

# eMonitor

Oklahoma City PC Users Group  
3000 United Founders Blvd. Suite 201  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4279  
405-843-4300

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## A Publication for Windows and Macintosh Computer Users

This is the official 'eMonitor' of the Oklahoma City PC Users Group. To receive this newsletter each month, please go to: <http://www.okcpcug.org> and subscribe. Place your e-mail address and First and Last name in the boxes. You will receive a confirmation e-mail in return that you must reply to. You may not recognize the address from the company sending the confirmation, so do not delete it as spam. Click on the URL in the confirmation e-mail to finish the subscription.

By clicking on the links in the newsletter, you will be taken to the website to view the article, read it online or print it, as you like. There is a box on the website where you may place your comments. [Click Here](#)

Items of additional interest: [Calendar](#) [Study Group meetings](#) [Senior Net Classes](#)



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**Note:** We have changed the name of our "SIGs" to "Study Groups". This was done for the purpose of clarity and to more aptly describe our monthly group meetings. We feel this will promote more understanding for our present members and our prospective members alike. The word SIG was a part of Users Groups throughout the nation for many years, but has become hard for people, who have never heard it before, to understand the purpose of a SIG. But change being inevitable, we are changing it to "Study Group"  
The editor

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**General Meeting, Program for April 15, 2004**

**Multimedia On A Shoestring: or How I Got Rid Of My Slide Projector, But Still Annoy My Friends When They Come Over.**

by Troy Segler, Program Chairman      April 2004

You are invited to attend the April edition of the OKCPCUG's monthly meeting. We will begin at 7:00 PM in Suite 201 of the Centre 3000 Building, located just off the intersection of Northwest Highway and May Avenue behind the Hilton Hotel. See our Web site ([www.okcpcug.org](http://www.okcpcug.org)) for a map if you have not attended a meeting with us at this location. Enter at the east end of the building. Parking is plentiful. Volunteers will be available starting around 6:30PM at the east entrance to assist you in entering the building.

This promises to be a very informative and entertaining program. Eric Johnston, who recently joined our group, has consented to be our speaker. Eric has been using, programming, consulting, and teaching about computer hardware, operating systems and applications for the last twenty years. He is a freelance technical editor of the Office XP (including VBA), Win XP, XML, and Dreamweaver MX manuals for Course Technology. He holds the following certifications: MOUS - (Microsoft Office User Specialist) Certified Master - (Expert) in Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. COMPTIA A+ - Certified Technician. BrainBench Certified - Technical Writing, Word 2000 Expert, Excel 2000 Expert. He recently started writing a computer advice column in the FYI weekly newspaper.

I have asked Eric to make a presentation on the use of Multimedia tools to store family VCR treasures on CD or DVDs. Several people have shown an interest in saving their old home movies and classics they have collected on CD or DVDs. I suspect many of you have experimented with this routine, but would like to learn how another person would attack the problem.

We will have coffee and refreshments available in a relaxed environment. Also, soft drinks will be available at a cost of 50 cents.

***If you have not attended a General Session recently, attend one soon and bring a guest!***

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There are some interesting links on the [okcpcug.org/greatlinks](http://okcpcug.org/greatlinks) page. Check them out!

**The President's Corner**

**Opportunities**

by **Bill James** April 2004

In my article last month I talked about the challenges that PC User's Groups face with declining membership, vendor support and revenues. These conditions give new impetus for user groups in finding ways to maintaining their current members and attracting new ones. Our club is facing similar conditions, but the board is making strides to improve our situation so that we can continue to be a viable and productive organization. Our purpose is the serve the community so it is important that we adjust ourselves to meet the needs of our current and future membership. During the month of March, our User group met a few hours on a Saturday to discuss those issues and find ways in how we can best serve our community and our members. We discuss our purpose and our mission. Next month I will provide my article outlining what we see as our vision and our mission.

[Read More....](#)

*Bill James is President of the OKC PC Users Group. He is also the OKCPCUG's Webmaster. Bill can be reached at [james@qns.com](mailto:james@qns.com)*

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## A Look at one of our Study Groups:

### Beginners Basic Study Group

TIME: Third Saturday 12:30 pm

LOCATION: Resource Center

LEADER: [Al Knebel](#)

PHONE #: 751-7162

Are you looking for help on learning how to buy and/or use a computer? This Study Group is for you.

The primary focus of this group is to cover the very basic things that you can do with the computer and to help you, if necessary, to overcome the fear many of us have faced, when we started using a computer.

## Build your own computer? (A do it yourself project)

Would you like to build your own computer. Some people have this burning "itch" to get inside a computer and see how it works. If you have the ability to use a few tools and would like to become more acquainted with your computer, this is the way to

really understand the inner workings. David Robbins and Fran Crane have started the first class and if there is an interest and response, there could be more classes. Basically, there are two configurations we have started with. One, in the neighborhood of \$600-\$700 dollars and the other configuration is in the neighborhood of \$1000-\$1100. The first class is the time to make the decision of what configuration you want to use and if you want other parts added. I suggest anyone interested, research what you want in your computer via the web. You will build this computer yourself. You must be a member of the club to participate, if you are not a member, go to <http://www.okcpcug.org> and click on "Application". For more information, contact David Robbins, [dave2k@gbronline.com](mailto:dave2k@gbronline.com) or Fran Crane, [fcrane1@cox.net](mailto:fcrane1@cox.net)

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## Articles for April 2004

*(The following are only excerpts from the articles. Click on the hyperlink to read the entire article)*

### [Business Solutions: Access Combo Box: Various Properties - by James D. Duncan, CPA](#) April 2004

The combo box is very helpful in many ways. Two procedures this month are how to automatically open the drop-down when we enter the combo box and how to leave a field showing for reference. First we need a form to play deal with. Using Access 2000, I clicked on forms, new, design view and start with a clean form.

### [Legal Bytes: Why Is The European Union After Microsoft? - By John Brewer](#) April 2004

Microsoft has had a running conflict with the U.S. Department of Justice and various States regarding alleged monopolistic practices by Microsoft. In late March of 2004, the European Union, after a five year investigation, found Microsoft had violated European Union law and levied a large fine for "near-monopolistic" practices.

### [Ram & Reason: You Saw the Movie, Now Read the Book: Bible Resources on the Web - by Rob Rice](#) April 2004

If you saw Mel Gibson's movie, *The Passion of the Christ*, you may be asking yourself did the events portrayed really happen or if Jesus really made the statements depicted in the movie. Well, the beauty of the Web is that you can go to the original source material and read it for yourself or even download your own copy for free. And even better, you can discover other resources that you may have been unaware of.

### [Getting to Know Google - by Billy Mabray](#) April 2004

These days, whether you consciously choose it or not, your Web search engine is probably Google (<http://www.google.com>). That's because most search sites, whether they admit it

or not, are powered by Google. And, why not? Google rose to the top of the search engines because its formula provided more relevant search results than any other. Also, its deceptively simple page makes it fast and easy to use.

### [Computer Hysteria: Homebrew - by Berry F. Phillips April 2004](#)

"Homebrew" conjures up images of rot-gut whiskey, stills, moonshiners, revenuers, and computer clubs! The Homebrew Computer Club was legendary, being the first computer user group which provided an environment for the development of the microcomputer industry in the Silicon Valley in California. The computer club had its humble beginnings in a garage in March 1975 in Menlo Park in Santa Clara County.

### [This and That: Still Amazed - by Elizabeth B. Wright April 2004](#)

One thing about being a senior citizen is having lived long enough to remember when some things were not a part of our daily life. I remember seeing a traveling show in the late 1930's featuring closed-circuit TV demonstrations. Of course, as a pre-WWII child, it was difficult to understand what the science was behind the demo, but felt it was important. I don't remember all of the wonderful "futuristic" examples that particular show had, but do remember rural electrification was included. Yes, there was a time in this world when only towns and cities had electricity. Anyone under the age of 50 might find that hard to believe.

\*\*\*\*Don't forget to read the articles under the APCUG heading on the left column of the website. When you click on the "[Click here](#)" hyperlink, it will take you to the synopsis page and the links to the articles.

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## **National Genealogical Society to be here at the time of the regular Genealogy Study Group meeting on April 10, 2004**

**by Jim Slade Leader of the Genealogy Study Group**

The National Genealogical Society has established the Family Papers Collection to preserve unique family papers that have not been published elsewhere and make that information available to other researchers. NGS is seeking items that have genealogical information, such as: family bibles, family letters, diaries, journals, personal military records, historic photographs of people and buildings. The documents and photographs should be dated prior to 1930 and the people therein should be identified. The selected items will be scanned or photographed by a traveling NGS team so that fragile documents are handled as little as possible.

Oklahoma City is fortunate to be one of the first sites for the team to visit. The NGS-FPC team will visit the Oklahoma Historical Society Library from April 12<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>. During that time they will scan and photograph genealogical items, record information contained

thereon and enter it into the database. The document itself remains with the owner, but the information and an image will be available on a searchable database on the Internet. The donor's identity is not placed on the Internet and all inquires are screened through NGS. Each donor is also given a CD containing images of their documents. There are more pictures.....[Read more](#)

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[Join the Oklahoma City PC Users Group. See the Membership form on the Website-  
Click here!](#)

### What is a Study Group

The OKC PC Users Group offers many different [Study Groups](#). They are groups of 10-50 people who meet monthly to learn about a particular subject. The format is part presentation and part facilitated discussion. These meetings are supported by our membership. There is no charge, but a \$2 donation is requested to defray the rental cost of the room.

### Join the Oklahoma City PC Users Group!

Come to a Study Group in our Resource Center at 3000 United Founders Blvd.! We are located at the east end of the Center 3000 Building, so use Entrance One on the east side of the building.

### See Map on Website

Enter the east door. After hours and Saturdays, push the bottom right-hand corner button on the intercom pad and a Study Group leader will buzz you in. When you enter, take the elevator on your right to the second floor and we are the first door on your right. There is a large main Study Group room, a more private Study Group room B and a Computer Lab as well as other offices. There is plenty of parking at the east end of the building. The Resource Center at 3000 United Founders Boulevard, Suite 201, is for the use of all PC Users Group members. It is an area where we have Study Group meetings and committee meetings. It houses our computers and equipment for the use of leaders to help others learn.

### What is the PC Users Group?

See ["About Us"](#)

We are a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization of around 2000 members, with the goal of teaching each other more about using and enjoying their personal computers for business and pleasure. The sole purpose of the organization is reflected in its motto, "Computer Users Helping Computer Users."

## [Information on Senior Net](#)

### *Sr. Combo Members- Computer Classes*

Register Now for Windows XP Course. This 8 week course will cost \$30.00. If you are interested, contact Charlene Francis, 359-5675.

## [Click here for Class Schedule and Registration Form](#)

### *\*\*Free Computer Class with Sr Combo Membership\*\**

New Senior Combo Members (50 +) can now register for the Computer Fundamentals class at no charge. This is a \$30 value that is now available free when you join as a Sr. Combo member. This class is a 5 week beginner's course where you will explore the configuration of a computer system; learn how to use the mouse; how to manage files/folders and how to cut, copy and paste text or pictures into a document. These are just a few of the things that you will learn when you take the course.

This offer is also extended to those Senior Combo Members that renew both their PC User Group (\$25) and their SrNet Memberships (\$40).

The initial Sr. Combo membership costs \$60 and gives you a one-year membership in the OKCPC User Group and a one-year membership in the National SrNet Organization, in addition to the class mentioned above.

Contact Charlene Francis 359-5675, if you have any questions regarding membership and/or registration for the class.

eMonitor editor: Fran Crane - [fcrane1@cox.net](mailto:fcrane1@cox.net)