Motorola and Sony Ericsson phones, anyway?)

The Docking Station won't appeal to everyone, even those whose phones are on the compatible list. But RCA has evidently taken a page from the playbook of iPod carrying-case makers: it's OK if only 0.0001 percent of the market buys your product, as long as it's a very, very big market. Forty percent of the earth's population? RCA says, "Bring it on."

[http://news.com.com/
When+cell+phone+marries+landline/
2100-1037_3-
5820880.html?tag=nefd.top](http://news.com.com/When+cell+phone+marries+landline/2100-1037_3-5820880.html?tag=nefd.top)

5 cool Windows XP tips

By Kleber Stephenson

[http://www.pccomputing.com.au/
News.htm](http://www.pccomputing.com.au/News.htm)

Straight from the pages of Windows XP Killer Tips, here are 5 cool tips that will save you time, change the way your desktop looks, or simply make you say, "I always wondered how to do that."

Stretching the taskbar

Sometimes your taskbar gets a little tight and cramped for room. When this happens, give it a stretch.

- First, unlock your taskbar by right-clicking the taskbar, and then clicking Lock the Taskbar if it is selected (this will un-select it). Scroll your mouse over the top edge of the taskbar until you see the vertical resize cursor (arrow pointing up and down). Click, hold and drag the top of the taskbar up. Isn't that better? Once you find a place where you like it, you should re-select Lock the Taskbar.

Adding a special character

There are probably one or two special characters that you use regularly (for example, ® and ©). It can be a real time-waster to open your Character Map every time you want to insert one of these symbols. So don't!

- Open the Character Map by clicking Start, clicking All Programs, and then clicking Accessories. Click System Tools, and then click Character Map. Click the © symbol. Notice that the bottom-right corner of the Character Map shows the keyboard shortcut used to insert the special character. Write it down for later use. When you want to insert that character, here's the trick: Position the cursor where you want to insert the special character, then with NUM LOCK key on, hold down the ALT key and use the number pad keys to type the character value.

Open files with one click

It just makes sense that if you can do the same thing in Windows with a single click of the mouse that you can do with two clicks, you'd take the shorter route, right?

- If you want to change your two clicks to one, click Start, click My Computer. Under the Tools menu, click Folder Options. Now click the General tab in the dialog box, click Single-click to open an item (point to select), and then click OK. This makes everything in Windows exactly one click faster.

Change your pointer scheme

The first thing I do when I get a new computer is head straight for the cursors and change them. It's not that the default ones are bad; I've just been using the same ones forever and I'm not comfortable using anything else. If you want to change your pointer scheme, click Start, and then click Control Panel. In Category View (vs. Classic View) click on Printers and Other Hardware, and then click on Mouse. Click the Pointers tab and browse the available themes. Select the one that suits you best, and then click OK.

Change the power button

I rarely ever shut down my computer; instead, I tend to put my system into stand by mode. Here's a clever way to speed up this task and make your computer's power button put your computer into stand by for you. Click Start and open the Control Panel. In Category View, click Performance and Maintenance, and then click Power Options. In the Power Options Properties dialog box, click the Advanced tab. Under Power Buttons, select Stand by in the When I press the power button on my computer area, and then click OK. Now, when you push your computer's power button, your system will immediately go to stand by.

Headaches in Fine Print

Sometimes you have only yourself to blame when your inbox fills with spam.

By Tom Spring, PC World

March 21, 2005

<http://www.pcworld.com/news/article/0,aid,120099,00.asp>

Tip of the Month

Sometimes using the opt-out function in commercial e-mail isn't enough to stop legitimate companies from sending you unwanted e-mail. Don't waste time trying to figure out why the e-mail keeps coming--use your e-mail client's blacklist feature to keep it from getting in your inbox. For example, in Microsoft Outlook Express 6 you'd open the Message pull-down menu and select the Block Sender option. To access blacklist options in Outlook 2003, select Actions, Junk E-mail Options, then Block Senders.

Congratulations! You've just agreed to receive junk e-mail for the rest of your life. In less than 10 seconds, with one click, millions of us agree to cooperate with the worst of the online advertising industry without thinking twice.

The nasty fine print is buried deep in those long-winded, dense user agreements we mindlessly glance over with glazed eyes when we sign up for free software, e-mail newsletters, access to Web sites, and other offers. By skipping over privacy policies, end-user license agreements, and terms-of-service contracts, we often give advertisers the green light to create digital dossiers on us. Then they trade and sell the information, and of course aggressively market products to us through our inboxes as well as browser pop-ups and even plain old off-line junk mail.

It's too bad most of us don't take the time to read these dense contracts. I'll admit that even I don't. If we did at least scan them, we'd be shocked--and perhaps wouldn't be so keen to enter an online contest for a free MP3 player or to fork over an e-mail address to send an online

greeting card. The fewer potential marketers that get our e-mail addresses, the lower the volume of spam that hits our inboxes--along with the spyware and adware that comes in the same digital envelopes.

But then again, if we did read all those contracts, we'd lose hours reading some of the most boring text the written word offers.

In the end, we only have ourselves to blame for giving uninformed consent to marketers when we breeze over the fine print. But a review of some user agreements and privacy policies suggests that things are getting out of hand.

Shockers in Fine Print

At the bottom of the home page for ImBum, which offers software and services for instant messaging programs, is a link to a 2100-word privacy policy. The site is run by **OptInRealBig.com**, which is owned by self-proclaimed spam king Scott Richter. Here's an eye-opening excerpt:

OPTIN may use Individual Information to provide promotional offers to individuals by means of email advertising, telephone marketing, direct mail marketing, online banner advertising, and package stuffers, among other possible uses. Later, the privacy policy states: "OPTIN MAY SELL OR TRANSFER INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION TO THIRD PARTIES FOR ANY PURPOSE IN OPTIN'S SOLE DISCRETION."

Another privacy policy, from **GroupLotto**, hits new lows in sneakware. To access the site, you must register by accepting its terms of use, which are buried in a 1170-word privacy policy that allows GroupLotto to essentially stalk you while you use its Web site. If you want to read the privacy policy you're agreeing to, you must click yet another link.

GroupLotto's privacy policy informs readers that it will save responses "to questions and surveys, community listings, ratings, searches and comparison searches, bidding, purchasing, chat, games, or bulletin boards." It also retains the right to use and share this information with sites you co-register with, so all

its marketing partners can display commercial pitches tailored to you. "By clicking on any Advertiser's banner you agree to be co-registered at that advertiser's website--at no cost to you," the agreement states.

Wow--there's no cost to me. Should I thank them? Wait, it gets better.

According to GroupLotto, by agreeing to its terms, GroupLotto and sites you "co-register" with can contact you via telemarketing even if your phone number is listed on the Federal Trade Commission's Do-Not-Call List.

End-User Outrage

These aren't offers, they're coercion. People don't typically have the time or the legal background to navigate and understand the often-confusing legal documents that are end-user license agreements. The examples I cite in this column may be from sites you don't regularly visit. But honestly, did you read the privacy policy the last time you installed a benign program, like America Online's Instant Messenger software?

Blogger Ben Stanfield may be the exception to the rule. He read the AIM software terms of service and wrote about it. He noted that AOL's terms of service for AIM say you have no right to privacy when using the IM client.

Stanfield points to a section that reads as follows:

Although you or the owner of the Content retain ownership of all right, title and interest in Content that you post to any AIM Product, AOL owns all right, title and interest in any compilation, collective work or other derivative work created by AOL using or incorporating this Content. You waive any right to privacy. You waive any right to inspect or approve uses of the content or to be compensated for any such uses.

After Stanfield wrote about this policy in his blog, his site's message boards lit up with heated discussion. AOL has tried to quiet the furor by stating its privacy clause does not pertain to AIM instant messaging communications. Instead, AOL spokespeople say, AIM chats are private. However, users of its chat room or message board shouldn't expect privacy.

Privacy Policies' Empty Promises

You may ask yourself, "Can't I just opt out after I agree to receive junk e-mail?" Opting out and telling spammers to take a hike sounds like a great idea. The problem is, you get no assurance of compliance by any third-party firm that may have acquired your e-mail address and personal information legitimately, through one of those shared marketing deals.

To see how well opting out works PC World staffers, myself included, tested several sites' opt-in policies. Signing up with FreeLotto, for example, produced scores of messages from third parties. To be eligible for the daily prize drawings held at FreeLotto, we had to agree to receive marketing e-mail from FreeLotto's parent company, PlasmaNet, and other marketing partners. But despite weeks of repeatedly using opt-out links in the resulting e-mail from FreeLotto, PlasmaNet, and their partners, dozens of junk e-mail messages kept arriving.

When we contacted PlasmaNet, a spokesperson told us that we hadn't opted out correctly. To unsubscribe from all PlasmaNet-related e-mail, the spokesperson said, we should visit PlasmaNet's Web site and update our marketing preferences there. We followed these instructions; but weeks later, the inbox that we'd assigned to PlasmaNet was still filling with unwanted e-mail.

The Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act, known as CAN-SPAM, was supposed to lighten the load on our inboxes by allowing us to opt out of unwanted e-mail. It didn't.

CAN-SPAM actually legalizes spam because it doesn't prohibit unsolicited e-mail. Legitimate businesses and unsavory spammers alike can keep sending commercial e-mail until you explicitly ask them to stop by using a mandated "opt out" option in e-mail pitches. But because opting out often doesn't stop the e-mail onslaught, I rely on the blacklist filter on my e-mail client to stop any messages from an entire domain.

Sadly, 10 seconds of carelessly opting in to a site can cost you months of hitting the Delete key.

Cool Tools What You Need

Look Around

Whether you're on the road or sitting at your desk, using a Web cam just got better. Logitech's new QuickCam Deluxe costs about half as much as the QuickCam Pro but provides just as much punch and high image quality. Perfect for instant messaging, video e-mailing or even video conferencing, the QuickCam features face-tracking technology that keeps your face centered in the frame at all times.

Cost: \$60

Buy: <http://www.logitech.com>

TV on the Go

No matter how far away you are from home, Sling Media's Slingbox lets you feel as if you're sitting on your comfy sofa in the den. This personal broadcaster transforms any laptop or Internet-connected device into a personal television set. By redirecting the TV signal from your cable box or satellite at home, Slingbox lets you watch whatever is on at home—wherever you are.

Cost: \$250

Buy: <http://www.slingmedia.com>

On Time

Always afraid you're going to miss your 8 a.m. meeting? Never oversleep again with this radio-controlled alarm clock from Lewis N. Clark Industries. Receiving daily transmissions from the National Institute for Standards and Technology, the clock never misses a beat, staying accurate within one-billionth of a second no matter where you travel. It also includes all of your standard clock features, including date and time display, illuminated backlight and a five-minute snooze.

Cost: \$25

Buy: <http://www.ebags.com>

<http://www.mybusinessmag.com/fullstory.php3?sid=1225>

An open-source misstep at IBM?

There's a minor brouhaha brewing in a remote corner of IBM land over the company's alleged mislabeling of a product as "open source."

TechTarget and vnunet report on how IBM angered iSeries customers by making a once free and supposedly open-source tool proprietary. IBM now says that a mix-up was behind the mislabeling and it will make good with its iSeries customers, according to the vnunet article.

But Illuminata analyst Jonathan Eunice doesn't let IBM off easy.

"If companies can claim that X is Open Source, enjoy the marketing and user acceptance benefits thereof, then later withdraw the Open Source label and re-assert proprietary control, that eviscerates the protections that Open Source is supposed to provide," Eunice writes in his blog.

Nobody's questioning the massive contributions IBM makes to open source. But it goes to show how the open-source label can give and take away.

*Posted by Martin LaMonica
August 3, 2005 8:29 AM PDT*

Microsoft, Google reps speaking at LinuxWorld

The usual line-up of speakers at the LinuxWorld Conference and Expo will see some variation next week with speakers from Linux foe Microsoft and Linux user Google.

Bill Hilf, Microsoft's director of platform technology strategy, will discuss "managing Linux in a mixed environment." Chris DiBona, Google's open-source programs manager, will speak in a panel on the state of open-source software.

Microsoft and Google representatives also will make an appearance at the twice-annual show's geek quiz, the Golden Penguin Bowl, show organizers said.

*Posted by Stephen Shankland
August 2, 2005 11:33 AM PDT*

http://news.com.com/2061-10795_3-

Local Computer User Groups

Appleholics Anonymous

Chuck Baca 805-650-7503 / Tony Pizza 805-482-3453
2nd Sat 9:30 am 3169 Telegraph Road. Ventura

Conejo Valley Genealogical Society

Albert Richardson, Chairman (NEW)
(805) 492-2029
<mailto:bf140@gte.net>

CVMUG (Mac club)

Susie Herrera 805-484-2259

<mailto:sherrera@vcnet.com>

General Meetings are: *1st Thursday* of each month
at the Cowan Conference Center, Camarillo Airport,
550 Airport Way at 7 p.m.

1st Wednesday of each month

at the Meadows Elementary School in Thousand Oaks,
2000 La Granada at 7 p.m.

Our *novice group* meets during the school year on the
2nd Tuesday of each month at Monte Vista Middle
School, 888 Lantana, Camarillo at 7 p.m. In the library.

Our *intermediate group* meets the 4th Monday of the
month at 7 p.m. During the school year - it's at Monte
Vista in the library. During the summer, (June, July and
August) we meet at the Cowan Conference Center.

Commodore 64/128 Users

Rolf Miller: 805-643-6666

General Meetings: 1st Sat., 10 am

Cal Fed Bank, 430 Arneill Road, Camarillo

Tech Meeting: 2nd Sat, 10 am

Boys-Girls Club, 126 E. 7th Street, Oxnard

Channel Islands PC Group

David Harris - President; [.president@cipcug.org](mailto:president@cipcug.org)

Website: <http://www.cipcug.org>

Meetings on the fourth Saturday Morning of the month,
from 9:30 AM to Noon, at the Camarillo Boys and Girls
Club. There are occasional times when the fourth
Saturday is not available and the Index page for CIPCUG
has six months dates posted for your quick reference. The
address is 1500 Temple Ave. in Camarillo. (Southeast
corner of Ponderosa Dr. and Temple Ave.)

Gold Coast CUE of Ventura County

Tim Rainville, 805-525-3873

Days vary, 4 pm Camarillo area or local school

<mailto:rainvilt@vcss.k12.ca.us>

Leisure Village Club

Neil Iven, 805-383-0016

<mailto:lniven1@juno.com>

1st Friday, 10am Camarillo /

1st Monday, MAC group

2nd Friday, Communications

3rd Wednesday, Novice

Simi Conejo Linux User Group

Website: <http://sclug.org>

Meets every other Saturday at 3 pm

InstallFests start at 2 p.m Simi Valley YMCA

[mailto: sclug@sclug.org](mailto:sclug@sclug.org).

MacValley Users Group

Daphne Gruberman (818) 998-7025

1st Wednesday

Wilkinson Senior Center

8956 Vanalden Street, Northridge

Simi Valley Computer User Group

Barbara Cott 805-2181-0909

<mailto:barbaracott@dslextreme.com>

Website: <http://www.svcug.org>

Main meeting: 2nd Thurs 7:30 pm

Hardware/Software Meeting: 4th Wed, 7:30 pm

Simi Valley Library

Thousand Oaks

Personal Computer Club

Karen Warren - President president@topcc.org

805-497-9612

Website:<http://topcc.org>

4th Thurs: 6:30pm Jan-Oct

3rd Thurs: 6:30 Nov-Dec

Goebbel Sr Ctr or T.O. Library

TUGNET

Website: <http://www.tugnet.org>

meets every Tues, 7pm

Granada Pavilion

11128 Balboa, Granada Hills.

Ventura Beginners PC Users' Group

Howard Wilson 805-647-0360

3rd Sat, 10 am

Club House

BenaVentura Mobile Home Estate, 11407

Darling Road

Need Help?

Dennis Atherton

hardware - Windows 9X, ME, NT, 2K, XP
Networks - home and business
<mailto:datherton@affinitygroup.com>

Steve Carter

OS/2 - <mailto:scarter@vcnet.com> 805-598-8455 til 9pm

Barbara Cott

desktop publishing, Excel, Photoshop, web pages
<mailto:barbara@dslextreme.com> 805-581-2495

Howard Engel

Word 6, programming in PASCAL or ADA
<mailto:engelh@adelphia.com> 805-523-7602 9 am - 10 pm

Gordon Huff

modems, Telix, FDISK
<mailto:wa6fmx@worldnet.att.net> 805-499-3494

Mike Portanova

Recording off the internet, Photo retouching
- <mailto:NOVANIKON@aol.com>

Gaylord Trubey

DOS internet, WIN 3.x, WIN 95, software hardware
<mailto:gaylordt@juno.com> 805-526-2077

Dick Uhlman

Most DOS operations; Windows operations v3.0 to XP Most utilities, for DOS & Windows;
WinWord and Excel, most versions. Internet access and searching; Hardware upgrades
<mailto:duhlman@sbcglobal.net>
805-583-2174 & 805-583-2804 5pm - 8pm

Karleen Volz

BASIC questions, DOS WIN 3.11, WIN 95 WIN NT, basic hardware questions
<mailto:kvolz@juno.com> 7pm - 9:30pm & weekends

Open letter to Simi Valley Computer User Group members

Dear members!

Our Newsletter is an open forum for you to voice your opinion, experience and knowledge. This letter is a reminder to take advantage of this opportunity and become a contributing writer on subjects like:

- reviews on hardware, software and books
- tips and techniques you would like to share
- computer related personal experience
- Questions & Answers

Please, send your writings (about 300 words or less) to the editorial office marika@ez2.net by the 10th of each month to be appearing in the next month's issue. Thank you,

Marika Panczel, *Newsletter editor*

Simi Valley Computer User Group

is a non-profit special interest group for the benefit of anyone interested in learning more about computers and how to use them. Meetings are held twice a month. The General Meeting meets at **7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month**, the Hardware / Software Meeting is held at the same time on the **fourth Wednesday of each month**. The meetings are held at the **Simi Valley Public Library**, in the Community Room.

If you need further **information** about the meetings, call Barbara Cott at 805-218-0909, <mailto:barbaracott@dslextreme.com>. Further information can be found at <http://www.svcug.org> or send email to: <mailto:info@svcug.org>. Visitors are welcome to come and see what our group is all about without obligation to join. However, if you find our meetings to be beneficial to you, we hope you will join and support our group. Dues are \$24 per year or \$13 for 6 months.

It has to say this: Simi Valley Computer User Group (SVCUG), consisting of its officers and membership, is not affiliated with any computer hardware or software manufacturers. Articles contained in this publication may not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of SVCUG. SVCUG makes no warranty of the suitability or inability to use any product or service.



Membership Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

\$13.00 for 6 months \$24.00 for 1 year

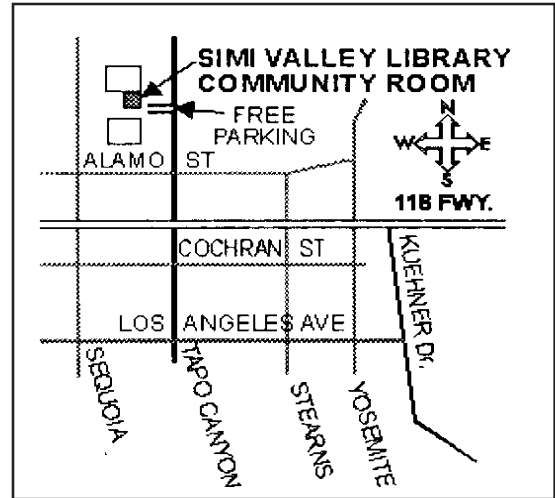
Make checks payable to "SVCUG".

Mail to:

Mike Portanova, PO Box 472 AGOURA, CA 91301

or

Bring to: a meeting



User Group Officers

President	Barbara Cott	mailto:barbara@dslextrreme.com
Vice President	Howard Engel	mailto:engelh@adelphia.com
Treasurer	Mike Portanova	mailto:novanikon@aol.com
Secretary	Marika Panczel	mailto:marika@ez2.net

Simi Valley Computer User Group

2718 Kadota Street
Simi Valley, CA 93063

August Meetings

Thursday, August 11th

Computer Q&A
by Rod Grimes



Computer Troubleshooting

Wednesday, August 24th

Computer Q&A
by Rod Grimes



Writing Web Pages using
Various Programs
by Connie Green