



BGA-BYTES

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

Volume 14 Issue 2

February 2004



President's Message

SPAM Your Friends . . .

Do you have friends who send you copies of e-mails that promise something good will happen to you if you send the message on to at least five friends in the next 24 hours? Some people call this kind of e-mail "SPAM"! Well . . . I want to challenge you to SPAM some of your friends.

I want to ask you to SPAM at least five of your friends. We all know people who would benefit from BGAMUG. We know people who enjoy their computers but might even enjoy the technology more if they knew a little more about the many subjects we cover as part of our BGAMUG educational programs. You can even promise your friend a special treat if they will send this newsletter on to some of their friends.

At our February 24th meeting, I plan to ask those attending if they sent the newsletter on to at least five of their friends. There will be a special little prize for those who did send it on to at least five people and a grand prize for the person who sends it to the most people. There will also be a special little prize for all who attend because someone sent this SPAM to them.

If you receive the newsletter in an e-mail message from Peggy Beasley, our BGA-Bytes Newsletter Editor, you may just forward the message on to your friends. You may also use this link to our newsletter online: <http://www.bgamug.org/newsletterarchives/jan2004.pdf>

March Madness Hands-on Workshops . . .

On Saturday morning, March 6, from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon at the Bowling Green Community College, we will have several hands-on computer workshops. We are still deciding what to actually offer, but there will be something for the novice computer user or those who need some of the basics and special for the more advanced computer user. To learn exactly what will be offered, visit our website or even better come to our February 24th meeting and learn more about the March Madness Workshops.

BGMAUG Constitution and Bylaws . . .

The Rules Committee, under the leadership of Ginny Molloy, our Vice President of Protocol, has worked for many months carefully reviewing our Constitution and Bylaws. The Rules Committee is now ready to present these revisions to The Membership. Along with the link to the newsletters, members received a link to the revised Constitution and Bylaws. Please read these carefully. We will vote on these revised documents at our March 23rd BGAMUG meeting. (continued on page 2)

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January BGAMUG Meeting . . .

I cannot end this President's Message without commenting about our January BGAMUG meeting. I've been an active part of BGAMUG since August 1997, and I do not think we've ever had such an exciting, energized meeting. We began the meeting with fireworks as we celebrated the beginning of a new year for BGAMUG. Both Mike and Jerry accepted the challenge and presented concise and informative presentations in less than 20 minutes. They also provided wonderful, helpful handouts and even a CD which included links and files for all the helps they shared during their presentations. James Gegner, our Librarian, gave away several very nice door prizes. Then, many of us continued our fellowship at the Dairy Queen on Russellville Road.

I think 2004 is going to be our GREATEST year yet! Come and be a part of this special evening. Also, as it says on our website . . . "Visitors are always welcome!"

Linda



NOTEWORTHY NEWS
Celebration Corner
By Lou Travelstead

This month we are beginning a new feature. Each month we will be listing birthdays, anniversaries, other notable events in the lives of our members. As this is a new feature we are including both January and February dates this month.

Happy birthday and Happy anniversary to:

Birthday - (B)	Anniversary - (A)
Robert Hunt	January 5 (A)
Lou Travelsted	January 16 (B)
Edwin Phelps	January 20 (B)
Raymond Hunton	January 21 (A)
Karen Wickliff	January 28 (A)
Chuck Thomas	January 31 (B)
Elbert Young	February 20 (B)

I apologize if I have overlooked any birthday or anniversary. If I did, contact me and we will get your date in the next newsletter.

If you were not at the membership meeting in January or the Executive board meeting in February and would like your important dates listed, please contact me. Also if you know of a member that is sick, has lost a loved one, or just needs a "Pick-me-up" card, please let me know this also.

Lou Travelsted, Office-at-large travel@bowlinggreen.net

The Mix

Featuring

Karen Wickliff

Linda Todd sent me an e-mail asking if I would write an article for "The Mix".

Here is my stab at writing an article about myself. I haven't done anything like this for a long time.

Both my husband and I were born and raised in a small town in Shelbyville, Indiana, but we didn't know each other until I transferred to Shelbyville High School. After we met we became High School sweethearts and the rest is history. We married in 1964 and have two children that are now grown and we are grandparents to two boys. The youngest one, Ryan, taught himself the ABC's from the older one's toy before he was Two years old. But that's another story.

The way we came to Bowling Green is my husband, Gary, worked at United Parcel Service in Indianapolis, Indiana and got hurt and had to have some surgery. Prior to his working at UPS Gary had gone to the Nashville Auto Diesel College in 1963-64. His dream was always to have his own Diesel Fuel Injection Business. We decided to try our hand at this business with the help of my parents as silent partners.

Gary quit working at UPS on July 7, 1977 and we moved into a new house in Shawnee Estates in August 1977. The children Kathy age 12 at that time and Greg age 5 started to McNeill Elementary School.

I went to work in our business, Wickliff Diesel Service, as a Secretary, bookkeeper, parts runner, and anything else that needed to be done. Gary had to travel the first few months of business to go to schools for our major manufacturers and was gone one week out of every month for the first four months of business. So we had to have someone else to help with some work so we hired a young boy of 19 that was interested in fuel injection and had gone to the same school as Gary.

In 1979 a salesman made a cold call to us suggesting we buy a computer to get better control over our business and we did. In 1980, we purchased a Triad Computer to help with the business. Many problems came up and in 1981 we had a Sales Tax audit. The most major thing we did wrong was not pay sales tax on our soft drinks in the Coke Machine.

After that came Greg's Commodore Computer that lasted a few months and then he tired of it.

It was many years before we got a home computer and in 1988 we got a 286 pc which at that time was the greatest thing out there. We have not been without a computer since. I have had a few classes with Jerry were I learned some basic computer skills which helped. I will be taking another class this spring in Microsoft Word and several other classes that Community Education teaches. As you can tell I need some help with Word.

We rented a building now where Albert B. Crush Company, a bearing supply house, is now for nine years.

Then we bought the building where we are now at 2515 Petty Drive just off Lovers Lane. Then we put in An 800 line just for Kentucky and our Tennessee customers who said they couldn't get through on it so we had to get a Nationwide 800 service.

Now we have so many computers that I cannot even count them all. Gary has computers to diagnose problems with the Dodge, Ford, and Chevy pickup trucks. We have computer programs to run the fuel injection pumps that are mandatory to have to be in business today. And now I even have one at my own desk for many things.

E-mails are common today and make more efficient use of our time just like cell phones.

Since September 19, 1977 things have changed. We had a celebration of a Bar-B-Que Lunch as a thank you to our customers on our 25th anniversary of being in business in 2002.

Karen Wickliff

Bowling Green Area Microcomputer User Group

BGAMUG General Meeting Minutes January 27, 2004

Preamble

President Linda Todd called the BGAMUG General Meeting to order on January 27, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. at Bowling Green Technical College-Room F.

The following officers were present: Linda Todd, Jerry Gillette, Elisa Davison, Howard Margolis, Michael Moore, James Gegner, Raymond Hunton, Lou Travelsted, and Gene Iglehart. Absent were Elbert Young, Peggy Beasley, Chuck Thomas, and Ginny Molloy. Minutes of the November General Meeting were not available for review and approval.

New Members: - Jean Burton

Guests: - Gary Aspen, Leroy Johnson, Bob Mischel, Sam Small, Chad Reagan, Peggy McKillip, Warren Risse, Stan & Jennifer Snodgrass, Evelyn Stewart, Bob Helms, and Chris Smith

Highlights of January Executive Board Meeting

?? Officers/Coordinators shared goals for 2004

?? Appointed Coordinators and Committees.

Planned and scheduled calendar for 2004

Committee Appointments for 2004

Rules Committee – Ginny Molloy, Chair

?? Pat Vincent

?? Mike Moore

?? Linda Todd

?? Howard Margolis

?? Lou Travelsted

Membership Committee – Jerry Gillette, Chair

Brigitte Miller

Nominating Committee – Chair???

?? Linda Todd

?? Jerry Gillette

?? Elisa Davison

?? Mike Moore

?? James Gegner

Celebrations Awards Committee – Pat Vincent, Chair

Members will be announced in the future

Ink Jet Cartridge Fund Raiser – Alberta Smith and Lucille Hillsmeier, Coordinators

Coordinator and Organizers Appointments

Q&A – Mike Moore, Chuck Thomas

Door Prizes – James Gegner

Training Workshops – Mike Moore

PC Placement Program – Gene Iglehart

Fern Terrace Service Project – Raymond Hunton

Kroger Care Fund-Raising Project – Elisa Davison

Picnic/Other Events – Mike Moore (June Picnic)

Celebration 2004 – Linda Todd (December 7, 2004)

(continued on page 5)

January General Meeting Minutes continued from page 4

Officer Reports

Linda Todd

Constitution and Bylaw revisions ready for February Executive Board meeting and March General meeting

Jerry Gillette

Ink Jet cartridge return program

Elisa Davison

Treasurer's report – Balance of \$1787.71 as of January 27, 2004

Mike Moore

Program Director Report – Used a program survey to poll the members for future program suggestions.

Historian Report – Discussed the operation of indexing past BGAMUG newsletter and software and burning this information CD's for distribution to the members

James Gegner

Microsoft software available for review and door prizes

Lou Travelsted

Had members fill out birthday/ anniversary form for month and day information

Future Dates to Remember

?? February Meeting – Executive Board Meeting

?? Santa Fe Restaurant – 5:30 pm dinner and 6:30 pm meeting

?? February 6, 13, 20, and 27 – Fern Terrace Project

?? February 10 – BGA-Bytes Deadline

?? February 24 – BGAMUG General Meeting – BGTC Campus Bldg. F, 6:30 pm

Presentation - Internet Security Issues & FinePrint Virtual Printer

Presenters – Jerry Gillette and Mike Moore

Adjourn

8:10 pm

Instant Messaging (IM)

By Jerry Gillette

Instant Messaging is like e-mail but it lets users send messages to one another through the Internet in real time. Some think of it as a private chat room. Your messages appear instantly on the recipient's screen. There are several programs available used for instant messaging, most notably AOL's Instant Messenger, Yahoo Messenger and MSN or Windows Messenger.

Instant Messaging programs have come a long way during the last two years with added features that can make your online communication experience much more productive and enjoyable.

During this month's meeting I will show everyone how to get started with MSN Messenger.

Hope you can be there.



General Meeting
February 24, 2004
6:30 pm

Bowling Green Technical College
1845 Loop Drive
Building F

2004 BGAMUG OFFICERS

President	Linda Todd	Linda.Todd@wku.edu
VP Protocol	Ginny Molloy	Charmcat@aol.com
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Sgt. At Arms	Elbert Young	Chiefyoung@copper.net
Program Director	Michael Moore	Webstar@copper.net
Historian		
Past President		
Officer At Large	Lou Travelsted	travel@bowlinggreen.net
Officer at Large	Raymond Hunton	rhunton@insightbb.com
PC Placement Program Coordinator	Gene Iglehart	iglehart@aol.com

Tech Corner

Well, it's that time of year when some of us are trying to remove holiday pounds at gyms, others are getting papers together for the tax preparer, and the media are warning us of new computer intrusions and scams to follow up the viruses and worms of 2003!

The first warnings of the year concern scams aimed at stealing your money and, where possible, your identity. Just as you have been warned not to give out your social security number or bank account numbers over the phone, except when you are calling your bank, never provide this information in response to emails or web pages that look and sound genuine.

Recently, scam artists have used web pages that look just like AOL or Microsoft pages to get unsuspecting folks to provide their sensitive information. An email may arrive that sounds official and requests that you update your account because your credit card has expired or they lost the number in a computer crash, or.... The link takes the naive user to the bogus web page where the card number and expiration date are entered--to be used to line the pockets of these robbers!

Another scam involves the nefarious use of automatic dialers that some people download from 'adult' sites--pay for view, chat rooms, online gambling, etc. These have a legitimate use, but when implemented by hackers with evil intentions, they take over the user's Internet dialer leading to huge phone bills or worse.

Remember "ABS" - *Always be Suspicious*, and when in doubt, call the company back rather than trusting an unsolicited phone caller or emailed message that requests personal information.

I finally got around to subscribing to Smart Computing magazine and now realize what I was missing! Not only is it a great magazine for inexperienced and more mature computer users, but *your subscription earns credits for BGAMUG* that are used to provide free subscriptions for needy persons or for use as door prizes. BUT, we only get that credit if you include our **Code Number** on your order: **8343/423**

To order Smart Computing or one of their other magazines described below and at their web site, click on the link on our home page: www.bgamug.org or go

directly to the Smart Computing web site, where you can view current issues of each magazine:

www.smartcomputing.com Don't forget to use our

Code when ordering!

Not only do you get a great magazine, but subscribing allows you full access to their web site with the following features:

View current and back issues of all their magazines: *Smart Computing*, *PC Today*, which focuses on the Windows operating system, and *CPU: Computer Power User*, aimed at those who appreciate the fastest and newest technology.

Use of their online *Hardware Reviews & Comparison Charts* to aid you hardware purchase decisions.

Use of their online *Computing Dictionary & Encyclopedia* which defines and explains any computer term you can think of.

A Q & A Board where you can post questions or relate problems and receive responses. Or, you can search or browse the archive of thousands of questions others have asked. You can also reply to those who respond to your questions--to ask more, to clarify, or to show appreciation. As you gain confidence, you can begin to respond to other folks' questions. Users helping users--just like our users group!

In addition to viewing back issues, you can enter words to search all articles in every issue of their publications.

So long until next month. Remember, compared to you, computers are incredibly fast but also incredibly stupid! All they can do is to act on 0's and 1's to follow orders; they can't begin to reach the level of a two-year old in thinking and language ability. So never be intimidated by your computer!

Chuck Thomas, VP of Technology

You know you are living in the year 2004 when:

1. Your reason for not staying in touch with family is because they do not have e-mail.
2. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
3. Your grandmother asks you to send her a JPEG file of your newborn so she can create a screen saver.
4. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home.
5. Every commercial on television has a web site address at the bottom of the screen.
6. You buy a computer and 3 months later it's out of date and sells for half the price you paid.
7. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go get it.
8. Using real money, instead of credit or debit, to make a purchase would be a hassle and take planning.
10. You just tried to enter your password on the microwave.
11. You consider second-day air delivery painfully slow.
12. Your dining room table is now your flat filing cabinet.
13. Your idea of being organized is multiple-colored Post-it notes
14. You hear most of your jokes via e-mail instead of in person.
15. You get an extra phone line so you can get phone calls.
16. You disconnect from the Internet and get this awful feeling, as if you just pulled the plug on a loved one.
17. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
18. You wake up at 2 AM to go to the bathroom and check your e-mail on your way back to bed.
19. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :) You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
20. Even worse; you know exactly who you are going to forward this to.

TV Wonder VE By Richard Poteet

Have you ever wanted to watch TV while surfing the web, capture still frames of your favorite actor or actress, or clips of a great movie on your computer? Well now you can turn your PC into a digital VCR and TV monitor with the TV Wonder VE card! It's easy to install, easy to program, and easy on the budget (about forty-five bucks), cheap.

Well first the minimal requirements. The computer system needs to be at least a Intel Celeron/Intel Pentium II or an AMD K6 - 2 processor or above with at least 128MB of system memory. The operating system needs to be Windows 98 SE or above. The graphics card needs to be a graphics accelerator with DirectX overlay support (visit <http://www.ati.com> for a current list of supported graphics cards) . You will also need a sound card certified for Windows use, a CD ROM player, and a PCI expansion slot.

Installing the TV Wonder VE card is simple. First you power off your computer and disconnect the power cable. Open the computer cover and ground yourself to prevent a static charge before handling the card. Select an empty PCI expansion slot and with the slot cover removed slide the card firmly into the slot. Fasten the retaining bracket with a screw and re-install the computer cover. Now in the back of the computer connect your TV cable or video input to the TV Wonder VE card, insert one end of the sound cable (supplied with the card) to the Aud out on the TV Wonder VE card and the other end to the Audio in on the sound card, and reconnect the power cable. That's it! Your done with the hardware.

Now that the connections are made Windows Plug and Play will detect the TV Wonder VE card when you restart your computer. Drop the CD that comes with the card into the CD tray and the CD installs the software automatically.

Once the software is installed it will prompt you to register the card.

This will activate the Warranty Service and provide you with the latest product information. For those of us interested in viewing the Warranty please go here <http://www.ati.com/online/registration>

Once the software is installed and you've rebooted your system the fun begins. You should now have new taskbar on the right-hand side of your monitor that has several buttons. TV, VCD, CD, Player, TV Listings, Library

and a few software operating buttons. Click on the TV Listings first. It will prompt you to connect to the Internet if you are not currently on it and will download all the TV Listings in your area for one week. Once that's done simply scroll down the list and pick which show that you want to watch. A new Window will pop up and your watching it! Maximize the window and your watching full screen! Click the VCD and your recording! Click Player and your playing back! Click CD and watch a DVD movie! Library stores what you've recorded so can refer back to any "captured video" and send it to a friend or burn a CD for personal backup. The possibilities are astounding!

Personally, I've had great success using the TV Wonder VE. The very night after installing the card I was watching Gladiator in a window, reading my e-mail, watching an e-bay auction, and reviewing news headlines all on one monitor! Thank you for allowing me to write an article in your newsletter about a fantastic product and if you've made it this far you've been a great audience.

Keep up with high-tech trends here at "Hook'd on Technology."

<http://special.msn.com/msnbc/hookedontech.arm>



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



Visit Our Website
www.bgamug.org

Monthly Meeting will be Tuesday,

February 24, 2004 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Bowling Green Technical College
Building F
1845 Loop Drive**