Next Meeting: Come to the Microsoft Store . . .

at the Danbury Fair Mall

Directors' Notes

A meeting of your board of directors was held on Wednesday, June 13, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

Attending were Richard Corzo, Drew Kwashnak, Lisa Leifels, Jim Scheef, Elizabeth Talian, Annette van Ommeren, Andy Woodruff. Guest: Charlie Bovaird.

The Minutes of Previous Meeting were accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand 5/1/12	$5,852.90
INCOME	
Dues	$282.66
Bank Interest	.25
Total Income:	$282.91
EXPENSES	
Resource Center Phone	76.24
Resource Center Security	79.60
Newsletter Printing	85.00
Newsletter Postage	48.75
Renewal Letters Postage	18.72
Total Expenses	308.31
Balance on hand 5/31/12	$5,827.50

Membership Report
(*added after meeting*)

Meeting date:	4/3/12 APR	5/1/12 MAY	6/5/12 JUNE
Paying members	138	138	131
w/ email addresses	130	129	122
New members	2	0	1
NL printed	100	100	100
NL mailed	76	75	74
NL mailed-memb	56	55	55
NL mailed-other	6	6	6
NL mailed-free lib	14	14	14

General Meetings

Apr - Mike Kaltschnee: Tablets
May - State of Internet - Patrick
June - Artificial Intelligence - Preston

	Apr	May	June
Seat Count	40	45	22
Members Signed In	32	37	22
visitors signed in	6	8	0

Old Business

1. General meetings

• July 3: Microsoft Retail Store. Preview: Richard Corzo, Review: Elizabeth

• August 7: Robotics and Beyond-Paul Chayka & Mike Morrissey.

• September 4: Tom Schonder of Google-Google Apps (Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Sites, and Google Docs), Google Voice, and Google Plus.

• October 2: Dave Marra-Apple's new desktop operating system, OS X Mountain Lion, which will be available in July.

2. Possible future topics:

• Cloud storage services-Dropbox, box.net, Skydrive, Mozy, Carbonite, YouSendIt, etc. proposed by Drew. This would be a comparison of functionality and platforms supported (i.e. Windows, Mac, Linux, smartphones, etc.). Jim and Richard would help with the smartphone support. Richard set up a thread on the DACS forum.

Drew said he may be available to do this presentation in November or December.

• Presentation on Facebook. Jim suggested having someone talk about how to configure the security, privacy issues, what does "Like" accomplish, the difference between a group and a page.

• Online Learning, focusing on personal enrichment courses rather than academic. An example would be the offerings of Linda.com. Annette said that Udemy.com has courses on a number of topics. Harvard and MIT have teamed up to offer free online courses. Elizabeth will continue to investigate this topic and try to find a speaker by emailing some of these companies directly.

• Jeff Robbins-Drupal expert. Andy has contacted him. Jeff is interested in doing a presentation, but is not able to commit to a date at this time. Andy will follow up again in August.

• Bruce was going to investigate a former colleague who runs a private educational program for unemployed/underemployed IT professionals.

Officers

DACS GENERAL NUMBER: (203) 744-9198
PRESIDENT: Richard Corzo *dacsprez@dacs.org*
VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS: *vpprograms@dacs.org*
SECRETARY: Bruce Preston • **TREASURER:** Dave Green

Directors

dacsboard@dacs.org

Richard Corzo	(203) 797-1518	*rcorzo@dacs.org*
David Green	(203) 797-8682	*dgreen@dacs.org*
Drew Kwashnak	(203) 910-6605	*dkwashnak@dacs.org*
Lisa Leifels	(203) 416-6642	*lleifels@dacs.org*
Patrick Libert	(860) 567-9586	*plibert@dacs.org,*
Rob Limbaugh	(203) 648-9176	*relimbaugh@dacs.org*
Bruce Preston	(203) 431-2920 (days)	*bpreston@dacs.org*
Jim Scheef	(860) 355-0034	*jscheef@dacs.org*
Elizabeth Talian	(203)-733-2805	*etalian@dacs.org*
Annette van Ommeren	(914) 232-0149	*avanommeren@dacs.org*
Andy Woodruff	(203) 744-9588	*awoodruff@dacs.org*

Committees

NEWSLETTER: Ahmad Asgharian: *dacseditor@dacs.org,*

PROGRAM: *vpprograms@dacs.org*

WEB MASTERS: Richard Corzo (*rcorzo@dacs.org*), (203) 797-1518

Annette van Ommeren (*avanommeren@dacs.org*), (914) 232-0149

MARKETING AND PR: Patrick Libert (*pr@dacs.org*)

APCUG LIAISON: Patrick Libert (*plibert@dacs.org*)

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR: Charles Bovaird: *aam@mags.net*

RESOURCE CENTER: (203) 748-4330 • **WEB SITE:** *http://www.dacs.org*

HelpLine

Our former telephone HelpLine has been replaced by our web-based DACS Community Forum at http://forum.dacs.org. We have topic-specific forums where DACS members can post questions. Questions may be answered by SIG leaders or other DACS members. If none of the categories fit your question, just post it to the Ask DACS forum.

Topic	Forum
Microsoft Access	Access SIG
.NET Programming	ASP.Net and C#VB.Net SIG
Digital cameras/scanners/image processing	Digital Imaging SIG
Content Management Systems	Drupal SIG
Linux	Linux SIG
Mac and iPhone/iPad/iPod touch	Apple SIG
PC maintenance	PC Maintenance SIG
Smartphones & Tablets	Mobile Devices SIG
Virtual machine software	Virtual Computing SIG
Desktop publishing and website design	Web Site Design SIG
Windows	Windows SIG

• Gene Barlow is offering a webinar presentation on Acronis products. We've had him present in the past, but he no longer makes presentations in person.

3. Open positions

• The membership chairperson/greeter position is still open.

4. Jim has loaded membership data into Drupal/CiviCRM and has been working on sending group e-mails. Annette said the emails are ending up in her Spam folder. Jim offered to do another test using the *info@Dacs.org* email address. There is an effort by one of our members, Mike Kaltchnee to send out a survey to the DACS membership to see if there is any interest in joining a hackerspace in Danbury. Jim said he would be able to send the email out from the membership database. We would like to find a way to send out the survey so that we can easily find out how many DACS members are interested in joining a Danbury Hackerspace.

5. Member Mike Kaltschnee is continuing to plan a 'hackerspace' or 'makerspace' for Danbury. He held a second planning meeting on June 4 in the Resource Center. Andy Woodruff attended the two planning meetings and has offered his thoughts on the possible integration of the hackerspace group into DACS. Andy suggested that we form a steering committee to gather additional information and make a recommendation to the board. Richard, Andy, Jim and Drew volunteered to be on the steering committee.

6. We have a one-year subscription with Microsoft Office 365. The portal is https://portal.microsoftonline.com and our SharePoint Team site is https://dacs.sharepoint.com/ . Most of the board members have logged into the Team site.

7. Bruce Preston has requested a solution to holding remote SIG meetings like the MS Access SIG. Elizabeth said that Bruce used AnyMeeting for the June meeting. Richard recommended trying to use Lync at the July Microsoft Access SIG, since it's free and he thought it could do everything that Bruce needed. If there are Access SIG members that are not part

Meeting Preview

Microsoft Retail Store
Meet Us at the Mall

By Richard Corzo

IF YOU HAVEN'T heard, there is a Microsoft retail store (*http://content.microsoftstore.com/store/detail/Danbury-CT*)) opening up in the Danbury Fair Mall on June 23rd. DACS members and visitors will get our very own introduction to the store at our next general meeting on July 3rd. Being that it's summer, this will be a nice break from our usual meeting. Instead of the Danbury Hospital auditorium we will be meeting right in the store.

If you've been to an Apple store you know how successful they are at showcasing their products in a retail environment. Microsoft would similarly like to showcase their products and provide support to their customers. Microsoft is just starting to expand its retail store presence into the Northeast. Two stores have recently opened in New Jersey, but the Danbury store will be the first in New England. It will even open before a planned store in White Plains, NY, so Danbury is on the cutting edge.

Paul Orvis is in charge of Community Development & Events at the forthcoming Danbury store. He indicates that we will start with an overview of the store and a look forward into Windows 8 and integration into the various components in the months ahead. Paul expects to have a trainer lead this technology integration overview. Paul will also introduce Mike Walters who is their Business Development Specialist, and Paul will cover their Community Theater and its availability to any organization in the region.

For the next stage of the presentation they will break the meeting up in to smaller groups and then rotate stations between the various product categories within the store (business computers, laptops, tablets/slates, Windows phones, Cloud services, Xbox and gaming, etc.). If there are specific topics you'd like them to address, please let DACS (info@dacs.org) know so we can pass this on to the store and they can be sure to accomplish anything you need addressed by their team.

After the small group presentations we will regroup at the end to recap and you'll have an opportunity to ask any final questions about Microsoft, its products, and the store. This will be an exciting evening for DACS.

Invite your friends, colleagues, and neighbors as this will be a good way to introduce them to DACS and the store at the same time.

The Microsoft store is located on the mall upper level, to the left of Kay Jewelers, close to the center atrium. Go to *www.dacs.org* for a map and directions.

Meeting Review

Bruce Preston—Artificial Intelligence

By Richard Corzo

AT OUR JUNE 5TH general meeting it was time to learn a little about computer science. Inspired by last year's IBM Watson *Jeopardy!* challenge, longtime DACS member, Access SIG leader, and past presenter Bruce Preston, laid out the path that led us to the current state of artificial intelligence. How can a machine mimic the responses of a human?

He started out by explaining electrical circuits and how they can represent the 0s and 1s in a digital computer. Special circuits representing ANDs and ORs lay the foundation for representing logic in a computer, and for building some basic arithmetic operations.

Bruce gave us a little computer history, explaining the term "bug" originated with a World War II-era computer that was encountering errors. They literally found a moth in a relay of the computer that was causing the problem, and thus had to "debug" the computer to get it working again.

One challenge was reducing the size and increasing the speed of computers, as the first ones filled entire large rooms. Vacuum tubes were replaced by transistors and then integrated circuits. Eventually an entire processor fit on one chip.

The next hurdle was software. The earliest programs were hard-wired into the computer, but that was replaced by programs stored in the computer's memory. The simplest programs are a series of instructions, but more complex programs are built using reusable components. Algorithms are designed to perform a particular complex task, such as searching for a particular string in some text.

British mathematician Alan Turing devised a test for artificial intelligence. Without seeing them, if a judge cannot distinguish a human's answers from a computer's, then the computer is deemed to have artificial intelligence.

Two more developments were needed toward this goal. The first was natural language processing, of which the Eliza program was an example. She gave answers and posed questions that mimicked those of a psychoanalyst. The second development was rules-based systems. IBM's Deep Blue was a rules-based system that was eventually able to beat a human chess champion.

Combining natural language processing with a rules-based system, IBM developed the Watson computing system which was able to compete with *Jeopardy!* contestants last year.

As a final example Bruce along with iPhone owner Richard Corzo demonstrated the Siri assistant on the iPhone. It combines speech recognition (with no prior training to recognize the iPhone user's voice) with a rules-based engine located on some Internet-based servers. It had no trouble answering who won the Super Bowl in some particular year. The audience made a few suggestions as to what to ask Siri, and unfortunately Siri heard them all at once, but picked one of them to provide an answer.

It's amazing to think how far we have come. And we should give Bruce a special thank you for moving his presentation up a month to replace our original June speaker who couldn't make it.

Software Review

System Suite Professional 2012

By Bart Koslow

SYSTEM SUITE Professional (SS) is a comprehensive utility program that will tune up and repair your PC and provide malware, virus, spyware, and firewall protection. Unlike most programs today, it comes with a printed manual of 174 pages that guides you through the many aspects of the software.

I already had SS version 2011 installed on my computer. SS removes prior versions before installing the latest one. When I first installed SS, Net Defense, which is the firewall, did not install. After three back and forth emails with Avanquest support and three differing attempts to re-install it, I finally got everything up and running properly. This is the first time I encountered an installation problem with SS. The installation CD comes with two bonus programs, AutoSave Essentials, and Power Desk 8 Standard. Avanquest sells AutoSave Essentials and Power Desk Pro for $39.95 each. I installed Power Desk 8 Standard, but not AutoSave as I have plenty of backup software already. Power Desk is an augmented Windows File Manager. I have used it for years and highly recommend it. I also noticed that the SS now comes with a license for 5 PCs that will work with all versions of Windows XP and Windows 7.

Opening SS, I saw a new program interface page that was improved over that of version 11. One of my favorite parts of SS is System Recovery where you may create a System Restore Point and a Checkpoint in the event you have a problem and have to go back. I was pleasantly surprised to find that the restore point creation was much faster than in the prior version. I cannot tell you how many times I have used this feature to recover from a major problem. I have used the included anti-virus, anti-malware-spyware and firewall in the past, and have found them to work very well. A part of SS that I especially like is the Registry Cleaner which has been excellent in the past, and has never created a problem for me. Another feature I like is to view "Problems" that SS has found, and selectively determine which one to fix.

If you are a person who does not wish to fiddle with the individual parts of the program, there is an easier way. Just select One-Click Fix All and SS will do the rest. Another way is to select One Fix Wizards of which there are three, one for each segment of the program - Optimize, Security and Fix & Maintain - and run them selectively. There is a lot of flexibility in how you may use this program. Working in the background you have Active Intelligence Technology which continuously, silently and automatically monitors and fixes all your PC problems. It tracks hard drive status, available disk space, hard drive fragmentation, registry errors, excess temp tiles, startup applications and more. Regular use of Active Intelligence reduces start up times, improves read-write performance and prevents data loss by identifying hard drive problems before they happen.

What's new in this version:

- Patent-pending PC Analyzer Technology - Identifies why your PC is slow.
- 400% Faster Registry Repair - Fixes registry problems and optimizes Windows.
- Program Optimizer - Speeds program launch and response by fixing slowdowns.

System Suite will completely Optimize, Protect, and Fix & Maintain your computer effortlessly and silently in the background while you work. I have used it for many years and find it to be one of the essential programs that I use with my computers. I recommend this program for all users, from beginner to advanced.

Amazon sells System Suite 12 Professional for $49.99 delivered. There is a $20 upgrade or competitive upgrade coupon that comes with the program, so your net low cost will be $29.99.

Avanquest provides unlimited support for registered products. You can also check the User's manual and online help (included within the program menu) for answers to many common issues. Email & Phone support is available if you cannot resolve your questions.

*BART KOSLOW is a member of the Thousand Oaks PC Club, CA (*www.topcc.org; spatter@ roadrunner.com*. His article is distributed for reprint by user groups.*

of the Sharepoint team, they could be emailed a link. Lync 2010 can be downloaded from the Microsoft.com portal, which can be accessed from the SharePoint team site.

New Business

1. Ahmad is resuming his duties as copy editor after Richard Teasdale filled in last month during his absence. As always, newsletter submissions should go to *dacseditor@ dacs.org*.

2. We'll plan on making a DACS poster and pamphlets available at the Robotics and Beyond (*http:// www.robotics andbeyond. com*) summer camp in July and August.

3. Richard wanted to see if Patrick could document what is done to publicize the general meetings so that a backup person could step in when necessary.

4. Richard suggested we explain on our website how the DACS membership charge will show up on a DACS members PayPal account.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

—Bruce Preston

Do you have a burning computer question, but can't make it to the meeting, or just never seem to get your hand up in time? Email your inquiry to Jim Scheef, the answer guy, at *askdacs@dacs. org*, and your question will be taken up at Ask DACS at the next meeting.

Special Interest Groups

SIG NOTES: July 2012

Access. Designs and implements solutions using Microsoft Access database management software.
Contact: Bruce Preston, 203 431-2920 (*bpreston @dacs.org*).
Meets on 2nd Tuesday, 7p.m., by virtual connection.
Next meeting: July 10 (check Website for technical details)

Apple. Focuses on all aspects of the Mac and iPhone operating systems.
Contact: Richard Corzo (*macsig @dacs.org*).
Meets 1st Thursday, 7 p.m. at DACS Resource Center.
Next Meeting: July 5

Digital Imaging. All about digital cameras, retouching, and printing using various programs.
Contact: Ken Graff at 203 775-6667 *(graffxx@gmail. com)*.
Meets last Wednesday, 7 p.m.at the DACS Resource Center.
Next Meeting: July 25

Drupal. Covers all things on Drupal, the open source content management system (CMS).
Contact: Jim Scheef (*jscheef @dacs.org*).
Meets on the second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center, or go to the DACS Community Forum (*http://www.dacs.org/forum/*) within the Members only area.
Next meeting: July 12

Jobs. Networking and jobs search
Contact: Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 (*aam@mags.net*).
Go to DACS Community Forum (*http://forum.dacs.org for job listings*.

Linux. Provides Help in installing and maintaining the Linux operating system. Also of interest to Apple owners using OS X.
Contact: Dave Mawdsley, linuxsig@dacs.org
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.
Next Meeting: Sep 19

Mobile Devices. Focuses on smartphones, tablets, and e-readers of all makes and models.
Contact: Richard Corzo and Jim Scheef (*Mobilesig @dacs.org*)
Meets 4th Thursday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center
Next Meeting: July 26

PC Maintenance. Review of PC hardware and OpSys maintenance and use.
Contact: Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 (*aam@ mags.net*).
Go to DACS Community Forum (http://forum.dacs.orgl.

Server. Explores Back Office server and client applications, including Win NT Servers and MS Outlook. SIG is on hiatus and presently merged into the Drupal SIG.
Contact: Jim Scheef (*jscheef @teleAprksys.com*), or go to the DACS Community Forum: *http://www.dacs.org/forum/,* within the Members-only area

Web Design and DTP. Learn about Adobe software for web, graphics and desktop publishing.
Contact: Annette van Ommeren (*avo @annagraphics.com*).
Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.
Next Meeting: July 17

SIG News & Events

Apple. At our June meeting we finally got to take a look at the new iPad. One of our members brought his in and compared it to the original iPad and iPad 2 he previously owned. He felt it was definitely worth the upgrade for the new Retina display. He was able to show his iPad screen on our projector since he brought a dock connector to VGA adapter. With that the iPad makes a good demo machine.

An iPhone owner of just a few months started to wonder if he had made the right decision in getting the iPhone instead of an iPad. He seemed to really appreciate the large display and started to think he should have gotten an iPad along with a regular phone that just made phone calls. He wouldn't have trouble selling his current iPhone. (See gazelle.com, for example, who will buy your used Apple devices.) The wrinkle would be the early termination fee from his cell phone carrier.

Linux. June Meeting at the DACS Resource Center [Next Linux SIG meeting: September 19th at 7:30 PM]

Our session this evening looked first at three widely differing topics: 'Recording Live Audio from the Internet Using Audacity', 'FreeNX, a Remote Desktop Tool' and 'Report on the happenings at Southeast LinuxFest in Charlotte, NC.'

I gave a short presentation 'Recording Live Audio from the Internet Using Audacity' that detailed how to create an Ogg Vorbis audio file using Audacity from a live Internet sound stream. My presentation was with slides, but I'd forgotten an audio patch cable I needed so the live demo I'd planned didn't work. However, I showed that the recording process is easy. Once the .ogg file has been created, there are some simple utilities to convert it to a .wav file and then convert that to an .mp3 file. The advantage of the methodology I presented was that the recording contains no additional noise added to the original stream.

The program Audacity allows some terrific editing such as cut and paste as what might be expected with

July 2012
Danbury Area Computer Society

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 6:30 P.M. GENERAL MTG	4	5 Macintosh 7:00 PM Richard Corzo macsig@dacs.org	6	7
8	9	10 MS ACCESS 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. Bruce Preston bpreston@dacs.org	11 7:00 PM Board of Directors	12 7:00 PM Drupal Jim Scheef 860 355-0034	13	14
15	16	17 Web Design Annette van Ommeren 914 232-0149	18	19	20	21 DACS.DOC Deadline
22	23	24	25 7:00 PM Digital Imaging Ken Graff 203 775-6667	26 Mobile Devices Richard Corzo Jim Scheef mobilesig@dacs.org	27	28
29	30	31				

Jun 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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Aug 2012

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

Safe Computing

How to remember your passwords with eWallet by iLium Software

by Hewie Poplock

I AM A PASSWORD nut. I try to have almost every program, website, email address, etc., use a unique password. That makes it difficult to remember them. Way back in 2000, I found a program to keep track of all of my passwords and account numbers in an encrypted file. I carried a Palm PDA in those days. The program was eWallet by iLium Software, with a version for both my Palm and my PC. I could sync the information as well.

Once the Palm PDA and its successor were finally put to rest, I continued to use the program between my desktop, laptop, and netbook. The encrypted file containing the data was easily copied between them.

I purchased the original iPhone and one of the first apps that I added was the iOS version of eWallet. I could sync it with my PC version via Wi-Fi. So once again I was now able to carry a program with me to access my passwords anytime. I was comfortable knowing that it had an encrypted file with a rather long password to access the file. I have since added an iPad2 to the equation and upgraded to the iPhone 4s, using eWallet on both.

There are many password manager programs available. Obviously, the main reason that I use the eWallet is that I have been using it for 12 years. However, there are other reasons. The biggest is that I can have it on all of my devices, especially on my iPhone & my iPad, which I have with me at all times. The data is protected with 256-bit AES (FIPS-197) encryption.

eWallet is currently available for PCs running Windows 7, Vista, or XP. If you are a Mac user, you need OS X. There are versions for the Apple iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, RIM BlackBerry, Android phones, the Kindle Fire tablet, and Windows Mobile. You need to check the version number to be sure it works on your device. The PC version is $20 & the others are $10 each. Only one license is needed for both the iPad & iPhone. You can try the PC version free for 30 days & then it stops working unless you buy it.

Although the program manages your passwords well, it has other features that may not be included in other programs in the same category. They include Live Fields, which enables you to jump to websites or dial phone numbers with just a tap. Auto Pass brings up the webpage and fills in the username and password for you. There is Smart Copy to quickly grab info for on-line forms and PassBuilder that generates passwords for you if you want real security using unique passwords. You can import data from some other programs using the Import Wizard.

eWallet stores your info in a file called a wallet. You can have more than one wallet. Each wallet contains categories and stores your information using cards in which you designate its category. Cards can be printed as well as the entire wallet. I use the search ability a lot. It searches the entire wallet for the letters that you type wherever they appear so finding an item is easy and quick.

Whether you use eWallet or another password management program, do not automatically open the program at boot up. This would allow anyone to be able to see or use your passwords. Once you have found the password that you need, either close or lock the program so that you must type the password to retrieve another. Otherwise, why encrypt or protect your passwords?

eWallet is available for download or purchase at *http://www.iliumsoft.com/ewallet* , the iTunes App Store, or the Android Market.

HEWIE POPLOCK *is an APCUG director.*

*This article appeared in Hewie's Views & Reviews (*http://www.hewie.net*), and is distributed for reprint by user groups.*
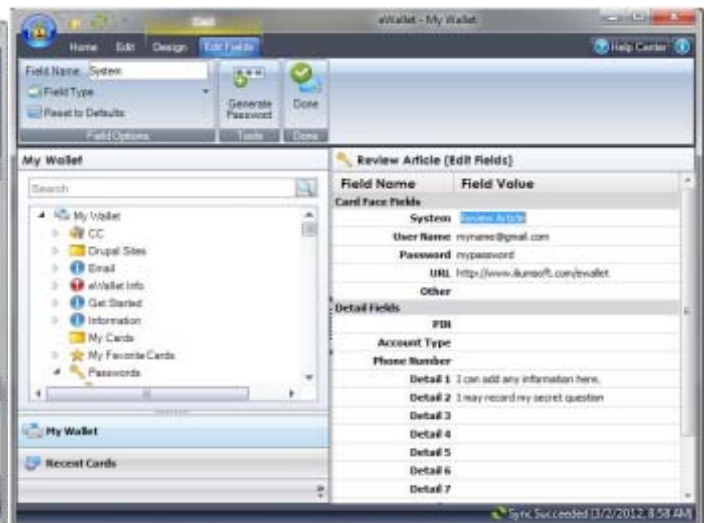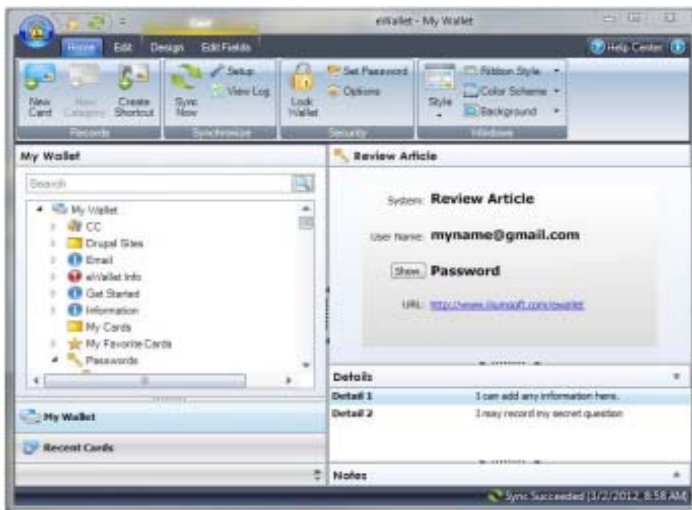
a text document but using audio files instead. Once the audio files have been saved, I could then create a simple header announcing the recording details at the beginning of them. The repackaged recordings would then be put on my pocket music player.

Jim Ritterbusch then demonstrated 'FreeNX, a Remote Desktop Tool'--(webpage at http://freenx.berlios.de/). The application is similar in functionality to Virtual Network Computing (VNC)--allowing for the viewing a remote desktop and thus interacting with what's on the computer or server. FreeNX has a server version meant for the remote computer or server and a client version for computer or server at the user end.

FreeNX has advantages of speed and uses secure connections piggybacked on SSH. It appears, however, that the application is mostly a Linux tool but it is available for various distributions such as Debian/Ubuntu DEBs, CentOS RPMs, Fedora/Red Hat RPMs, FreeBSD, Gentoo and Suse RPMs. Jim indicated that the configurations were complicated, but once set they worked well. He was able to demonstrate FreeNX by connecting to a remote computer that was running Fedora.

On June 6th and 7th, (Friday, Saturday) I was in Charlotte, NC to participate at the Southeast LinuxFest held at the Blake Hotel. My focus was mainly to listen and ask questions at the Friday presentations relating to the database mySQL--administration, security, etc. though I stayed with mostly the easier of the topics that more closely affected my own mySQL structures.

The Saturday sessions ranged over many topics involving Linux, IT jobs, Internet security, the conversion wrinkles as those with IPv6 replacing IPv4 addressing such as 192.168.2.1. The related discussions and questions were useful.

At the LinuxFest on Saturday was a morning keynote given by Robin Miller 'Using Linux to Boost Your IT Career' who encouraged all involved with IT to broaden their backgrounds to include Linux skills. The closing session 'All Grown Up: Linux at 21' was given by Steven J. Vaughan-Nichols who looked at where Linux has come to after 21 years. (Linux is on the rise everywhere being already strong in embedded devices and servers.)

Parties on Friday and Saturday nights offered some free drinks sponsored by opensource.com, Eucalyptus and Google along with extended discussions on anything related to the LinuxFest.

Finally, at our Linux SIG I showed some photos of the underground features of the Luray Caverns that I'd stopped to see on my two-day drive back home through the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

After the presentations, discussions led to specific computer items involving the configurations Unity on Ubuntu 12.04.

We invite new participants and DACS members to our sessions geared for the beginner, intermediate or advanced users. Topics and discussions are motivated by those attending and cover hardware and software problems that members may have with their computers. Our members tend to have presentations or demos to show off on their own laptop computers. Bring your old laptop. Perhaps it could use Ubuntu or Fedora installed free for a great replacement or addition to your existing system.

Our Linux SIG will not meet during July and August, but we'll be back on September 19th. We hope to see you then.

Mobile Devices. With an iPhone or iPad you have two ways to get photos off the device. Traditionally (the first way) this required connecting the device to your PC or Mac. On a Mac the iPhone/iPad would show up in iPhoto as a camera. You would then import all or just selected photos into an event in iPhoto.

On a PC you should get a dialog that lets you choose whether to open the device's camera folder in Windows Explorer or whatever Windows photo applications you have installed. On any digital camera you should find a folder named DCIM that contains the photos. If you are using a photo application you should be able to import the photos from the camera. Windows Live Photo Gallery (*http://photogallery.live.com/*) is a good one to try if you don't already have one.

The second way of transferring photos off an iPhone/iPad to the PC or Mac is to use a Wi-Fi connection and wirelessly send your photos to PhotoStream so that they appear on your other Apple devices and your computers with iCloud installed. iCloud is built into OS X Lion on a Mac (http://www.apple.com/icloud/setup/mac.html), but on a Windows machine it must be downloaded and installed (http://www.apple.com/icloud/setup/pc.html).

Going the other direction, to get photos onto your iPhone/iPad, you would use the Photos tab in iTunes to choose the photos you want on your Apple mobile device.

With an Android device, getting photos off and on the device generally involves connecting the device to your computer with a USB cable. The DCIM camera folder should show up in a removable drive, from which you can copy the photos. Going the other direction there should be another folder on the device where you can save pictures from your computer. On my Nook this folder is called My Files\Pictures.

Interestingly, one of our members found that her Android phone did not show up when connected to her laptop. Hopefully she will figure out if a driver or syncing application is needed to make that happen. Each manufacturer of Android devices customizes Android to their liking, so there is no single standard for this. Visit the support site for your mobile device to find out how your device can exchange files with a PC.

Ask DACS

June, 2012

Moderated and reported by Jim Scheef

W E WELCOME QUESTIONS FROM the floor at the start of our General Meetings. The role of moderator is to try to guide the discussion to a likely solution to the problem.In addition, members who are not able to attend the General meeting may submit questions to *askdacs@dacs.org*. We will ask the question for you and post the reply in *dacs.doc* and on *dacs.org*. Please provide as much information as possible, since we can't probe during the session.

Q - When I shut down my computer, there is always a Microsoft update waiting to install. I finally realized it was the same update each time and it was failing each time. Has anyone else had this problem? The update is KB2659262 on Windows XP.

A - The first suggestion was to boot in "safe mode" from the F8 boot options menu. Then go to the Windows Updates website and let it scan the machine. It will note the missing update, realize you already have it on disk and offer to install it. What we failed to mention at the meeting was to use "safe mode with networking." After the meeting, the member reported finding a manual method to install updates:

"Back in normal mode and querying "KB265962" at *http:// answers. microsoft.com*, I found:

Method 3: Install updates manually and then check if it helps.

To install updates manually by follow the steps mentioned below.

   a) Go to *http://www.microsoft. com/download/en/default.aspx*

  b) Search for the updates using KB article number for the update.

  c) *Download and install it.*

The update installed!

Q - In the new version of Picasa and in MSN, I can't enter any text in the login dialog window. It's as if the windows are disabled. I can click a link for help on the dialog and I can close the dialog; I just can't enter any text. This is on a laptop running Windows XP. What's wrong?

A - One member asked if the window can be moved to the side to see if there is another dialog hidden behind the login window. I asked if the title bar on the problem window turns dark blue (i.e., the window gets focus – focus means the window that is on top – you can only type into the one window that has focus) when you click on one of the text boxes on the form. The member said it does not. This would indicate that the dialog cannot get focus. Another suggestion was to use the Alt-Tab key combination to cycle through all open windows. This might uncover a window that is hidden or minimized that is causing the problem. The fact that one item on the dialog (help) was clickable, while everything else was inactive seems very unusual.

Q - What does it mean when someone says that there are "security issues" with Adobe Flash?

A - Flash is used on many websites to display active or animated content. When it does this it is executing a script or "Flash program" on your computer. Since Flash executes most often from within your browser (aka: plug-in, add-on, extension) it should be confined to the browser's "sandbox" where it has limited access to your computer. Unfortunately, there are many vulnerabilities (security holes) that malicious code can exploit to gain full access to everything on your machine. As these "security problems" are discovered, Adobe tries to patch Flash, Microsoft tries to patch Windows and the anti-virus/anti-malware people try to

improve their defenses. This is why it is so important that you do your part and ensure that you keep everything up to date.

Q - When I go to several websites (J.Crew, a catalog clothing store, is an example), the site seems to hang until I get an error message asking if I want to cancel a script or to continue waiting. Is there some way I can speed up this process? The browser is Firefox.

A - Complex sites like the New York Times or a large shopping site like J.Crew typically use scripts from many other locations as part of their overall website. These scripts do things like authenticate your login, display or change graphic images, track your progress through the site, build your shopping cart, display advertising based on information gathered from current or previous tracking, and more every day. In Firefox, you can control which sites are allowed to run scripts using an extension called No-Script (*noscript.net*). Using NoScript you could determine from where the problem script is coming and tell NoScript that scripts from that site are "untrusted." Your browser will then ignore all scripts coming from that site. As an example, I use NoScript to ignore anything coming from DoubleClick. Once this is in effect, the J.Crew site will no longer hang waiting for that problem script. The downside to this is that the script in question may be needed for the site to function correctly, and marking a domain as untrusted is global and affects all web sites that use scripts from that domain. During the discussion a member tested the J.Crew site and received a message about a blocked pop-up window. If a script were to open a pop-up window (which was blocked by the browser or some other means) and then waited for code in the pop-up window to run, that would cause the behavior seen by the questioner.

   Something that came up but we did not discuss is that cookies and scripts are not the same. Cookies are small strings of data that are stored and retrieved by your browser under the direction of a website

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script. Cookies are not programs and cannot execute code. Their primary purpose is to save data between browsing sessions (aka: tracking). In the context of this discussion, scripts are small programs almost always written in JavaScript that execute within your browser. Scripts from websites are supposed to be limited in what they can do by the browser's sandbox, but this limitation can be removed when you give them permission to run. Such permission can come from a misleading question on a webpage. Remember: never expect bad people to tell the truth.

Q - Has anyone tried installing the new Windows 8 Release Preview? (Released May 31st) I tried it on a Gateway laptop and the sound does not work.

A - Others reported smooth installs with good sound support. After the meeting the questioner reported that a device driver downloaded from the Creative website (*creative.com*) installed and now the sound card is working. The driver was listed under Windows Vista which implied support for Win 7.

Q - A follow-up on Win 8: has anyone been able to get the Mail app to work?

A - I reported success with the Mail app, both with Exchange server and regular IMAP accounts. Setting for Win 8 Metro style apps are found by moving the mouse to the lower-right corner of the screen to make the settings bar pop out. Clicking the gear then opens additional settings.

Q - I installed Google Chrome, and it keeps asking me to make it the default browser. Normally I click the Internet Explorer "e" icon to go online. I made Chrome the default browser but Internet Explorer still opens.

A - The default browser is the one that opens when you click on a shortcut on your desktop, click a link in an email, or any time you indicate that you want to open web content but

do not specify the browser. The "e" icon specifically opens Internet Explorer whether it is the default browser or not; just like clicking the Chrome icon (that red/green/yellow beach ball) always opens Chrome – of course, if there is only one browser installed, as Internet Explorer is the only browser in a new Windows installation.

Q - Can I copy all the programs and data from one disk to a new hard disk and then boot from the new disk?
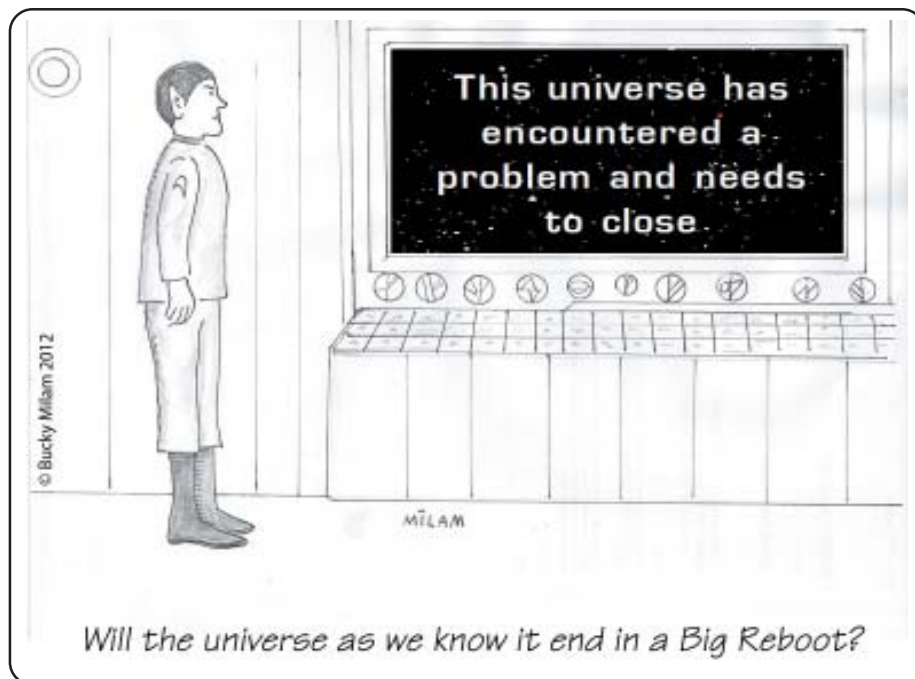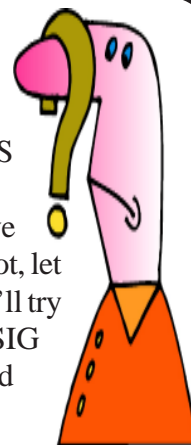
A - This is best done using one of the many disk cloning utilities. Acronis True Image (*acronis.com*) is one product mentioned at the meeting. DACS members can purchase this product at a discount through User Group Relations (ugr.com) which is run by Gene Barlow, a former speaker at DACS general meetings.

[**Disclaimer**: Ask DACS questions come from members by email or from the audience attending the general meeting. Answers are suggestions offered by meeting attendees and represent a consensus of those responding. DACS offers no warranty as to the correctness of the answers and anyone following these suggestions or answers does so at their own risk. In other words, we could be totally wrong!

This universe has encountered a problem and needs to close.
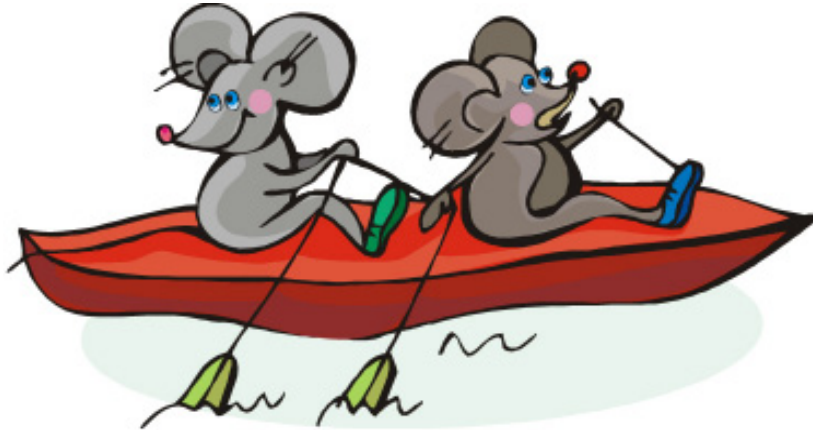
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Will the universe as we know it end in a Big Reboot?

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Danbury, CT 06810-8232

When you come to the next DACS meeting, why not bring a friend?

Future Events:

July

Microsoft Retail Store Danbury Fair Mall

August

Paul Chayka & Mike Morrissey Robotics and Beyond

September

Tom Schonder of Google Google Apps

October

Apple's New OSX Mountain Lion