



The Bytes of Las Vegas

June, 2010

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We are trying to get into the 21st century and have joined social networking. Please check out our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Las-Vegas-PC-Users-Group/124987137535313?ref=ts>. If you like this, please indicate so. We will continue to update this page to bring you more information. Please tell your Facebook friends to look at our page. They can find it by doing a search of Las Vegas PC Users Group. When we have 100 fans, the page will be much easier to find.

As you know, we are not meeting the months of July and August. We will be back in September at the West Charleston Library. However, during the summer months, your Board of Directors will be working hard to bring you interesting programs in the future. If you have any ideas for programs that you would like to see, please send an email to info@lvpcug.org.

Also, we are in desperate need of a Program Chair. This person would ultimately be responsible for our programs; however, the entire Board will be there to help. Please consider whether you have to time to help out our Club.

Wendy Jaroslowski
President

702-339-3812

Next General Meeting
Date: Wednesday, September 1st, 2010
Tentative Time: 6:15 – 8:15 p.m.
Tentative Place: West Charleston Library
6301 W Charleston Blvd (East of Torrey Pines)

Please contact www.lvpcug.org for the latest info.

Announcements

The Special Interest Groups (SIG) will be meeting at their regular times. Be sure to check the calendar on the website. We are looking for a new place for our General meetings and SIGs. If you have any suggestions, please email us at info@lvpcug.org



Check the website at www.lvpcug.org for the calendar dates and times.

Would you like to share a computer talent you have or would be interested in learning about a certain topic. We would appreciate your ideas!

RECYCLING BRINGS REWARDS

The LVPCUG is receiving rebates for recycling ink cartridges and cell phones. The Recycling Committee urges members to set aside those used ink cartridges and cell phones and bring them to the general meeting. You might also spread the word to family members and friends to save them for you too. There is no cost to the club, only your time in gathering the material and the committee members' time to package it.

If you have any questions, please see Charles Finnila at the General Meeting at the West Charleston Library.

Officers and Volunteers Contact by sending an email to info@lvpcug.org

Board of Directors

- Wendy Jaroslowski.....President
- Harold Rozinski.....Vice President
- Joyce Shore.....Treasurer
- Robert Lynch.....Secretary
- Judy Ruf.....Executive Director
- Larry Burgher.....Technical Director & Webmaster

Linda DiGiovanniSIG Coordinator

Leland Beel..... Bytes of Las Vegas Editor & Little Bytes Editor

Charles Finnila.....Recycling Chairman

Membership Questions

If you have any questions about your membership Please send email: Membership@www.lvpcug.org

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

Membership

Dues are \$30 per year. Dues are collected Annually from your membership date. If you would like to join, a membership form is located at the end of the newsletter. Please complete and forward to our mailing address.

Mailing Address

Las Vegas PC Users Group, Inc.
1350 E. Flamingo Rd. #188
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Newsletter

The Bytes of Las Vegas is published on a monthly basis.

A PDF version is available to members online at the website.

Information in this newsletter was obtained from sources considered to be reliable.

Accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed.

Deadline for article submission:

15 th of each month to editor@www.lvpcug.org



Next General Meeting Date: Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2010

**Time: 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. Place: West Charleston Library
(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
6301 W Charleston Blvd (East of Torrey Pines)**

Message from Membership

You ask -- how is my membership dues spent? Your membership helps pay for the meeting room rental for our general meetings, Clear contract so that our SIGs have internet service, the fee for our website, APCUG dues, insurance policy, non-profit status fees to name just a few of the major items. So while you are out and about enjoying the summer meeting new friends, tell them about our club and encourage them to come with you to a general meeting or a SIG. We want to extend a hearty welcome to new member Olga Agmon-Vignau and thanks to member, Marilyn Mills for recruiting Olga.

Good News for a place to recycle you old Computer Equipment

Goodwill of Southern Nevada and Dell Computers are teaming up with a new program for recycling computer equipment called Reconnect. Residents (large quantities from businesses will not be accepted) can drop off computer items such as monitors, towers, mouse, printers, etc. at any of their 30 Goodwill locations and they will be environmentally recycled and help put South Nevada residents back to work. It is easy, it is free and you will receive a tax deductible receipt just as you do for any donation to Goodwill. Goodwill is not responsible for information that might be left on the computer. You can find your nearest Goodwill location by going to www.goodwill.org and entering your zip code on the home page.

Thanks Judy

25 Free Software Programs Worth the Download

By Jessica Davis on 2010-06-21

Looking to get the most out of your computer, but don't want to spend the money on a bunch of new software without a test run first? We've put together a list of the best free software that you don't need money to buy. From Microsoft Office alternatives to free video conferencing to utilities that get your new computer off to a good start and keep it running smoothly to a classic game. Check out our picks.

<http://www.channelinsider.com/c/a/Spotlight/25-Free-Software-Programs-Worth-the-Download-691265/?kc=EWWHNEMNL06222010STR1>

Thanks Robert



The man that sent this information is a computer tech. He spends a lot of time clearing the junk off computers for people and listens to complaints about speed. All forwards are not bad, just some. Be sure you read the very last paragraph. He wrote:

By now, I suspect everyone is familiar with snopes.com and/or Truthorfiction.com for determining whether information received via

Email is just that: true/false or fact/fiction. Both are excellent sites.

Advice from snopes.com VERY IMPORTANT!!

1.) Any time you see an email that says "forward this on to '10' (or however many) of your friends", "sign this petition", or "you'll get bad

Luck" or "you'll get good luck" or "you'll see something funny on your screen after you send it" or whatever --- it almost always has an email tracker program attached that tracks the cookies and emails of those folks you forward to. The host sender is getting a copy each time it gets forwarded and then is able to get lists of 'active' email addresses to use in SPAM emails or sell to other spammers. Even when you get emails that demand you send the email on if you're not ashamed of God/Jesus --- that is email tracking, and they are playing on our conscience. These people don't care how they get your email addresses - just as long as they get them. Also, emails that talk about a missing child or a child with an incurable disease" how would you feel if that was your child" --- email tracking. Ignore them and don't participate!

2.) Almost all emails that ask you to add your name and forward on to others are similar to that mass letter years ago that asked people to send business cards to the little kid in Florida who wanted to break the Guinness Book of Records for the most cards. All it was, and all any of this type of email is, is a way to get names and 'cookie' tracking information for telemarketers and spammers -- to validate active email accounts for their own profitable purposes.

You can do your Friends and Family members a GREAT favor by sending this information to them. You will be providing a service to your

Friends. And you will be rewarded by not getting thousands of SPAM EMAILS IN THE FUTURE.

Do yourself a favor and STOP adding your name(s) to those types of listing regardless how inviting they might sound! Or make you feel guilty if you don't! It's all about getting email addresses and nothing more.

You may think you are supporting a GREAT cause, but you are NOT!

Instead, you will be getting tons of junk mail later and very possibly a virus attached! Plus, we are helping the spammers get rich! Let's not

Make it easy for them!

ALSO: Email petitions are NOT acceptable to Congress or any other organization - I.e Social security, etc. To be acceptable, petitions must have a "signed signature" and full address of the person signing the petition, so this is a waste of time and you are just helping the email trackers

Wendy Jaroslowski
President
702-339-3812

This is from Steve Bass' TechBites:

Google Voice for Everyone

For the last year or so, Google Voice (formerly called Grand Central, a name I loved) was available only if someone invited you. Yeah, I know; I never did. It's now open to everyone in the United States (stop whining) and I suggest you look at it.

I've hot-linked some of the features I talk about to short YouTube videos that'll give you more details.

The basics: Google Voice gives you a local number with tons of rich features that becomes the one number you'll use. You configure Google Voice with all your other phones -- smart or dumb cell phones and landlines, at home or work - and, based on who's calling, have Google Voice route the call directly to voicemail or any of your phones. If you don't know where you'll be -- say, work, home, or mobile -- Google Voice can ring all your numbers; you pick up the one that's handiest.

Of course, Google Voice gives you options: Rather than using a Google Voice phone number, you can use your existing phone number and still get some of the features. (Here's a breakdown comparing using your own number versus the one Google supplies.) [top]

Google Voice gives you the usual tricks like voicemail, call forwarding, and teleconferencing, but it'll also record calls and add a transcription that you can save or send to your e-mail program if you wish. Call screening is included so you can listen as the person leaves a voicemail to decide if you want to pick up the line. (Think about your boring Uncle Harry or your pesky boss.)

Two more intriguing treats are call blocking and customized voicemail greetings. You can set specific incoming calls to go right to voicemail without your phone ringing, tag other numbers as spam, or simply block the caller completely. You can also create different greetings for particular people or groups of individuals; in my case, relatives on my wife's side of the family. (We've moved to Japan; leave a message and we'll get back to you in 2015.)

From the Google Voice site, you can access your messages, transcriptions, and recordings, and click to initiate calls (your real phone will ring and Google Voice connects you). Checking voicemail the old-fashioned way is easy: Just call your Google number. [top]

<http://www.bassfiles.net/googlevoice.jpg>

This telemarketer has been blocked!

I have a few links to get you up and running: Getting Started Guide gives you a no-nonsense run-through of Google Voice. This YouTube video supplies a simple explanation of the service.

Wendy Jaroslowski

President

702-339-3812

We are Looking for a space to conduct an information demo about LVPCUG
If you know of any place that is available to conduct an information demo about the club Please contact Judy Ruf or send email to info@lvpcug.org. Needed are a table space some chairs and an electrical outlet to plug in a laptop computer.

1IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL USERS
OF MALWAREBYTES SOFTWARE
by Ron Hirsch - ronhirsch1439@comcast.net

Malwarebytes security software has been, and still is one of the best software programs available to help protect your system from the rash of malware and similar “bad stuff” out there in the computer underworld.

I have been using it in conjunction with Microsoft Security Essentials for quite a while now, starting with my older Windows XP Pro 32 bit system computer, and now with my new Windows 7 64 bit computer.

Malwarebytes comes in two versions, free and paid. The free version of Malwarebytes does not offer real time protection, but users can initiate a scan any time they want, to search for malware. The paid version is a lifetime license, with real time protection.

I recently learned that if you are using the paid version, and have set it for real time protection, there can be conflicts with your other security programs. But these conflicts can be stopped by listing the various Malwarebytes active files in the “exclusion” folder of your other antivirus/security software.

I discovered this by accident recently, when my copy of the paid Malwarebytes program notified me that a newer version had been downloaded. And, did I want to install it. Of course, I said OK, and that proceeded to close the program and then install the newer version. It then said I had to reboot, so I did.

After the machine had rebooted, everything was frozen solid, so I tried another reboot, but that also locked everything up tight. It seemed pretty obvious that Malwarebytes was the cause here, but what was the cure? I booted up using SAFE mode, and it booted OK. While in SAFE mode, I decided to just uninstall Malwarebytes, until I could find out the proper solution.

The next normal boot had everything working fine, no lockups - all was normal, confirming that Malwarebytes was the cause. So I sent an email off to Malwarebytes . They got back to me very quickly, and gave me this link below to explain the problem and solution to the freezeups. (cont p 8)



If you are a member of LVPCUG that means you are a member of APCUG and you have a great opportunity to use the resources that they provide. Such as the calendar that members may log in and view a meeting of a different club or SIG and see what they are doing. Please go to www.apcug.org and create a users account in the APCUG SharePoint Site so that you can enjoy some of the benefits of membership in the LVPCUG and its shared portals.



SIG CALENDAR

SIG Name	Meeting Date	Place	Time of meeting	SIG Leader
HelpingHands	1 st Saturday	Wengert Room	10 AM to 4 PM	Linda DiGiovanni 395-6676
Windows Developers	2 nd Thursday For July And August	Sahara West Library	6:30 PM to 8:30 PM	Richard Rosenheim 897-1117
Novice(new users) and Internet)	2 rd Saturday	Wengert Room	1 PM to 3PM	Chuck Frederick 452-9440
Software and Product Review	2 nd Saturday	Wengert Room	3:30 PM to 5:30 PM	Linda DiGiovanni 395-6676
Digital Imaging Techniques	2 nd Sunday	Wengert Room	12 PM to 2 PM	Howard Mark 262-3662
Linux/Open Source	3 rd Sunday	Wengert Room	1 PM to 3 PM Need a Sig Leader for a period of time	
How-To-Workshop	4 th Saturday	Paseo Verde Library	9:30 AM to 2:30 PM	Dennis Kemper

Places are:

Wengert Room is located in the Back of the NV Energy building just west of Jones on W. Sahara

Family History Center is located at 509 S. 9th Street in Las Vegas.

Paseo Verde Library is located in Henderson at 280 S. Green Valley Parkway.

Sahara West Library is located just west of Fort Apache on Sahara Av West.

All meetings are subject to cancellation by the SIG Leader or the Property Owner. The Calendar Page of the LVPCUG website is keep as current as possible.

If you would like to be a SIG leader for some of the SIG's that are not meeting at this time Please contact Wendy to get the details of the duties of the Leader.

"It's a small world after all. It's a small, small world."

Lyrics from a song written by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman

(Cont from p 6)

[#entry167851](http://forums.malwarebytes.org/index.php?s=70b8be10374840dca65629a2162b6d60&showtopic=10138&st=0&p=167851)

If you are not running the paid version, with real time protection, then this fix may well not be needed. But for those using real time protection, it is mandatory.

This is a thread on the Malwarebytes forum, and someone has clearly presented all the fixes to solve the problem, with a wide range of antivirus programs. The fixes are applicable to most versions of Windows, but I believe that the paths for the fixes here are primarily for Windows 32 bit systems. The information presented contains screen shots for those who have problems understanding the fixes.

If you have any trouble accessing this link, I have, as I noted below, created a PDF file of this complete presentation, and it is available on the BRCS site, along with the PDF versions of my articles. See later on, for the link.

The file locations for 64 bit Window's systems are different. Below are the respective locations for Windows 7 64 bit. I have no other 64 bit systems, but I would guess that Vista's locations are probably similar. Since most of you will still be using a 32 bit operating system, such as XP or Vista, you will probably find that the file locations will be as shown on the Internet page, and in the PDF file I've created from the site.

But, you must be familiar with copying files in Windows Explorer to a specified location, depending upon your software. If you cannot do this, get a friend to help you.

Once you have located the target area of your antivirus software, you must then copy the files specified in the online (or PDF copy) of the instructions.

And, remember for 64 bit Windows versions, such as Windows 7 64 bit, the location of the files to copy is different.

Where you see C:\Windows\System32\drivers\
You should use C:\Windows\SysWoW64\drivers\
C:\Windows\SysWoW64\drivers\

Where you see C:\Program Files
You should use C:\Program Files (x86)

Once I added to the exclusion window for Microsoft Security Essentials, all my problems were resolved. There were no freezeups at bootup, and the freezeups of various programs during operation disappeared completely. So I have confirmed that the fix works just fine.

If you would like to download a copy to read, or save, of the info presented on the Malwarebytes site, please go to <http://brcs.org/hirsch.php> ,
(cont p 9)



Smart Computing Tips & Fun Facts

"Reprinted with permission from Smart Computing. Visit www.SmartComputing.com/Groups to learn what Smart Computing can do for you and your user group!"

- **Improve Your PC's Performance:** If you have a lot of data on your PC, adding an external hard drive to your notebook or desktop setup could help improve your PC's performance. You'll be able to avoid bogging your system down with additional files. This will help save your computer's main hard drive from normal wear and tear, thus helping it last longer.

- **HDTV Shopping Tip: Consider Connectivity:** Connectivity used to mean, "Does a TV have enough of the ports your A/V equipment uses?" Having enough A/V ports, such as HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface) 1.3, is still important, but today, you should also look into an HDTV's Internet connectivity features. Most Web-enabled TVs can connect to your home network router through an Ethernet cable, powerline adapter, or wireless adapter (all sold separately). Once online, they can access content such as movie- and video-streaming services, "widgets" that update you on weather or sports scores, and a Web browser for general surfing without a computer. Also look for support for other connections, as they make a TV even more versatile. For example, many sets can play video files and slideshows of photos stored on USB devices and/or memory cards.

- **Windows 7 Shortcuts:** Some of the cooler Windows 7 windows management tricks involve docking windows to the left or right half of the screen. This feature expands or contracts the current window to half the Desktop and pins it to the edge of your display. Press WIN (the Windows logo key)-Left arrow or WIN-Right arrow to dock the current window to the left or right side of the screen, respectively. If you continuously press WIN-Right arrow or WIN-Left arrow, the current window will cycle between its original size and placement and being pinned to the left or right half of the display.

Windows 7: System Recovery Tools Help Forestall Disaster: Microsoft's latest operating system provides a series of tools that you can use to rescue your ailing computer.

- **How Search Engines Work:** Search engines make it their business to read your mind, and you might be surprised by some of their methods.

(cont from p 8)

which is our society's home page, and look for the file named Malwarebytes Info. You can read it online, and/or save it, as desired. And you can also download a PDF of this article, which is named "Malwarebytes article", if you'd like a copy for your records.

REMEMBER - Malwarebytes remains as one of the best security programs out there. I recommend it to all users. And for the small price of \$24.95 you will have lifetime free updates of the program and the malware database, and real time protection. If you will want to go with the free version, you will have free database update, and scans anytime you want.

Using this program, and Microsoft Security Essentials will afford you top notch protection.



Las Vegas PC Users Group, Inc.

Membership Application

New Members or Renewal with Information Changes

To join the Las Vegas PC User Group, please complete the information below. The form can be mailed with a check or brought to the General Meeting. Dues are \$30 per year per family. More information about the Club can be obtained from: www.lvpcug.org

Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____

(Please Print)

Name(1): _____ Name(2): _____

Email (1) _____ Email (2) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

It is LVPCUG policy to keep your information confidential.

Supplemental Information (optional, but helpful):

How did you hear about the LVPCUG? _____

Areas of Interest: _____

Send check for \$30 to:

Las Vegas PC Users Group, Inc.
Membership Director
1350 E. Flamingo Rd #188
Las Vegas, NV 89119-5270

Club Use only: Memb, No. _____ Rec'd _____

Amount _____ Method _____

