

# Abort, Retry, Ignore...



## Computers Are Easy User Group



July 2006

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Issue 7

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### July has 5 Saturdays. The CAEUG meeting is on the fourth Saturday, July 22.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Managing Device Drivers

By Vinny La Bash

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**!!! IMPORTANT !!!**

CAEUG meeting  
will be the  
4th Saturday  
July 22  
Time  
09:45 - noon

**\*\*\* NOTE \*\*\***

**Confirmed  
future meeting  
will be the  
July 22  
August 26  
\*\*\*\***

**MEETING PLACE**

will be the  
Glenside Public  
Library  
\*\*\*\*

**SEE YOU  
THERE!!  
\*\*\*\***

**Computer  
Show  
HAS MOVED TO  
Dupage County  
Fair Grounds**

**Date  
August 27  
\*\*\*\***

Windows is the most widely used operating system (OS) in the personal computer world.

For each piece of hardware that's connected to a Windows based computer, somebody somewhere has written a piece of software to make the device work with a computer. This piece of software is called a "Device Driver." One of the most useful features of a well-written device driver is making itself all but invisible to whoever is using the computer. You create a document, send it to your printer, and somehow the document prints. Your device driver takes care of all the little details necessary for the printing operation to occur.

Drivers are one of the three most important broad categories of software in computers. The first is the operating system, the second is whatever applications are installed, including communications, and the third is device drivers. Drivers are important for two reasons. First, your peripherals won't work without them, and second, corrupted or out-of-date device drivers are responsible for most system crashes.

There are other reasons why it's important to keep your device drivers up-to-date. Sometimes a manufacturer will become aware of some kind of defect or glitch in the

(con't on page 2)

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driver software and issue a fix. You will need it. A different manufacturer may have a driver for its own device that will cause a conflict with an out-of-date driver on your device. Over time, updates for Windows may eventually cause problems with an out-of-date driver.

Proper device driver management is essential to keeping your computer crash proof. If device driver management is unfamiliar territory, please pay attention. You'll be glad you did. Microsoft introduced the concept of Signed Drivers with Windows 2000 and continued with Windows XP. If a device driver is "signed" by Microsoft, it means that the driver has been subjected to meticulous, painstaking, extensive testing to ensure compatibility with your Windows operating system.

Anytime you install a signed driver, Windows checks it by default and also guarantees it has not been altered or changed in any way. If the driver is not signed, Windows alerts you with a strong message that the driver has not passed Microsoft's rigorous certification tests.

Windows will also ask if you want to install the driver anyway, and will do so if you give it permission. Keeping your computer safe from unstable software is always a good idea. Fortunately, changing the Windows default is relatively easy, but you need Administrator privileges.

Right-click the My Computer icon on the desktop, then select Properties. Click the Hardware tab and then the Driver Signing button. Choose Block to let this be the new default, and you're done. Windows will now block any device drivers that it does not recognize as signed.

Not all manufacturers send their drivers to Microsoft for testing. For small firms this can be an expensive proposition. Does this mean you should never install an unsigned driver? No, but you should do some checking of your own to ensure that the company has a good reputation in the industry. Sometimes a new device driver will prove unstable for various reasons. Windows XP has the ability to delete the driver and install a previous version. Open the Device Manager, and double click the driver that's causing problems. Switch to the Driver tab and Roll Back the driver to the previous version.

What we've discussed so far is fine if you're using relatively new equipment, but suppose you're having trouble with something that's old and the manufacturer has gone out of business. Chances are good that the original installation disk is lost or deteriorated to a point where it is no longer useful. There are many other reasons why you could have difficulty finding a device driver, but these are the most common.

In the past, finding the right device driver or firmware was often a tedious, time consuming, and frequently impossible task. Nowadays, we have web sites such as

<http://www.driverguide.com> to help us. The site has been around since 1997, and has seen many improvements. It has a unique membership base of thousands who collectively compiled a massive database of drivers, firmware, and support documents that is the largest and most comprehensive on the Web.

Recognizing that most people who use computers are not experts, they have devised an easy step-by-step process that will help you find and install drivers. There is an archive of hundreds of thousands of files containing not only drivers, but voluminous information on manufacturers including links to other sites with driver information. Also useful are the discussion boards where you can chat with others who have the same hardware, and learn from their experience.

After you search for a driver and find it, help doesn't stop. The Driver Summary provides you with a rundown of all the information you're likely to need to make the decision about whether or not to download and install the driver. This information is put together from the original manufacturer, plus ratings and comments from those who have previously downloaded and installed the file. It's nice to have everything in one place.

There are many web sites where you can find information about device drivers, but this is one of the best places to use as your starting point. Managing device drivers does not have to be a search in the dark. Use the tools available to you, and your system will be stable and a lot less prone to crash.

July 2006 Contents of CD of the Month

- ARI** - June and July Newsletters
- Audacity** - Free, open source software for recording and editing sounds
- AVMP3Player** - MP3 player, mixer, and audio editor
- Avvenu** - Software agent that runs on Windows laptops and monitors for malicious or accidental wireless activity
- Belarc71h** - Latest version of Belarc Advisor - hardware/software inventory software
- BGEye** - Renders system information as the desktop wallpaper
- CCleaner** - Latest version of Crap Cleaner
- CDBurnerXPpro** - Free CD burner
- CMenuExtender** - Shell extension that lets the user add items to the Explorer contextmenu
- CoolMon** - A program for monitoring vital system stats and display on the desktop
- DVDAttache** - A DVD data base that helps you keep track of your collection
- EmEditor** - A Windows text editor
- FireFox** - Version 1.5.0.4 - Mozilla browser
- Firefox2Beta** - Beta version 2 - Mozilla browser
- FirstPage** - HTML editing software
- FolderShare** - A service that allows you to securely keep files synchronized between your devices
- FolderSync** - A file compare, diff and synchronization utility
- Foobar** - An advanced audio player for the Windows
- GooglePack** - Pack of programs needed on a new computer (some older ones, too)
- HalpTV** - A free internet television tuner application
- HDTune** - Hard Disk utility which benchmarks performance and monitors HD health
- Jarte** - A free word processor has a unique interface
- MSMediaPlayer11Beta** - Media player beta
- OldTimeRadio** - Old radio programs
- OpenOffice203** - Latest version of Open Office
- OpenSebJ** - A free real time audio sample mixer
- Opera9** - Latest version of the Opera browser
- PaintDotNet** - An image and photo manipulation software
- PCLockerPro** - Displays a lock screen and protects your computer when you leave / records access attempts
- PCWIZARD** - A powerful utility designed especially for hardware detection
- Photobie** - A free image editing software with multilayer support with screen capture
- PhotoStacker** - Takes random pictures and generate a unique desktop wallpaper
- ProductKey** - A utility that displays the ProductID and the CD-Key of MS-Office, Windows
- ReaperAudio** - A Windows application for the recording, arrangement, editing, mixing and rendering of audio
- RegClean** - A utility that cleans your Registry of unnecessary entries
- ScreenShooter** - Takes screenshots of your whole screen or of an individual window
- SendToAny** - Extends the Windows Explorer 'Send To' context menu with all known links
- SmartShutDown** - A shutdown utility for Windows 95, 98, ME, NT, 2000, XP, and 2003
- SolSuite** - Favorite card games
- SpeedFan** - A program that monitors voltages, fan speeds and temperatures your computer
- SubnetCalc** - An IP Subnet Calculator widget
- SystemInfo** - Gets detailed information about your computer properties and settings, detailed hardware specs
- VirtualLab** - A method of recovering data/files from a HD - fee for service - program free
- WavePad** - Audio editing software is a full featured professional sound editor
- WebEasy** - Web design software is all you need to create professional Web sites
- WhoLockMe** - extension for MS Explorer that lists all the processes locking a selected file
- WindowsCare** - Examines Windows, detects bottlenecks that cause slow downs and crashes, fixes the problems
- WindowsDefender** - A MS program that protects your computer against pop-ups
- YahooWidgetEngine** - Program to run widget files

**Lamp Post 75**  
**July 16, 2006**  
 by John Spizzirri



I will continue this month with how to use Open Office Writer (OOW) the word processing program in the Open Office Suite. Last month I covered some advanced functions. This month I will cover one more advanced function.

**Find and Replace** is a method to rapidly find a word or series of characters in a document or to find and replace a word or series of characters with another word or series of characters or nothing. Replacing something with nothing is called find and delete. To activate the dialog box click 'Edit' on the menu and select 'Find and Replace' or press Control-F. The dialog box has a 'Search for text' box with a 'Find' and 'Find All' button to the right. Under the 'Search for text' box is a 'Replace with text' box with a 'Replace' and 'Replace All' button to the right. Under that are a 'Match Case' and 'Whole Words Only' check boxes. Matching case means that if you capitalize letters in a search term, the only items that will be found are those that match exactly. Whole words only means that search terms must appear as a single word. For instance, if you were to search for 'Whole Words Only' for the term 'her', the matches would NOT include father, farther, or Hernandez. There are many functions including changing formatting of the text searched for. The best way to use this feature is to have a test document and play with the features until you know what it does so you do not ruin a serious document.

Open Office (<http://www.openoffice.org/>) sent this e-mail to registered users, "OpenOffice.org 2.0.3 is now ready for download, three months since the release of 2.0.2. This latest release contains a mixture of new features, bug fixes, and security patches, and demonstrates the OpenOffice.org Community's determination to maintain its position as the world's leading open-source office productivity suite. The security patches fix vulnerabilities that have been found in internal security audits. Although there are currently no known exploits, we urge all users of 2.x to upgrade to the new version or install their vendor's patches accordingly." "No known exploits" means that no crackers have taken advantage of the vulnerabilities. Isn't it nice that a software producer finds its own security problems and fixes them without being prodded by security companies or bad publicity due to crackers. Version 2.0.3 will be on the July CD of the Month.

A few stories have crept into the news recently about Open Document Format (ODF [http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc\\_home.php?wg\\_abbrev=office](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=office) & <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OpenDocument>). ODF is a free XML file format approved by the International Standards Organization (ISO <http://www.iso.org/iso/en/ISOOnline.frontpage>). MS which has been fighting ODF suddenly, reversed itself and will now offer ODF format 'Save as' in its newest office product in December of this year. Did MS see the error of its ways? Probably not. Massachusetts and Belgium have required all their software to use ODF. Some other countries are considering ODF as a requirement as well. MS even tried bribing Massachusetts, giving the state \$800 for every college student. Massachusetts still went ahead with the requirement. Open Office (<http://www.openoffice.org/>) saves natively in ODF. Here are the stories that piqued my interest; <http://www.linux-watch.com/news/NS5139606687.html>, <http://blogs.zdnet.com/carroll/?p=1577>, <http://www.webpronews.com/topnews/topnews/wpn-60-20060131SorryMicrosoftODFLivesOnInMass.html>, and <http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=112343> Here is one not complimentary to Open Office or ODF; <http://netapps.muohio.edu/blogs/darcusb/darcusb/archives/2006/06/09/its-not-just-about-about-file-formats>.

eWeek.com praised Opera 9. That is the latest version of another IE alternative browser. The story is at <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1759,1980533,00.asp> while the browser is available at <http://www.opera.com/>. It will also be on the July CD of the Month.

Finding a report that casts the United States in a bad light is sometimes difficult. I checked three of the most anti-administration newspapers in the country; the New York Times ( <http://www.nytimes.com/> ), Los Angeles Times ( <http://www.latimes.com/> ), and the Washington Post ( <http://www.washingtonpost.com/> ). The news story I was looking for was reported by Reuters out of Geneva, Switzerland. I was finally able to find the report in that rag that Bush and his minions always cite as the number one 'anti-administration media outlet'. The Manila Bulletin Online reported the United Nations Human Rights Council approved a treaty that bans states from arresting (abducting) criminals (enemies) and putting them in secret prisons, 'renditioning' ( [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extraordinary\\_rendition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extraordinary_rendition) ), or killing them. I found the story at <http://www.mb.com.ph/MAIN2006063068177.html> . The United States only has 'observer' status at the United Nations Human Rights Council negotiations, which have been going on since 1992. The treaty still has to be approved by the General Assembly before it goes to each national government for ratification. What is anti-American or anti-administration about that treaty, you may ask? The United States objected to the treaty. I sometimes wonder what country I am living in.

Will our Secretary of State ( <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/> ), Jesse White, adopt the European method of nanny-state regulation of driver licensing? Spain is the latest country in Europe to change the way they regulate driving. This effort is purported to reduce crashes and the attendant injuries and death. The scheme works on a point system with points earned for driving without incident and points deducted for infractions. If you lose too many points, you lose your license. You may lose points as a passenger in a car as well. The story is at [http://www.typicallyspanish.com/news/publish/article\\_5150.shtml](http://www.typicallyspanish.com/news/publish/article_5150.shtml) . In Europe, you can gain points by taking expensive courses offered by the country. Illinois already has a point system of a sort - more points is bad.

Dell ( <http://www.dell.com/> ) reported that it would be discontinuing most rebate programs on its systems. If they do not lower prices, they will deserve the lower sales they have experienced over the last two quarters. Dumping rebates is one of the best things they could have done. I hope other suppliers follow their lead. I have written about the rebate scam before. My recommendation is only buy a rebated item if the deal is good without the rebate, because you may not receive it.

Do you have a Lexarflash (jump, thumb) drive? There has been a recall. Red 256MB, lime green 512MB, blue 1GB, and black 2GB are affected. They overheat and can cause injury. The story is at <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,202429,00.html> .

The U.S. House of Representatives(?) ( <http://www.house.gov/> ) passed a bill making on line gambling illegal except for state-run lotteries and horse racing. The bill does not outlaw individuals from on line gambling but makes on line casinos illegal. The bill provides for law enforcement to "work" with ISPs (Internet Service Providers) to block on line casinos. Most on line casinos are NOT based in the United States, yet most of their customers are in the United States. Wired Magazine has the story at [http://www.wired.com/news/technology/internet/0,71368-0.html?tw=wn\\_index\\_8](http://www.wired.com/news/technology/internet/0,71368-0.html?tw=wn_index_8) . The bill will now go to the Senate ( <http://www.senate.gov/> ) for their consideration. Why would the House do this? Do they think that you are incapable of making that decision for yourself? Here is my opinion on why I think the Senate will confirm the bill and the President

( <http://www.whitehouse.gov/> ) will sign it into law. Taxes! Family values, Judeo-Christian ethic, and biblical proscription have no impact. All states except Tennessee, Vermont, and Hawaii have some sort of casino gambling as I found on this site

<http://www.worldcasinodirectory.com/american-casinos.asp> . Georgia has cruise ship casinos that must go beyond the 'three mile limit' to open. Hawaii and Tennessee do not have lotteries. Gambling of one sort or another exists in all states. Hawaii has an exemption for 'social gambling'. When Congress must depend on the honesty of individuals to report taxable activities, they always ban those activities or pass draconian laws denying the rights of an individual. Ron Paul (R-Texas <http://www.house.gov/paul/> ), also known as Doctor No, was the only representative to point out that prohibition doesn't work. (Paul is known as Doctor No because he votes 'no' on virtually all tax increases and violations of human rights.) Another tact of government is restricting the number

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of 'licenses' so that control be managed with a small bureaucracy. Another advantage to incumbent politicians is that license holders are beholden to them and more apt to fund their re-election campaigns. So if you choose to vote in the election that is just over 100 days away, you may want to vote against whoever is in office, just to keep them off balance.

In a related story, it may not matter whether you vote or not because of the flaws in electronic voting machines and the auditing procedures that are routinely ignored (on purpose?) by governmental entities charged with running elections. The story is at

[http://www.businessweek.com/ap/tech/D8IGQLVO0.htm?sub=apn\\_tech\\_down&chan=tc](http://www.businessweek.com/ap/tech/D8IGQLVO0.htm?sub=apn_tech_down&chan=tc) .

Computerworld has an article about 'older engineering, biotechnology and finance workers' being wanted by companies. Gee, what a crock. (I know from personal experience.) Story at <http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9001572&source=topread> .

If companies are just now figuring out that they are about to lose their most experienced (and knowledgeable) employees, perhaps they should not have downsized ('right-sized') or farmed out operations to India and Malaysia. I may sound bitter, so be it.

In related stories, Lucent will be cutting 9,000 jobs

( <http://www.electricnews.net/news.html?code=9732901> ) and Intel will be cutting 1,000 jobs

( <http://www.chinapost.com.tw/business/detail.asp?ID=85950&GRP=E> and

<http://www.marketwatch.com/News/Story/Story.aspx?dist=newsfinder&siteid=mktw&guid=%7BF85A67B5%2D1F81%2D4581%2DA3D2%2DB1D9B22AA065%7D&> ). I guess some companies are not reading Computerworld Magazine.

Did you or some one you know go to Western Illinois University ( <http://www.wiu.edu/> ) or purchase anything from them? They were cracked. 240,000 records were 'compromised'. The story is at <http://www.wbbm780.com/pages/47565.php> . Compromised was "credit card information for anyone who used the Web to buy items from the school's bookstore or who stayed in the hotel in the school's union."

Last month I wrote about the VA laptop stolen from a employees home. The good news is that it was returned <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=2134757> . The still nameless employee got off scott free because he had "written permission" to take it home. It looks like a slap on the hand would be severe punishment for this offense. The 'do nothing' Congress had a wake up call and now is doing something. Just like most rushes to do something, the bills proposed to stop this kind of abuse do nothing to stop it and prohibit citizens from taking effective action

( [http://redtape.msnbc.com/2006/06/how\\_the\\_va\\_thef.html#posts](http://redtape.msnbc.com/2006/06/how_the_va_thef.html#posts) ). The VA laptop was sold

"off the back of a truck". The man who bought it got a \$50,000 reward for turning it in. The laptop was turned over to the FBI forensics unit to determine if the data had been copied. Frankly, if the thief knew what he had, he could copy the data without detection. The FBI reported that the data had not been accessed [http://redtape.msnbc.com/2006/07/what\\_happened\\_t.html#posts](http://redtape.msnbc.com/2006/07/what_happened_t.html#posts) and

[http://redtape.msnbc.com/2006/06/are\\_vets\\_and\\_th.html#posts](http://redtape.msnbc.com/2006/06/are_vets_and_th.html#posts) . Some of our members who are veterans may not be aware that sometime during the 1980's the Department of Defense

( DOD <http://www.defenselink.mil/> ) began using Social Security numbers (SSN) as Service Numbers for members of the armed forces. SSNs are not to be used as identification per the Social Security Administrations (SSA <http://www.ssa.gov/> ) own rules. I guess the DOD makes their own rules. What is a real puzzle to me is that when I was in the IT corporate world, we never used real data to test data bases. We would always create an identical data base structure and fill the data base with data that resembled the real data but would not compromise sensitive company information. To take real data home was prohibited. I know people who were fired for compromising or viewing data that they had no authorization to view or move.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI <http://www.fbi.gov/> ) computer system was cracked by a consultant in an effort to cut through the bureaucracy to do his job more efficiently. He will spend time in prison for his time saving and cost cutting hack. The story is at

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/07/05/AR2006070501489.html> .

I guess that veterans aren't very important as compared to the prestige of the FBI.

National Climatic Data Center ( <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov> ) reported that the 48 contiguous states were 3.4 degrees F warmer from January through June this year than the average of that period throughout the 20th century. I hate to nit pick but for the first 12 years of the 20th century there were only 47 contiguous states. Arizona was not admitted to the Union until 1912 ( <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona> ). Back in 1964 some people wanted to prohibit Barry Goldwater ( <http://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/> ) from running for President because he was born in 1911 in Arizona Territory. The Constitution ( [http://www.usconstitution.net/xconst\\_A2Sec1.html](http://www.usconstitution.net/xconst_A2Sec1.html) ) states that "No person except a natural born Citizen" is eligible to be President. If Arizona was not a state, it makes me wonder what kind of sophisticated methods were used to measure temperature for the first 10 to 30 years of the 20th century in Arizona as well as most of the western and southern states. Science is only as good as the numbers collected and those scientists reporting them. NOAA should get its act together. I noticed that they did not report the standard deviation (SD [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard\\_deviation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_deviation) ) for the 20th century. Standard deviation is a statistical calculation to know if any given number is within 'normal' value of a given set of values. Normal values are within two SD of the mean (average). There will usually be 'outliers' that fall outside normal values in natural phenomena. Outliers skew the probability distribution. Over time enough outliers change the probability distribution either high or low changing the SD. A single year or even a decade do NOT make for good science. I wish that NOAA did not have a political agenda.

The Christian Science Monitor had an article about privacy rights at <http://www.csmonitor.com/2006/0628/p15s01-ussc.html> . It is well worth reading. It quotes AT&T privacy policy, "While your account information may be personal to you, these records constitute business records that are owned by AT&T.... As such, AT&T may disclose such records to protect its legitimate business interests, safeguard others, or respond to legal process." Sounds like AT&T, formerly SBC, caved in to the National Security Agency (NSA <http://www.nsa.gov/> ). It previews a proposal by Hillary Clinton. She wants to create a "privacy bill of rights" with a government agency to enforce it. Obviously, she has yet to read the Bill of Rights in the Constitution. The best part of the article is a list of things to do to keep your identity out of criminal hands. One of those things was an opt out form to stop credit card companies from sending you preapproved credit-card and insurance offers. I get about a half dozen of those things every week. Get the opt out form at [https://www.optoutprescreen.com/opt\\_form.cgi](https://www.optoutprescreen.com/opt_form.cgi) .

Blue Shield Blue Cross of New Jersey (Horizon <http://www.horizon-bcbsnj.com/> ) will be testing a program to implant Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) chips in 280 patients. The chips will be supplied by Verichip Corporation ( <http://www.verichipcorp.com/> ). They will be working with Hackensack University Medical Center ( <http://www.humed.com/> ). This will speed emergency room staff in getting accurate patient data to avoid misdiagnoses. You would think that this would be news in New Jersey. I found the story in Australia at <http://www.theage.com.au/news/Technology/Insurers-to-Test-Implantable-Microchip/2006/07/15/1152637904111.html> .

Microsoft (MS <http://www.microsoft.com/> ) is being sued about its Windows Genuine Advantage (WGA). WGA is a program that checks a MS server every time a user is on the Internet to see if the version of Windows is 'legal' ( [http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/06/30/HNmicrosoftwgasuit\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/06/30/HNmicrosoftwgasuit_1.html) ). It then notifies the user that his or her version of Windows is illegal and requests payment. MS changed the program to go to the MS server 'periodically' instead of every time the user was on the Internet because of the outrage of users ( <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,1982591,00.asp> ).

MS has officially made all of you who use Win 98 and ME orphans. There will no longer be support or security patches for those products. The stories are at <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2159556/microsoft-axes-support-win> and <http://www.microsoft.com/WindowsMe/> . Interestingly, MS stated that the products are "outdated and expose customers to security risks". Is that why there are security patches to Windows XP, IE, and Office products every month?

MS revealed that Windows would be going away at an unspecified time in the future. My guess

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is that MS will come up with its own brand of UNIX, just like Xenix, BSD, and Linux. The story is at [http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/06/28/HNwinsuccessor\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/06/28/HNwinsuccessor_1.html).

MS hit with a \$357.3 million fine by the European Union (EU) for not sharing “complete and accurate interoperability information with rival companies” and licensing it to them at a “reasonable” rate and unbundling Internet Explorer (IE) and Windows Media Player (WMP) from the Windows operating system. If MS is not in compliance by July 31st, the fine goes up. The story is at [http://news.zdnet.com/2100-3513\\_22-6093088.html?tag=nl.e550](http://news.zdnet.com/2100-3513_22-6093088.html?tag=nl.e550).

*Between you, me and The Lamp Post that's all for this month.*

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## **Computer Hysteria: Pew**

**by Berry F. Phillips**

**a member of the CCOKC and**

**a regular writer for the CCOKC website and the eMonitor**

**<http://www.ccokc.org>**

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“Pew” could conjure up several images in your mind. For example, you might think of a human expression uttered upon inhaling the exotic perfume of a skunk! Perhaps you might think of an aching back from that hard wooden pew at church! What does pew have to do with computing? Perhaps nothing caution because you are reading in the CHZ, the Computer Hysteria Zone!

The Pew Charitable Trusts, an independent nonprofit, was established between 1948 and 1979 by the children of Sun Oil Company founder Joseph Pew and his wife, Mary Anderson Pew, with the creation of the Pew Memorial Foundation honoring their parents’ memory. In 2005, the foundation invested \$177 million to fund the various trusts including the founding in 1999 of The Pew Internet & American Life Project which studies the social and civic impact of the Internet, often considered the most far-ranging, behavior-changing communications innovation since the invention of printing.

The Project produces reports that explore the impact of the Internet on families, communities, work and home, daily life, education, health care, and civic and political life. The Project aims to be an authoritative source on the evolution of the Internet through collection of data and analysis of real-world developments as they effect the virtual world.

The basis of the reports are nationwide random digit dial telephone surveys as well as online surveys. This data collection is supplemented with research from government agencies, academia, and other expert venues, observations of what people do and how they behave when they are online, in-depth interviews with Internet users and Internet experts alike and other efforts that try to examine individual and group behavior. The Project releases 15-20 pieces of research a year, varying in size, scope, and ambition.

Latest trends from the project reports show the number of adult users are now almost equally divided between men and women representing 73% of American adults who use the Internet which currently represents approximately 147 million people. Here is what we do online: Send e-mail (91%), use a search engine to find information (91%), search for a map or driving direction(84%), look for health/medical information (79%) , research a product or service before buying it (78%), check the weather (78%), look for information on a hobby or interest (77%), get travel information (73%), get news (68%), buy a product (67%), surf the web for fun (66%), buy or make a reservation for travel (63%), look for political news/information (58%), and for lesser percentages of use on online activities visit <http://www.pewinternet.org> whose website was used to research this article with my appreciation.

While researching this Pew article, I began wondering if the article might be good enough to be submitted to win a “Pewlitzer” Prize! On second thought that would be just plain “pewlish!”

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CAEUG OFFICERS



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Reminder: You'll get better, faster service if you use CAEUG in the subject of your e-mail.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER:

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The CAEUG newsletter is published eleven times annually. Contributions by members are encouraged and will be gratefully acknowledged in the newsletter. We have a policy of exchanging newsletters with other users groups across the nation.

MEMBERS HELPLINE

Any member with a specific expertise can volunteer to be on the Members Helpline.

Beginner Helpline . . . . . Billy Douglas

Beginner hardware problems . . . Dick Fergus

QuickBooks, Turbo Tax, IBM Lotus, MS Excel, Corel's Quattro Pro . . . . . Terry Moye

Hardware problems, Win 9x, 2K, XP & Linux . . . . . John Spizzirri

Beginner's SIG

Ask questions and discuss computer experiences Such as:

- 1. New to Computers? (basic topics)
2. How to use the Web or download information
3. How to install hardware/software
4. Discuss how to troubleshoot hardware conflicts, learn boot up emergency tricks
5. What do you want to know??

SIG meets before regular meeting from 9:05 to 9:45

CD OF THE MONTH FORMAT: Is now available in two (2) flavors. The Basic CD will be packed with the standard items, while the CD of the Month will have NEW and updated items.

NEW Money Saving Offer for CD of the Month Pre Order + Prepay = SAVE \$\$

The club will offer the CD of the Month on a pre order, prepaid basis. The charge will be \$70.00 a year for 9 months. This is \$20 annual savings over buying them for \$9 each month.

MAIL Request - There will be a \$2.00 mailing charge per CD

Great Midwest Computer Show ©

HAS MOVED TO THE Dupage County Fair Grounds in Wheaton, IL 9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Admission - \$7.00 Kids 12 and under FREE http://www.greatmidwestcomputershow.com

E-mail address: info@greatmidwestcomputershow.com

2006 dates August 27, October 22, December 3

Membership Costs.....

Table with 3 columns: Membership Type, First Yr., and Renewal. Rows include Individual, Family, Corporate, and Associate.

CAEUG  
P. O. Box 2727  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60138

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

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### Meeting place and date information:

The next **REGULAR** meeting will be held at the **Glenside Public Library in Glendale Heights** starting 9:45am on **4th Saturday July 22**

The Glenside Public Library is located at 25 E Fullerton Avenue, Glendale Heights, Illinois. The Library is located on Fullerton between Bloomingdale Road (stop light intersection) and Schmale Road (stop light intersection) on the south side of Fullerton. Fullerton is parallel to North Avenue (Route 64) and Army Trail Road. North Ave. is south and Army Trail is north of Fullerton. Please park away from the building. Thank you. The meeting(s) are not library sponsored and all inquiries should be directed to Mike Goldberg at [MikeGold60137@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeGold60137@yahoo.com). Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this program and who require certain accommodations in order to observe and/or participate in the program are requested to contact CAEUG president, Mike Goldberg at [MikeGold60137@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeGold60137@yahoo.com), at least five (5) days prior to the program, so that reasonable accommodation can be made for them.

**CONFIRMED Future Meeting dates for 2006 at Glenside Public Library:**  
**4th Saturday July 22, August 26**

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**July 22 presenter will be**  
**Tom Anzalone will be doing a presentation on "Windows XP System Restore."**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: July 22 meeting the CAEUG current bylaws**  
**with proposed changes will be handed out**  
**August 26 meeting a vote to accept the new CAEUG by laws will take place**

**Hope to see you there.**

CAEUG website has a new home.  
Remember to change your bookmark to the new address to <http://www.caeug.net>