

eMonitor

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

March 2004

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](#) [SIG meetings](#) [Senior Net Classes](#)

The General Meeting for March 2004 will be held at the Resource Center of the OKCPCUG.

The meeting this month will be held at the Resource Center, in room 201 of the Centre 3000 building, located at 3000 United Founders Blvd. Come in the East door and take the elevator on your right to the 2nd floor. There will be ample parking.

General Meeting, Program for March 18, 2004
by Troy Segler, VP of Programs

The March 2004 general meeting of the Oklahoma City Computer Users Group will be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 18th in Suite 201 of the Center 3000 Building, which is located at 3000 United Founders Boulevard. Volunteers will be available starting around 6:30PM at the east entrance to assist you in entering the building.

This month we will be showing a presentation generated by Ira Wilsker. Ira Wilsker is the Regional advisor for APCUG (Association of Personal Computer User Groups). Ira has been a volunteer for APCUG for a number of years and writes articles for the APCUG Website on occasion. The presentation Ira has provided for our use is on Identify Theft. This is a 1-hour Power Point presentation. At the conclusion of the program, I will open the floor for any questions or comments about use of, or developments of, hardware and software for Personal Computers. There should be someone at the meeting to provide insight in these areas.

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

[Read Review of our February 2004 General Session](#)

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

The APCUG is submitting articles from authors to Users Groups around the nation. [Click here](#) to take you to the synopsis page. There will be new ones each month.

The President's Corner: Vision
By Bill James

Personal computers as common as the household toasters. It does not take a 'geek' to get one to operate. Hardware and software is more reliable. With that said, the question now is what is the role or place of a PC User Group? Is there a real need? These are real concerns of User Groups. I think John C. Dvorak; a contributing editor to PC Magazine answered this question best: "The car has been around for over 100 years and it still requires training to use. -- Why do we expect that anything as complicated as a computer will someday be trivial to use? It never has been. It never will be. And that's why we need user groups."

Computers are simpler to operate today, but the complicity is still underneath. Like your auto engine, the intricate parts are hidden from view. Most users never crack the case of their computers to find out what really makes the 'tick'. Most users only want the computer to work when they switch it on. It is only when it does not work when they become concerned and they have a need for some knowledgeable person or organization to help them.

[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

Articles for March 2004

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

[Business Solutions: Excel 2002: Double-Checking Your Answers - Using the Formula Auditing Toolbar - By James D. Duncan, CPA March 2004](#)

As a card-carrying accountant, I live in fear that I will create a spreadsheet with an error in it or change a spreadsheet and introduce an error into it. Although not fool-proof, Excel has a way to verify your formulas. Assume we have an existing sheet we want to check. An example is shown below:

[Legal Bytes: Digital Discovery ... What? - By John Brewer March 2004](#)

All litigation involves a process known as discovery. Discovery is the process whereby one party asks for information and the other party responds to the discovery requests. Discovery in civil litigation is a topic that is fluid by its very nature. There is the ongoing friction between the plaintiff and the defendant as to the manner and the scope of the documents that are furnished pursuant to a request for discovery. Consider the impact of an opening statement with the following words (an opening statement is the beginning of a trial where the lawyers tell the jury what the evidence will be during the trial):

[Computer Hysteria: "Surfs Up" - by Berry F. Phillips March 2004](#)

Just imagine that you could surf the Internet and always catch the "big wave"; Internet2 (I2) and the Next Generation Internet (NGI) fires the imagination of Internet surfing in the future. Prior to 1995, the National Science Foundation's (NSF) NSFnet provided communication to the research and academic community, which was not available for commercial use. In 1995, NSFnet went public, which gave birth to the present Internet. The explosive growth of the Internet is now history, and the increased traffic gradually reduced valuable bandwidth.

[This and That: The Transition Continues - by Elizabeth B. Wright March 2004](#)

When will it ever end? Some thought was given to changing to a new, more powerful desktop computer which would seem to be rather simple. Just get the operating system up and running, get all installed hardware drivers in the right places, install software and everything would be hunky dory.

[Ram & Reason: PDF Converter: The Next Killer App? - by Rob Rice March 2004](#)

E-mail, web browsers, audio players, word processors, these are all examples of "killer apps," those software applications that helped to revolutionize computing and that no computer seems to be able to do without. While it may not belong in the class of a killer app, ScanSoft's PDF Converter for Microsoft Word does have the potential to be one of those applications that no computer, at least those with Word installed, should be without.

****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.

Free computer class for beginners

A free computer class for beginners is being started by the OKC PC USERS GROUP. This class is open to the public and will begin with the basics of using a computer and sending email.

The first class is Monday, March 15, at 6:30pm at the OKC PC USERS GROUP, Suite 201, Center 3000 Bldg., 3000 United Founders Blvd., [Click here for map](#). Enter the east end of building, take elevator to 2nd floor.

Contact Isaac Franklin at 751-3411 for details or e-mail: ifrank9999@cox.net

Please invite your friends. Everyone welcome.

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

What is a SIG

The OKC PC Users Group offers many different [SIGs](#) (Special Interest Groups). SIGs 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 SIG 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 SIG 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 SIG room, a more private SIG 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 SIG meetings and committee meetings. It houses our computers and equipment for the use of SIG 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