



A
BIT
OF A

RASCAL

VOL XVIII ISSUE IX — SEPTEMBER 2005 - ROGUE AREA SENIOR COMPUTER ASSISTANCE LEAGUE

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BACK TO SCHOOL YOU RASCALS!

~ by Patricia Hentges

After an August break of classes, the fall calendar has our usual lineup of basic computer offerings for beginners, plus two new classes (see descriptions below). In October we're offering a Computer Security class by Curt Schuler, a professional consultant in protecting the performance of computers. You may remember Curt from a recent presentation he gave at a well attended RASCAL meeting.. We're also offering a Web Design class by Ken Armstrong. It will be a fun class with lots of opportunity for artistic creativity. Ken is a dynamic teacher whom you will enjoy. **If you like making your own cards it's not too early to be thinking of holiday cards. In September Kathleen Langley will be teaching Greeting Cards.** Printshop 20 is the program Kathy uses but if you have an earlier version it's easy to follow along.

There's something for every level of computer user this Fall. Hope to see you at class.

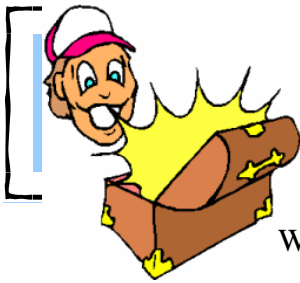
NEW CLASSES in OCTOBER



Computer Security: Instructor, Curt Shuler. Internet usage worldwide has caused an explosion of information, services, products, and entertainment that are accessible via personal computers. But there are several dangers and risks that can damage/destroy the PC, diminish productivity, and/or compromise personal information. **Surveys have concluded that 90% of PC/Internet users are infected/affected by malicious intruders.** This training will summarize the issues, outline strategies and tactics to minimize risks, identify cost-effective hardware and software solutions, and describe practices that will solve and prevent most problems. The objective is to inform each participant so that they can implement proven solutions and preventive measures. Thereby, each PC user can recover full PC/Internet productivity while maintaining security and protection.



Web Design Basics: Instructor, Ken Armstrong. Would you like to build a website for your family or small business? Learn the basics of website design using Serif WebPlus6 (available free on the Internet). Upon completion of the course, you will be able to design a simple website for family or business use, insert graphic images, work with text and links, and understand layout principles. You will learn about the "Four-Second Rule," and how to make it work for you to keep your website visitors interested. You will learn how to register domain names, what a website host does, and how to select the right one for your site. Please note that this course is for intermediate computer users. If you can use a word processing program, such as MS Word, with proficiency, including changing fonts, cutting and pasting, etc., then you have the skills necessary for this Web Design Basics course. You will receive course handouts and assignments in class.



Treasures from your RASCAL Tech-Help List Server

We all have computer related questions and problems that may need the help and advice of experienced users; or we may just want to share valuable computer related information with others.

The RASCAL Tech-Help List Server is here to provide this service to all members who choose to receive it.

Subscribe at

<http://mailman.userservices.net/mailman/listinfo.cgi/rascal-tech>



TALKING BACK-UP on The RASCAL Tech-Help List Server



“Dixie,” a Tech Listserv Subscriber, presents her problem to the List: “I am considering replacing my five year old HP Pavilion with a newer version...but am concerned that I will mess everything up when I try to transfer data to the new computer. I have read so many articles on "how to" that my head is swimming. Is Intellimover worth purchasing? Is there something better? With care, can a person with somewhat above basic computer skills master transferring everything without software? Help!”

Response from Lou Lyons: “I don't know anything about Intellimover, but I'm sure that you will still have to tell it exactly what you want moved, and you can pretty easily do that manually. You probably have most of your stuff in MY DOCUMENTS so just copying that folder to a CD and then onto your new system should be pretty easy. XP has a "file & transfer" wizard which will preserve all your personalized settings. If you are networked, you can simply create a shared folder and transfer everything that way, direct from computer to computer.

“The bottom line is that what you have to do is transfer everything you want transferred, onto a CD and then from the CD to the new computer. Knowing exactly what you want transferred and where it is on your existing system is the difficult part, but unless you have a really large amount of data that needs moving, you should be able to do it pretty easily without software help. After all, if you know where to look for your pictures in order to view them, then moving them should not be a problem. Actual programs can just be re-installed from the original

install disks. Time spent organizing your present system efficiently will be time well spent and will make the migration pretty easy. Good luck.”

A response from Bob Booth: “Dixie, I also am not familiar with Intellimover but it is something I will look into. I would like to add a few comments to Lou Lyon's advice.

“Just remember; anything you created such as documents, photos, or anything you downloaded from the net that did NOT require an "install," such as music, can simply be moved from drive to drive, drive to CD/DVD, etc.

“Programs that have been installed, most frequently (although not in all cases), make entries into your registry for various reasons and may not function properly when moved. Drivers for scanners, printers, etc., definitely fall in this category since, during install, they make entries into the registry and various word processors. XP is pretty smart, it will load drivers of most of the newer equipment automatically via Plug & Play. But there is no way it can load such things as all-in-one printers, since the driver software is as large as 37 mb for some of them.

“Last, but definitely not least, you should go to the manufacturer's site for your equipment and download & install the latest drivers, or you may have major headaches and your equipment could fail to operate at all in XP. Unfortunately, you may find the equipment manufacturer decided not to provide drivers for XP which forces the purchase of their newer equipment. Again, Good Luck.”

Talking Back-Up cont. on page 3

Laura Dunwald advised Tech ListServ subscribers: “Those of you with the new XP Operating System often wonder what you should backup. Microsoft's recommendations are set forth at this site: microsoft.com/athome/security/update/backup.mspcx.”

Bob Crittenden responded: “This web site from Laura is a good starting point for backup advice. Allow me to throw in my two cents.

“First, if you consistently use a location for storing your important files (such as **My Documents**), then it's easier to find the files to back up. Unfortunately, that doesn't cover all important files where the location is set by the program (such as **e-mail programs** like Outlook or Outlook Express). You need to find the locations for these files as well (check **Help** in the program).

“**Second, how often to back up?** My rule-of-thumb is the “pain factor”: how much would it hurt if I lost a file or set of files (e.g. family pictures)? If you would hate to lose something, and the computer is currently the only place it is stored, then it's time to do backups.

“**Third, what backup media to use?** The web link listed has another link with several suggestions including pros and cons. Whatever you use, have at least two copies that you rotate. That way, if one fails, you will have at least one other you can use.

“**Finally, if you are storing financial records or other family documents,** you might also consider occasionally making a backup and storing it away from the house (e.g. a safe deposit box). A house file, alone, may result in the loss of both your computer and your backups. Securing a copy away from the house may be the only way to recover.”



“Computers are like
Old Testament Gods;
lots of rules and no mercy.”

~ Joseph Campbell



HAVING FUN with WINDOWS XP

~ by Patricia Hentges

Want to jazz up your computer? I mean literally. Add some jazzy musical riffs, or different sounds to announce when programs open or close, etc. www.favewavs.com or www.wavlist.com has a multitude of interesting choices just waiting for you to take them home. There are other places on the net with more ideas, just be sure you can receive **Wav** sounds. Wav, short for Waveform Audio Interface, is the format standard for storing audio on PCs, and Windows uses Wav files for general system sounds. Just look for *dot wav* (.wav) on the end of the file name. But, first, let's begin at the beginning in case you are new to changing sounds on your computer.

In Windows XP, go to Start/ Control Panel/ Sounds and Audio Devices. A window pops up with a choice of five tabs. Choose **Sounds**. On the bottom half of the window is a box labeled **Program Events**. Scroll through the list. These are all the events you can assign sounds to. Some will have a speaker icon by them indicating they already have a sound. If you add a sound to the other events, a speaker icon will appear. (**Windows 98 is very similar.** To begin on this path go to **My Computer/ Control Panel/ Sounds** and look under the drop-down menu under **Events**. This will get you started.)

As soon as you click on an event, a grayed out **Sounds** box below will suddenly pop to life. This is where you find your choice of sounds that Mr. Gates has provided for you.

Click **Browse**, to the right of the Sounds box. This brings up a box listing **Media** sounds available to you. Click on any one of them, and then click on the **Preview** button in the lower left corner to hear what it sounds like. If you like it, simply click **OK**. This brings you back to your **Sounds and Audio** box. Click **Apply** and **OK** at the bottom, and the deed is done.

When you branch out to more imaginative places on the web looking for other sounds, **right click** on them and click on **Save To Target**. All of mine are saved in My Playlist for Windows Media Player but you can save them anywhere you choose. A good place would be a special folder you labeled just for them.

I have assigned sounds to events where no other sound has gone before. It used to be when I booted up my computer it was fairly silent as it went about its business of getting things together. Now I hear cows mooing in the background, or a wolf howling, and James Brown shouts, “Waaaaah, I feel Gooood! The only one I'd like to get rid of is the Boing! and the guy yelling Ouch!....It makes me jump out of my chair, but I can't remember how I got him there. I think he just snuck in the back door.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS, '05



SEPTEMBER

E-Mail & Internet

Pre-Req: Introduction to computers & Beginning Windows. Very detailed, very basic class. Handouts will teach you how to get started in e-mail and the Internet. Create, send and receive e-mail over the internet using Outlook Express. Search, surf and download using Internet Explorer.

Introduction to Computers

Required for First-Time Computer Users. A fun class. Learn the proper method to turn a computer on and off. Learn to use the mouse and keyboard. Get acquainted with hardware, software, and computer vocabulary.

Photoshop Elements, Beginning

Pre-Req: Beginning Windows and Word or Works; ability to use mouse well. Gain a basic understanding of the capabilities of this photo editing program. Learn how to manipulate photos, moving one into another; learn to present pictures over the Internet; learn transferring, feathering, and opacity. Learn to choose resolutions and, generally, how to use tools.

Photoshop Elements, Intermediate

Pre-Req: Beginning Photoshop Elements. Review the use of tools and methods learned in the Beginning Photoshop class. Have your questions answered and learn to develop your personal interests in this photo editing class.

Greetings Cards & Printshop 20

Pre-Req: Beginning Windows. This is a good class for beginners. Learn to create greeting cards using Printshop 20.

Windows XP, Beginning

Pre-Req: Introduction to Computers. A continuation of basic computer skills. Identify and use parts of the newest Microsoft Operating System. Learn the difference between system software and application programs. Learn how to use the controls, menus, icons, and toolbars on various windows and the desktop.

OCTOBER

Computer Security

Pre-Req: Intermediate or above computer user. Surveys conclude that 90% of PC/Internet users are infected or affected by malicious intruders. Learn the issues, strategies, and tactics to minimize these risks so that you can implement preventative measures.

E-Mail & Internet, Beginning

Pre-Req: Introduction to Computers & Beginning Windows. Very detailed, very basic class. Handouts will teach you how to get started in e-mail and the Internet. Create, send and receive e-mail over the Internet using Outlook Express. Search, surf and download using Internet Explorer.

Introduction to Computers

Required for First-Time Computer Users. A fun class. Learn the proper method to turn a computer on and off. Learn to use the mouse and keyboard. Get acquainted with hardware, software, and computer vocabulary.

MS Word, Beginning

Pre-Req: Beginning Windows. Learn the names, and locate elements of this Microsoft word processing program. Emphasis on the Standard and Formatting tool bar buttons. Work with documents, print, and save. Use of a 3.5 floppy disk recommended but not required.

Web Design, Basics

Pre-Req: Proficient use of a word processing program.) Learn the basics of website design using SerifWebPlus 6, a free download. Create a place online for family photos, hobbies, business use, etc. Learn how to register domain names, how to select a website host, and how to keep your website visitors interested.



*"We cannot hold a torch to
light another's path
without
brightening our own."*

~ Ben Sweetland



Need Help? • Dial-A-Pro

Just call or e-mail and an attempt will be made to solve the problem by phone or e-mail. If that isn't enough, most of those listed will make house calls on an individually arranged basis.



GENERAL TROUBLESHOOTING

Most Areas of Computing

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Chris Oman	474-0161	ckoman@rvi.net
Len Richardson	866-2541	len_r@yahoo.com
George Spencer	474-0899	gspencer1earthlink.net
George Steffensen	474-4305	steff@budget.net
Gerry Tank	476-7667	badger1gt@charter.net
Wally Zittle	476-9800	wzittle@charter.net
Bob Booth	474-2993	robtb@terragon.com
Ray Lake	956-6302	raylake@charter.net

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Ginny von Gal	474-7566	skipjack@echoweb.net
Gordon Rendall	955-1000	grandpaw5@charter.net
Gerry Tank	476-7667	badger1at@charter.net
Marv Wilson	471-1867	mwlw86@charter.net

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WINDOWS 95 RELATED

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APPLICATIONS & OTHER SPECIFIC HELP

ANIMATIONS

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DIGITAL CAMERAS & PHOTOS (for beginners)

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EXCEL

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GENEALOGY

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ICQ

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INTERNET, General

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OUTLOOK EXPRESS

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Jean Kraft	664-8197	hikraft@charter.net
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Cliff Worden	471-1292	cliffmar@charter.net
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QUICKEN

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SOUND

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WORD, MS

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WORD PERFECT & MS WORD (for beginners)

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EXCHANGE COMPUTER RELATED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

For RASCAL members only. Limited to technical problems and responses. Subscribe to the **Technical Help**

Listserver E-mail Forum for help with your computer problems at

<http://mailman.userservices.net/mailman/listinfo/rascal-tech>. Subscribers use **rascal-tech@mailman.userservices.net** for discussion. The Listserve Moderator is reached at **rascal-tech.admin@mailman.userservices.net**.

**MARVELOUS MERCHANT'S
RAFFLE DONATIONS for
RASCAL's PICNIC, 2005**



Bellissima Salon & Day Spa
 Reflexology, \$30 value
 Mini Facial, \$40 value
 Woman's Hair Cut, \$30 value
 Men's Hair Cut, \$20 value
 Manicure, \$20 value
 Chair Massages, for ten, \$20 each value

The Brown Derby
 Gift Certificate for Lunch, \$10 value



Club Northwest
 Lifetime Memberships
 plus
 Three Months' Paid
 Dues for a Couple;
 \$530 value

Colonial Valley Golf Course
 Four Nine-Hole Rounds of Golf

Creative Touch Salon
 A Message, \$30 value

Footman & Her Nails
 Pedicure & Manicure



Fred Meyers
 Gift Certificate,
 \$50 value

Goody Two Shoes
 Gift Certificate, 20% off value



Hart's Café & Lounge
 Dinner for Two

Jude's Fudge & Fine Chocolates
 Gift Certificate, \$25 value



Jerry's Carpet Cleaning
 Ten 50% off Gift Certificates

Red Mountain Golf Course
 One Nine-Hole Round of Golf

Riverside Salon & Day Spa
 Gift Certificate, \$50 value

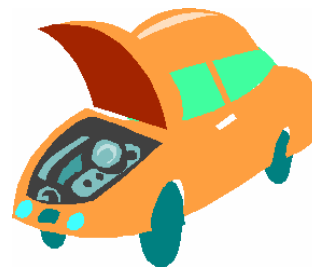
Roland Cook
 Two cases of home-made barbecue sauce

Rogue River Florist
 Gift Certificate, \$10 value

**Seven Feathers Hotel &
 Casino Resort**
 Overnight Lodging &
 Dinner for Two



The Kitchen Company
 Zervo Food Dispenser
 \$30 value



The Tool Box
 Service & Maintenance for
 Autos & RVs
 Two Gift Certificates,
 \$125 each, value

Staples
 \$40 gift certificate

Thea Tsagares
 Avon Products

**Thomason Restaurants,
 Inc**
 Two Meals at Elmer's
 Restaurant, \$20 value



Vinny's Italian Kitchen
 Gift Certificate, \$15 value

Raffle ticket sales brought over \$300 to your club. You may wish to show appreciation to these generous donors with your patronage.



The PICNIC STORY

This club has **Social Director, Dawn Shively**, to thank for an amazing job of organizing this entire event—a truly awesome project, from securing the site, contracting with the caterer, ordering set-up supplies, and supervising a smooth operation from ticket taking and selling, to a dessert contest and the Rousing Raffle. Indeed, it was Dawn who not only wrote to participating merchants but also, very effectively, visited them in person. The results were the very generous donations listed on page 8, which were raffled off among the 102 picnickers who were in attendance.

Among the many lucky raffle winners were **Walter Culhane**, who won the sought-after Seven Feathers prize, and **Nancy Kain**, who won the big Club Northwest prize.

120 picnic tickets were sold and 105 were in attendance. Dawn gives much of the credit for a very happy occasion to the many RASCAL volunteers who not only arrived early picnic morning to help set-up, but pitched in to assist wherever needed throughout the day. First on the scene, as always at every meeting, was **Tom and Bernice Buntin**, with free coffee and donuts; another early arrival was **Bob Cartmell** who set up the elaborate sound system. At the sign-in table were **Marie Hutchins, Jody Nigh, and Arlie Smith**. On-sight picnic ticket sales were seen to by **Shirley Bird**, while **Belinda Blauer and Jody Nigh** sold raffle tickets.

Dawn says one of the toughest jobs of all was performed by the Dessert Judges: **Kathy Szwec, Bob Booth, Ethel Pendray, and Laura Dunwald**. After much sampling and deliberation their choices were: First Prize, **Dorothy Costa**, for her *Luscious Lemon Meringue Pie*; Second Prize, **Dawn Shively**, for her *Summer Surprise Angel Food Cake*, and Third Prize, **Mrs. George Simington**, for her *Chocolate Pudding Cake*.

Lou Garrotto captured everyone's attention, laughs, and bids, with his entertaining auctioneering style. He was ably assisted by **Joann Garrotto, Lou Lyons, Bill Rose, Karen Haggard, and Henry Cotter**. Dawn says a special thanks should go to **Chris Oman** for his help in making sure that everything auctioned was in good working condition.

Let us not forget Set-up, Clean-up, and Miscellaneous; with thanks to **Frank and Nancy Kain, Vivian Dagnan, Karen Haggard, Jody Nigh, and Joan McDowell**. Apologies and gratitude to any volunteers not mentioned here.

Last, but never least, much credit to all of the friendly folks who attended and shared the joy of good company in the beautiful setting of Tom Pearce Park. Have a wonderful year—until we meet again.

~ Joan McDowell

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

~ by Jane Frincke



Please see the RASCAL Website at www.rascal.cc for complete minutes of the July 12, 2005 Board Meeting.

An Addendum to "The Picnic Story"

You may be interested to know the figures for the costs of and the proceeds from the picnic. The \$10 picnic ticket fee goes to the caterer. The major cost to the club is for the two Pavilions: \$205. Other costs and supplies were \$93.92, for a total expense of \$298.92. Proceeds from the auction were \$410.35 and from the raffle, \$348, for a total of \$759.35 and a profit to the club of \$460.43.

CAMERA BUFFS, UNITE!



Here is an opportunity to gather together to share information about your hobby (or passion). Just chat, share experiences, and learn from one-another. If you are a beginner with digitals, get some inspiration and encouragement here. Bring some of your miserable failures as well as your masterpieces. Just come to share. Bring your camera and user guide book. This will be open discussion, moderated by Nancy Kain.

Date: Friday, September 9

Time: 1:00—3:00

Place: RCC, 4th & H



RASCAL regrets the passing on July 14 of Corey Medina, the owner of MacGraphically Yours, the printing service for this newsletter since July 2004.



We are very sorry to report the passing of a long-time RASCAL, known to many in this club for his enormous courage, and the great good cheer he displayed in battles with serious illnesses in recent years. Charles "Chuck" Ries had been a member since January, 1995.

He died Friday, August 5, 2005, at his home.

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PLEASE NOTE: Your month of membership renewal is located in the upper right corner of your mailing label. Please mail yearly dues (\$15 single membership: \$20 for couples, \$75 Lifetime) to the RASCAL address listed above or submit at a General Meeting.



KEEP in TOUCH

Let RASCAL know when you change your e-mail address, your telephone number, or your residence address. Contact Shirley Byrd or Audrey Williams at sndbyrd@uci.net

RASCAL meetings are held in the Floral Building at the Fairgrounds in Grants Pass. Weekly meetings are on Tuesdays, except holidays. The General Membership meets from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. The Beginners' Meeting is held from 10:50 to 11:30. All members are welcome to attend both meetings. Come early for coffee and chat with friends.

We also invite you to visit our website:
www.rascal.cc
 for up-to-date information about our club, our members, classes, meetings, and links to other websites. Our website is hosted by Smartwire Internet.

October 18 is an important date for all RASCALS. At our Annual Business Meeting, open to all, we will be electing officers for the coming year and also honoring volunteers who have done so much for the club this year of 2005.

At the Board Meeting of August 9, a Nominating Committee for New Officers was selected. This committee consists of two officers and of two general members. This year, Bill Rose, George Simington, Laura Dunwald, and Dawn Shively will be nominating prospective officers for all members to vote upon on October 18. Watch for more details in the October newsletter

BIT OF A RASCAL STAFF

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Chris Oman
 Photos.....Nancy Kain, Bill Porter
 Graphics Artist.....Patricia Hentges
 Printing.....MacGraphically Yours
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*We reserve the right to edit and/or omit submissions.
 Items received after the newsletter deadline may appear
 in the next issue.*