

The



Computer Booter

Computer Booters of Sun Lakes

<http://www.computerbooters.com>

February 2011

February newsletter highlights

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February's meeting will bring back Gene Barlow with a presentation on the latest edition of Acronis backup. Although some of us already have an earlier version of this product it should be very interesting to learn what innovations have been added to the 2011 edition. Rollie Baumann will present some computer tips and tricks which are always helpful.

Many members have commented on the excellent presentation of Doug Fairbanks and Tom Paitek at our January meeting. We thank them and request any of our other members that have knowledge in a program or digital device such as a cell phone, ipad, etc. to present a program on it. It would help us all.

A Little Humor Here

John's dad picked him up from school to take him to a dental appointment. Knowing the parts for the school play were supposed to be posted today, he asked his son if he got a part.

John enthusiastically announced that he'd gotten a part. "I play a man who's been married for twenty years."

"That's great, son. Keep up the good work and before you know it they'll be giving you a speaking part."

From the President's Desk

by George Rodriguez, PRESIDENT



The 2011 meetings have started off with a great presentation of Proshow Gold. This is an in-house presentation and it goes without saying that many of our members have a talent with products that they have been using for a while. Our club benefits from this knowledge and we ask that anyone who has some similar experience with any software that they step up to do a presentation for the club's enlightenment.

February's meeting will bring back Gene Barlow with a presentation on the latest edition of Acronis backup. Although some of us already have an earlier version of this product it should be very interesting what innovations have been added to the 2011 edition.

The rest of the year is lining up with other interesting presentations, be sure to tell your friend and neighbors and bring them along to the next meeting.

See you at the meeting.

2011 SIG Schedule

by Ralph Ilsen, SIG COORDINATOR



For our current SIG Classes Schedule, please go to our website:
www.computerbooters.org

Some Interesting web sites

1. A demonstration on why our legal immigration policy doesn't help world poverty:

Go to: <http://numbersusa.org>

2. a visit to Algonquin Park, Canada

Go to: <http://algonquincanoe->

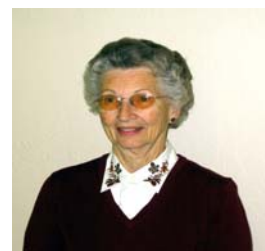
ing.blogspot.com/2009/03/rick-mercero-visits-algonquin-park.html

3. River Dance with rifles and boots:

Go to: <http://sorisomail.com/email/16993/exibicao-de-banda-militar--um-espectaculo-imperdivel.html>

Look Who's Volunteering

by Darlene Herring, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



The Computer Booters of Sun Lakes held their first monthly meeting of 2011 on January 4th. There were 88 members and guests present.

Ed Schweitzer, the Welcome Director for our Club was present. Guy Laroche, the Membership Director had two experienced helpers, Vivian Berman and our Publicity Director Shari Thompson who helps wherever she can.

Our reliable volunteers have assisted for many years preparing the equipment for our meetings - and this month was no exception. Ed Craze and Jim Gatesman had

everything ready when it was needed. The lighting was changed when appropriate and Ziggy Wirganowicz did it. Did you win a prize with the red ticket Kathie Wrage gave you? Hope so, but if not, you can try again next month. A very useful \$80 prize was awarded.

J.R. Scheideriter has agreed to "man the mic" and we are glad he made that decision.

Your Computer Booters Club is here for you when you need an answer to a question, when computer complications arise or when a helping hand is needed. Our SIG (Special Interest Group) facilitators are very special folks. Come to the next meeting (it's free!) and bring a guest. We will be happy to have you!

What does 'delete' mean?

Many users are still convinced that when they delete a document or file on their computer, it vanishes into thin air -- but that's hardly the case.

As "Sam," a security engineer who wishes to remain anonymous because of the nature of his job, explains: "When a user 'deletes' a file, it's not really gone. Deleted files are sent to the Trash folder. At this point, files can still be recovered." However, even if the Trash folder is emptied, it doesn't mean the file has disappeared completely. "But the longer a deleted file is left on a drive, the greater the chance the file cannot be recovered," Sam says.

Formatting and disk wipe

Then there are times when you really do need to permanently delete everything. If you are in the process of donating or selling your computer, or if you have sensitive information stored on it which you wish to be deleted permanently (such as medical information, bank or legal documents, or Social Security numbers), tech experts recommend reformatting your hard drive or performing a

disk wipe. According to The Tech FAQ, "Formatting the hard drive or any of its partitions will completely erase all data that is present."

A thorough "disk wipe" will essentially overwrite your hard drive to the point where recovery is impossible. Users can (and should) erase the hard drives of their old computers so their data cannot be found by anyone else.

Consequences of not deleting files

Sensitive information carelessly stored on computers can lead to identity theft, and also harks the growing need for computer forensics.

In 2007, for example, a forensics expert found that the new publisher of the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* had transferred sensitive information over from his *St. Paul Pioneer Press* computer, where he previously worked. In another case, the insurer Health Net was recently sued as a result of a missing computer hard drive that stored the medical records of several thousand customers.

Deleting files from your computer is similar to shredding documents: Store what you need, and digitally "shred" those you don't.



Membership Report

by Guy Laroche, CLUB RECORDS DIRECTOR

Time is running out to renew your membership (if you have not done it yet). Membership is on a calendar basis (January 1st to December 31st). The day after the February general meeting (February 2nd) the database will be purged and non-renewed members will not receive club announcement and will not be able to attend SIG Classes. Renewal notices are not sent to individuals.

Guests are welcome at the general meeting (one attendance is free). It is the best way to see what the Computer Booters has to offer and you can talk to existing members. Bring a friend or neighbor. Attendance is still very low. Only 87 were present at the last meeting. The new dues for 2011 are now in effect and are as follows: \$36.00 for individual and \$48.00 for two persons living at the same address. This covers general meeting, door prizes, and all SIG Classes (Special Interest Group classes), not to mention that you can always talk to someone in the Club. We have a number of member that an answer computer related questions.

Membership forms for 2011 are available on

our website www.computerbooters.org. They can be found in the left column of the home page under membership. Everyone is requested to fill out a membership form. Filling the form on-line is the best way to ensure the data is accurate and readable, especially the e-mail address. However the form cannot be sent on-line, it has to be printed. You can also pick up a form at the front table before the general meeting of the Computer Booters of Sun Lakes. Attach (do not staple or tape) your check to the form and bring it to the meeting or snail mail it to the address on the form (P.O. Box).

As always, membership badges will be ready to be picked up, at the membership table, before the general meeting following the receipt of you application.

Please note: General meetings start promptly at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month (except summer time). Doors close when the meeting starts. If you are late you will not receive a door prize ticket. SIG Classes also start at 7:00 pm according to the schedule found on the Computer Booters Web site.

Treasurer's Report *by Jim Rahilly, TREASURER*

Fund Balances as of January 11, 2011:

Rainy Day Reserve Fund	\$ 1,129.47
Current Operating Fund	<u>2,184.53</u>
Total Funds	\$ <u>3,314.00</u>



Program Update

by Ben Thompson, VICE PRESIDENT



January 2011 Meeting

We were very pleased to have **Doug Fairbanks** and **Tom Paitek** as presenters for our January program. Doug and Tom are members of our Computer Booters DVD Producing/ProShow Gold Special Interest Group (SIG). Their presentation answered the question of what to do with the boxes of photos, slides, photo albums etc. that most of us have put away for safe keeping.

Doug and Tom showed us just how easy it is to create great slide

shows including videos of family members and/or vacation trips. ProShow Gold helps you quickly and easily create customized slide shows using motion, transi-



tion effects, music and much more. Once you have created your own DVD slide show, you'll be able to share these memories with family and friends. Tom showed a variety of interesting examples of his work, including an exquisite flower show, vacations, reunions, trips, and genealogy.

At the conclusion of the presentation, a guest's name, John Livoti, was drawn to receive a complete up-to-date copy of the ProShow Gold program, including the guide book. He has said that was certainly an incentive to join.

Members are invited to attend the DVD Producing/ProShow Gold SIG class, currently facilitated by Doug and Tom, on the second Tuesday of each month

February 2011 Meeting

Our next general meeting will be on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. Our presenter this month is Gene Barlow of User Group Relations. He will describe for us the best way to back up your computer. Making regular backups of your computer's hard drive is the most important thing you should be doing to protect and maintain your computer. Gene is very knowledgeable on the many backup approaches available to PC Users today. Gene represents Acronis Software to the user group community. His products will be available at the meeting to purchase at Special User Group Dis-

count Prices for those that wish to do so.

Dr. Herbert A Goldstein, Editor of the Sarasota PC Monitor, describes the importance of backing up your computer's hard drive in this way: "Let's start with a horror story. You get up one morning, turn your computer on, get the usual few welcoming screens, and it all ends there. Your computer refuses to boot. Or maybe for similarly unknown reasons all your email messages are gone or your banking records have disappeared. There are dozens of disasters in the world of computers waiting to ambush you. That little electronic box of yours has a multitude of ways of making your life unbearable unless you have prepared for the inevitable catastrophe that will separate you from whatever exists on your computer. If it hasn't happened to you at least once (or commonly more frequently), you can bet your bottom buck that it will. In all these and more situations, your only salvation will be your most recent backup. What? You don't have one? Tough luck and sheer insanity on your part."

Dr. Goldstein continues: "The very first thing you need to put into your computer after its operating system is a good manageable backup software program. My choice and statistically that of the majority of users today is Acronis True Image (TI) Home. I choose it for some very good reasons: Use it only once and the software much more than paid for its self. True Image is not only easy to use, it is completely dependable. It will work reliably exactly as you have set it to function. If you are already using TI 2009, an upgrade to 2010 is well worth the money. The latest version adds considerable polish and new features to 2009. In particular, the Restore feature has been completely changed to make restoring a simpler, faster easy to use essential feature. It is no longer necessary to go through the obtuse procedure of mounting an image in the restore process."

This will be a very interesting and informative session. You won't want to miss it!

The "Tips & Tricks" portion of the meeting will be presented by **Rollie Baumann**, our Hardware Manager.

Remember that SIG Classes are offered each month. See www.computerbooters.com under Member Services – SIGS for the latest offerings.



CONSUMER ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES TECH ENTHUSIAST MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY FOR INDIVIDUALS

by Patricia Hill, Review Editor

The Consumer Electronics Association (CEA)®, the preeminent trade association representing 2,000+ technology companies, and the owner and producer of the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES), the world's largest technology trade show, recently launched its new membership category, CEA Tech Enthusiast Membership.

For the first time in its 86-year history, CEA has created a membership category exclusively for individuals who are early adopters and fervent supporters of consumer technology. Members receive benefits such as online discounts from technology companies, beta testing opportunities and insider industry information on the latest technology trends. CEA Tech Enthusiast Membership is \$49 annually, with a special introductory price of \$29 for the first 2,000 members. To join, visit CEAtechenthusiast.com.

"Technology-focused consumers are a vital part of growing the consumer electronics industry, and we want to provide them with insider benefits to pay them back for their years of dedication to this market," said Gary Shapiro, president and CEO of CEA. "Our entire industry will benefit from this new offering as our Tech Enthusiasts' expertise, thoughts and opinions will help inform everything from product offerings to public policy efforts."

Tech Enthusiast members will receive exclusive benefits from CEA including:

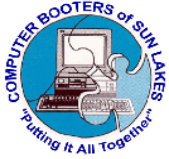
Access to an exclusive, members only website
Free digital access to CEA publications, podcasts and original content

An opportunity to become a CEA blogger
Multiple CEA member companies have become corporate partners of the Tech Enthusiast membership category, offering a variety of exclusive offerings. Check out the website; you're bound to find some of your favorites.

I joined in early November and at the time they were having growing pains. One of the membership benefits was admittance to this year's CES on Sunday. The Discussion area was filled with messages from people who signed up but hadn't received membership confirmation, badges, and basic information. I talked to Mary Savino, Senior Director of Consumer Membership. She admitted that CEA waited a little too long to launch the program that was announced at the 2009 show. The Tech Enthusiast staff was recently hired and is working hard to get the program off the ground.

I've been going to CES for several years now and fully expect them to get their act together. In the meantime, check out the website, take advantage of their special membership offer and let me know what you think.

And . . . watch your Inbox for more CES news that I'll be sending out soon!



The COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES is a non-profit organization established to aid personal computer users in achieving maximum results from their home or small business computer. This newsletter is published monthly from September through June by the COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES. It is not connected with any commercial or private business. The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be correct and accurate. However, the COMPUTER BOOTERS OF SUN LAKES assume no responsibility for inaccuracies or omissions. Any information used from these articles is at the user's risk.



The COMPUTER BOOTERS meets the first Tuesday of each month, except in July and August when we do not meet, and in March when the date and/or location may change due to the Sun Lakes One homeowners meeting. Call for the date and location of the March meeting. All other meetings are held in the Arizona Room of the Sun Lakes One Country Club at 7:00 PM. which is south of Riggs Road on Sun Lakes Blvd. CB Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:30 PM in the Arts and Crafts Room at the Sun Lakes One Country Club.

Member of



For membership information contact Guy Laroche 480-883-0638, mr1968zeus@msn.com

Other computer user groups have our permission to use the articles written by our members as long as credit is given to the author and source and notice is sent to our Editor or Assistant Editor:

John Harrill, Newsletter Editor
Doug Fairbanks, Assistant Editor

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	George Rodriguez	480-802-9080	casarod@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Ben Thompson	480-391-1262	bthompson@wbhsi.net
SECRETARY	Colette McNally	480-835-9499	colettem9412@gmail.com
TREASURER	Jim Rahilly	480-243-7907	jimrahilly1@msn.com
BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE	Al Hill	480-895-2196	booteral@aol.com
CLUB RECORDS DIRECTOR	Guy Laroche	480-883-0638	mr1968zeus@msn.com
HARDWARE MANAGER	Rollie Baumann	480-895-2322	rdbslaz@gmail.com
MEMBERS WELCOME DIRECTOR	Ed Schweitzer	480-883-1116	BandE96@wbhsi.net
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	John Harrill	480-895-6477	John_Harrill0105@yahoo.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Doug Fairbanks	480-895-8260	doug1005@aol.com
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	Ben Thompson	480-391-1262	bthompson@wbhsi.net
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR	Sue Klein	480-895-3528	simoodles@live.com
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR	Shari Thompson	480-391-1262	Publicity@computerbooters.com
REVIEW EDITOR	Patricia Hill	480-895-2196	booterpat@aol.com
SIG COORDINATOR	Ralph Ilsen	480-895-1166	Ralph@ilsen.net
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Darlene Herring	480-895-0224	okauntd@juno.com

2011 CALENDAR CORNER

Meeting 7:00 PM Tuesday February 4, 2011

Featured Speaker: For this month is Gene Barlow of User Group Relations.

Tips and Tricks: The “**Tips & Tricks**” portion of the meeting will be given by **Rollie Baumann**, our Hardware Manager.

2011 Monthly Meeting Dates

Tuesday, 7:00 PM--Arizona Room, Sun Lakes 1

2011

February 1

March 1

April 5

May 3

September 6

October 4

November 1

December 6