



Central Kentucky Computer Society

CKCS Resource Center, 160 Moore Drive, Suite 107, Lexington, Kentucky, 40503 (859) 373-1000 www.ckcs.org

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Membership month starts January 10

By Mike Seiler, CKCS President
mi.seiler@yahoo.com

The Board of Directors has designated January of 2011 as Membership month. We're hoping to attract new people to CKCS. Part of this will be an open house on Tech Night, Monday, January 10 at 7:00 p.m. We're hoping all of you will be able to attend and bring a friend with you to introduce them to CKCS. For Tech Night we want to let everyone attending know what we do in our Special Interest Groups and classes.



At Tech Night we are asking all of SIG leaders and class Instructors to give a short presentation about what goes on in their meetings/classes. Because of the number of SIG's and classes we offer, we will not take time to answer any questions during these presentations, but will encourage everyone to ask questions after all the presentations are over.

Two New Short Courses planned for January

Joe Dietz has a new short course on digital imaging planned for Saturday, January 8, 2011. The cost is \$30.00 for non-members and \$24.00 for members. See the details about this course on Page 17 of this newsletter. There are still openings for you to sign up.

The second course will cover three topics: Word Processing, Internet, and Email. It will be taught on a beginning level and will assume that those enrolled have very little knowledge of these topics. It will meet on January 11, 13, 18, and 20 from 1:30 until 3:30 p.m. (i.e. Tuesday and Thursday of the second and third week of January.), and will be held in the Computer Lab at CKCS. The cost will be \$40.00 for non-members and \$32.00 for members. The instructors will be Mike Seiler and Bob Brown. The class will be taught in conjunction with Wesley Village. Several of their residents have already enrolled in it, but we still have openings in this course.

You can call the CKCS office (859) 373-1000 to register for both of these courses, Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



THIS MONTH'S BEST VIDEOS / SHOWS

NEW INSTRUCTIONS: The best way to view these shows: Viewers should highlight, copy and paste the links into a new tab of their internet browser rather than clicking the links directly in the PDF newsletter. This will allow the newsletter to remain open while the link opens and plays in another tab window. When returning to the newsletter, the viewer doesn't have to wait each time until the large PDF newsletter file reloads.

THANKS CKCS BOARD MEMBER LARRY TRIVETTE FOR THIS SUGGESTION

USAF Museum at Wright Patterson AF Base.

<http://www.cdsg.org/forums/viewtopic.php?t=381>

Furnished by former CKCS member Harvey Shackelford

Climb to the top of a tower (If you are squeamish about heights --don't watch this)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9VT0qbg-9c>

Furnished by Joe Dietz

Learn the new CPR technique. 6 minute video worth your time

<http://tinyurl.com/2fx8r59>

Furnished by Harvey Shackelford

The Launch (no sound until last few seconds)

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=KZrFC988Thc

Furnished by Henry Harrison

Electronic Pickpocket

<http://www.wreg.com/videobeta/?watchId=8ba6f8fc-90a2-4711-90ea-1884ec348310>

Furnished by Mal Gill

Miniature Wonderland in Northern Germany

<http://www.miniatur-wunderland.com/exhibit/video/4-minutes-wunderland/>

A think test

<http://www.oldjoebblack.0nyx.com/thinktst.htm>

Furnished by Jerry Hubble

Are you ready to make a fancy candle?

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=k7OjRYQAm64

Furnished by Ted Mellinger

Hi Jack

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXSSrBBZV_8&feature=related

Furnished by Carl Peter

The story behind the National Anthem

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=lwa-ISVqA1M&vq=medium

Furnished by Joe Isaac



TECH TALK

By Joe Isaac

- 1. Does size matter?** Well yes and no. Monitors are measured diagonally from one corner to the other. For a Laptop 15.6" is sort of standard, for a Desktop 20" or more.
- 2. What is resolution?** It is the number of horizontal and vertical pixels on a screen. Like 1280 x 1024 (this is the resolution of my desktop monitor.) To find your resolution, type resolution into the Start Search box and click on Adjust screen resolution.
- 3. What is Aspect ratio?** How wide a screen is compared to its height. My desktop is 4:3 and my Laptop is wide screen 16 x 9.
- 4. What does LCD mean?** It means Liquid crystal display and most computer screens are LCD. It is a thin, flat electronic visual display that uses the light modulating properties of liquid crystals (LCs).

The old computers used CRT Cathode ray tube, they were very big, cumbersome, and heavy, a vacuum tube containing an electron gun (a source of electrons) and a fluorescent screen.

- 5. What is contrast ratio?** The ratio like 10,000:1 indicates the difference between a monitor's darkest black and brightest white. The higher the ratio the better.
- 6. What is the difference between LCD AND LED?** Technology shift. LCD televisions have cold cathode fluorescent lights as backlights. They are now shifting to LED (light emitting diode) backlighting. Better picture, less energy, last longer.

LED TV is a bit of a misnomer. LED televisions are really just LCD televisions that use LED lights for back lighting instead of the CFL fluorescent lighting traditionally used for LCDs. Both employ the liquid crystal diode (LCD) technology.

<http://www.lcdtvbuyingguide.com/hdtv/led-vs-lcd.html>

Mary Rezney presents “My Fine Art; Evolving And Revolving”

Digital Imaging Special Interest Group
Tuesday, January 25, 2010
Joe Dietz, SIG Leader



This month we will have a guest speaker, Mary S. Rezney. Mary is a photo- mixed media artist, based in Lexington KY since 1976. Her studio/gallery is in the Distillery District where in addition to exhibiting her current art there is a revolving display of art from established and emerging artists for the community to enjoy. As a 2009 Kentucky Foundation for Women grant recipient, her art is exhibited regionally in galleries and juried exhibitions and it is included in the permanent collection of The Art Museum of the University of Kentucky. Last year she was one of two photographers chosen for the LexTran public art display “TransLucent” located in the downtown transit center. Her artwork was also chosen in 2010 to be included in Lexington’s Legacy Trail.

This summer Mary was the “official” photographer for LexArts Horse Mania with those images published in their book: *“Horse Mania 2010”*. In November of this year she had an exhibit of her art work at Eastern Kentucky’s Giles Gallery. Currently she is working on “The EcoBook Challenge”. It’s a juried competition where Fayette County citizens are encouraged to make a book from re-cycled and re-used materials with prize money awarded! She will give you the details at this meeting.

Her presentation will be “My fine art; evolving and revolving”

JANUARY PHOTO CONTEST This month’s photo competition will be on “**Cemeteries**”. Many of you already have a good collection of cemetery photos from the past or from the trip we took to Lexington Cemetery. Check them out and send me a good one no later than **Jan 24** in order to be included in the competition. Send to joedietz@aol.com.

ALSO – please e-mail me a few suggestions on what topics you would like for our monthly and annual competition for the upcoming year.



DECEMBER TECH NIGHT WAS INFORMATIVE AND FUN

Two CKCS members, Joey Police left and Craig Mayfield took charge of the December Tech Night on December 12th to talk about Antivirus problems and solutions.

Those attending the December Tech Night program were in for a treat. When Joey Police and Craig Mayfield reviewed some of many problems caused when a hacker attacks computers, they talked about the various viruses out there and reviewed some free and pay anti-virus programs to use. Although they agreed on most programs, each had their own preferences.



Everyone enjoyed their rapid fire, back and forth comments during the presentation and some commented it reminded them of a broadcast you might hear from 'Click and Clack' on Car Talk or the Mike and Mike sports show.

Some tried to take notes and got so wrapped up in the dialog, they forgot to write so Joey and Craig pledged to share their PowerPoint slides with everyone. (See the last paragraph on the next page.)

The program lasted an hour. Afterwards, there was a Christmas Holiday social with lots of snacks and



treats furnished by members and shared with one another.

Both Police and Mayfield are members of the Lexington Microsoft Users Group (LexMUG) which meets at CKCS on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. See the LexMUG web site for more information.

Their presentation may be viewed by clicking on the following link:

http://www.ckcs.org/newsletter/7-13-2010-power_point.pptx



NOTE: This presentation was prepared using the latest version of Microsoft PowerPoint. If you have an older version of PowerPoint or of the PowerPoint viewer, it will be necessary to download a free viewer from Microsoft. Use this link:

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?FamilyID=048dc840-14e1-467d-8dca-19d2a8fd7485&displaylang=en>



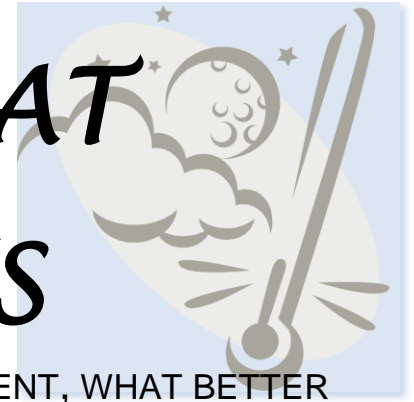
Plans for Genealogy SIG announced

Genealogy Special Interest Group will explore several online genealogy and history database websites. We will look at both databases of "trees" or family files, other secondary / published materials and primary / original records. Many of these require a subscription.

To help with accessing the usefulness of these web sites, bring with your name, locality, dates and type records needed. We will use this information in the searches. This may be a continued program of different databases. So be sure to come to start at the beginning.

Phyllis Vannoy Spiker is the SIG Leader.

WINTER IS A GREAT TIME FOR CLASSES



WHEN THE WEATHER IS BAD AND TRAVEL IS NOT CONVENIENT, WHAT BETTER TIME IS THERE TO BONE UP ON YOUR COMPUTER SKILLS? OUR CKCS INSTRUCTORS ARE READY AND ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU QUALITY INSTRUCTION AT ONE OF THE BEST BARGAINS IN THE CITY!

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS CALL THE OFFICE (859) 373-1000 AND A FRIENDLY OFFICE SUPERVISOR WILL BE THERE TO HELP.

CLASSES ARE TAUGHT IN THE CKCS COMPUTER LAB. THEY ARE TWO HOURS LONG AND HELD ONCE A WEEK OVER A SIX WEEK PERIOD. COST IS \$60 FOR NON-MEMBERS AND \$48 FOR MEMBERS. CALL TODAY TO SIGN UP.

CKCS CLASSES — WINTER 2011 SESSION						
Click on class title for description						
Return to previous page						
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MORN 10-12	Creative Graphics Jan 24 - Feb 28 Lilly Crawley Marci Miller	Beg. Dig. Imaging Jan 25 - Mar 1 Joe Dietz Larry Cox	DVD Movie Maker Jan 26 -Mar 2 Brooke Thomas Pennie Redmond Boon Baldwin	Computer Basics Jan 27 - Mar 3 Wendell Curtis Nancy Alverson	Photo Principles for Point & Shooters Jan 28-Mar 4 Larry Cox et al	Hidden Secrets of Mac Browsers Safari & Firefox Jan 29-Mar 5 Kurt Jefferson Debbie Settles Joe Settles
AFT 1-3	Beyond Basics Jan 24-Feb 28 Mike Seiler Larry Trivette	Digital Imaging Independent Work Jan 25 - Mar 1 Joe Deitz Larry Cox	Audio/Video Workshop Jan 26-Mar 2 Fred Kendig Brooke Thomas			
AFT 4:30-6:30	MS Excel Jan 24-Feb 28 Larry Trivette David Highet					
EVENING 7:00-9:00			Advanced Photoshop Elements Jan 26 - Mar 2 Anne Campbell Susan Umberger			



Central Kentucky Computer Society

Incorporated

160 Moore Drive Suite 107
Lexington Kentucky 40503
(859)-373-1000

OFFICERS

Tenure end June 30, 2011

President: Mike Seiler
Vice-President: Bob Brown
Treasurer: Jim McCormick
Secretary: Ben Rice

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Tenure end June 30, 2011

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Joe Settles
Julia Steanson
Larry Trivette
Larry Mitchum

Tenure end June 30, 2012

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Paul Stackhouse
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Ramona McLlennon
Calendar Wendell Curtis
Refreshment Center..... Jim Hughes
Newsletter Jerry Heaton
Newsletter Proofreaders... Carl Peter
Frankie Harvener
Julianna La Fleche
Ben Rice

Not a member ? We invite you to join CKCS.

Here is how: It is simple as 1 – 2 – 3
(Now a member – be sure to renew.)

1

Click on this link <http://www.ckcs.org/join/> and fill out the form. (if that doesn't work, go to www.ckcs.org and click on JOIN NOW) - - **or**

2

Call (859) 373-1000 and a friendly office supervisor will be glad to help you - - **or**

3

Stop by the CKCS Resource Center at 160 Moore Drive, Lexington, 40503
Office hours Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 4 PM...

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

During the period November 26 to December 28, 2010, CKCS had 4 members renew their membership.

Thank you: **Luralyn Lahr Calitri, Chris S Jackson, Robert J Koegel and Tricia K Stahlman.**

This update furnished by CKCS Secretary, Ben Rice

Bigger capacity computer hard drives are here

Furnished by CKCS Board member Larry Mitchum

It appears that the ceiling for digital hard drives has been raised yet again. Hitachi just announced the Deskstar internal hard drive kit which hits the 3TB mark easily and somehow skirts the 2.2TB limit placed on its predecessors by Windows XP 32-bit systems. This gives you massive amounts storage with the convenience of having it inside your PC instead of out on your desk where flying monkeys or “accidentally” spilled cups of coffee can wreak havoc.



You might be wondering **what a Terabyte “TB”** is. Well 1TB= One Trillion Bytes or if the term Trillion also seems to be a foreign term, you can say that 1TB is equal to 1000 Gigabytes. This means you might be able to store your family home movies, photos, and music collection all on one hard drive.

This might be just what you needed, but please remember that you still should back up all your digital files.

The 3TB drive is available as an internal hard drive or as a desktop drive that connects via a USB 2.0 cable. These drives are not cheap. They will perform a wallet-ectomy for the better part of \$250 US dollars, but that is about right when you consider that the 1TB drive costs about \$50-85.

Hit up [Hitachi Global Storage Technologies](http://www.hitachiglobalstorage.com) for more info, full specs, and a handful of photos.

Special CKCS Members Rates!

Lexington's Most Complete Computer Store



- **New/Used Computers**
- **Repairs & Upgrades**
- **Macs and PCs**
- **Virus Removal**
- **Data Recovery**
- **PC Tune Up**
- **Wireless Networking**

\$45
per service*

* A single service can be a windows installation, virus removal, data recovery, single component upgrade/replacement, diagnostic, etc.

Affordable computer
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READY OR NOT COMING CHANGES IN OUR LIVES

Whether these changes are good or bad depends in part on how we adapt to them but, ready or not, here they come!

1. The Post Office. Get ready to imagine a world without the Post office. They are so deeply in financial trouble that there is probably no way to sustain it long term. Email, Fed Ex, and UPS have just about wiped out the minimum revenue needed to keep the post office alive. Most of your mail every day is junk mail and bills.
2. The Check. Britain is already laying the groundwork to do away with checks by 2018. It costs the financial system billions of dollars a year to process checks. Plastic cards and online transactions will lead to the eventual demise of the check. This plays right into the death of the post office. If you never paid your bills by mail and never received them by mail, the post office would absolutely go out of business.
3. The Newspaper. The younger generation simply doesn't read the newspaper. They certainly don't subscribe to a daily delivered print edition. That may go the way of the milkman and the laundry man. As for reading the paper online, get ready to pay for it. The rise in mobile Internet devices and e-readers has caused all the newspaper and magazine publishers to form an alliance. They have met with Apple, Amazon, and the major cell phone companies to develop a model for paid subscription services.
4. The Book. You say you will never give up the physical book that you hold in your hand and turn the literal pages. I said the same thing about downloading music from iTunes. I wanted my hard copy CD. Nevertheless, I quickly changed my mind when I discovered that I could get albums for half the price without ever leaving home to get the latest music. The same thing will happen with books. You can browse a bookstore online and even read a preview chapter before you buy. In addition, the price is less than half that of a real book. Just think of the convenience once you start flicking your fingers on the screen instead of the book, you find that you are lost in the story, can't wait to see what happens next, and you forget that you're holding a gadget instead of a book.
5. The Land Line Telephone. Unless you have a large family and make a lot of local calls, you don't need it anymore. Most people keep it simply because they've always had it. However, you are paying double charges for that extra service. All the cell phone companies will let you call customers using the same cell provider for no charge against your minutes.



6. Music. This is one of the saddest parts of the change story. The music industry is dying a slow death. Not just because of illegal downloading. It's the lack of innovative new music being given a chance to get to the people who like to hear it. Greed and corruption is the problem. The record labels and the radio conglomerates simply self-destruct. Over 40% of the music purchased today is "catalog items," meaning traditional music that the public is familiar with older established artists. This is also true on the live concert circuit. To explore this fascinating and disturbing topic further, check out the book, "Appetite for Self-Destruction" by Steve Knopper. Also check the video documentary, "Before the Music Dies."

7. Television. Revenues to the networks are down dramatically. Not just because of the economy. People are watching TV and movies streamed from their computers. And they're playing games and doing lots of other things that take up the time that used to be spent watching TV. Prime time shows have degenerated down to lower than the lowest common denominator. Cable rates are skyrocketing and commercials run about every 4 minutes and 30 seconds. I say good riddance to most of it. It's time for the cable companies to be put out of our misery. Let the people choose what they want to watch online and through Netflix.

8. The "Things." That You Own. Many of the very possessions that we used to own are still in our lives, but we may not actually own them in the future. They may simply reside in "the cloud". Today your computer has a hard drive and you store your pictures, music, movies, and documents. Your software is on a CD or DVD, and you can always re-install it if need be. However, all of that is changing. Apple, Microsoft, and Google are all finishing up their latest "cloud services." That means that when you turn on a computer, the Internet will be built into the operating system.

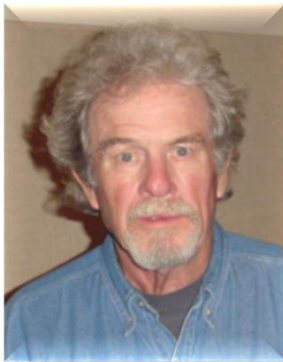
So, Windows, Google, and the Mac OS will be tied straight into the Internet. If you click an icon, it will open something in the Internet cloud. If you save something, it will be saved to the cloud. And you may pay a monthly subscription fee to the cloud provider. In this virtual world, you can access your music or your books, or your whatever from any laptop or handheld device. That's the good news. But, will you actually own any of this "stuff" or will it all be able to disappear at any moment in a big "Poof?" Will most of the things in our lives be disposable and whimsical? It makes you want to run to the closet and pull out that photo album, grab a book from the shelf, or open up a CD case and pull out the insert.

9. Privacy. If there ever was a concept that we can look back on nostalgically, it would be privacy. That's gone. It's been gone for a long time anyway. There are cameras on the street, in most of the buildings, and even built into your computer and cell phone. But you can be sure that 24/7 "They" know who you are and where you are, right down to the GPS coordinates, and the Google Street View. If you buy something, your habit is put into a zillion profiles, and your ads will change to reflect those habits. And "They" will try to get you to buy something else. Again and again. All we will have that can't be changed are Memories.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT — MOST OF THESE THINGS ARE ALREADY TAKING PLACE AND THE OUTCOME IS SET IN STONE.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

By David Hight



One look at the calendar and we know that another year is here. For myself and most other Senior Citizens that is a very important milestone, we made it through another year! Then pausing for a minute and reflecting back through my life, I find it hard to believe that there have been so many changes to all of the things around me.

Virtually nothing is the same as when I was a young boy growing up in Southern Minnesota.

In those days, I (and perhaps many of you):

- Did my homework with a pencil and paper instead of using Microsoft Office.
- Walked over a mile to the local Carnegie public library to use reference books for preparing papers for school instead of using Google.
- Instead of email, used a graphite pencil with a pink eraser on the end to write letters on actual paper (in longhand) and hand carried them another mile into town to the US Post Office for mailing.
- To play a game of cards had to find a deck of plastic playing cards (and usually one or more playing partners) instead of powering up our computer.
- When we took pictures with our Kodak Brownie cameras, had to take a roll of film to the corner drugstore for developing (then live with all the mistakes we had made taking the pictures or caused by the film in the camera) instead of inserting a silicon chip into a computer and pushing a few keys – not to mention the time and expense it used to take for developing the film.
- Then if we wanted to organize and save those same pictures, we had to adhere them one way or another into a album on that thick black paper with those little sticky picture corners (then rearranging them was a major operation) instead of using Picasa or iPhoto.
- To see a moving picture had to wait until Saturday afternoon (then accept the only movie in town showing that week) instead of going to Netflix or Hulu where we have a wide choice – any time we like.
- The only choice to listen to music was the family radio (which was normally more static than music) instead of going to iTunes or one of the many radio applications – with choices of stations from all over the globe and any type of music we desire on our faithful computer.
- Telephone calls had to be made by finger dialing from an old black hard plastic device sitting on the writing table in the dining room (assuming that no one else was calling at the same time on the neighborhood six – party line)! To find the telephone number we wanted to call, we had to shuffle through the stack of magazines on that table to find a dog-eared telephone directory instead of pressing a key on our computer. What's even more, it was totally unthinkable to believe that we could actually see the person we were talking to at the *same time* we were calling them!



Amazing isn't it how things change over time! Not only that, I have listed a few of the things that our computers are doing for us today that yesterday were really a chore. For example, at this very minute I am sitting at my computer performing the following tasks simultaneously:


- Writing my monthly Membership column for the Central Kentucky Computer Society newsletter.
- Not only am I creating this document using Microsoft Word (on an iMac), but also at the same time it is checking my spelling and grammar.
- Listening to Christmas music on Accuradio.com
- Checking the weather on WeatherBug
- Checking my email periodically (as I type a musical sound tells me when I have new mail – neat!)

When I finish, I will send my column to our newsletter editor Jerry Heaton by pressing a couple of buttons – at the same time I will send a copy to our president Mike Seiler (both of whose addresses I have stored in my address book on this computer). Finally, when I am done, I will store this column with all of the others I have written in my Newsletter folder located in my CKCS folder in “Documents” (My Documents for earlier Windows versions).

I am doing nothing more than any other computer user does – daily! The truth is that today almost *everybody* is a computer user. Not everybody uses his or her computer as much as you or I may, but you will be hard pressed to find a person who does not use a computer for one thing or another. What that means is - that almost every person that you or I know (live next to, work with, play with, go to church with etc.) is a candidate for membership in the Central Kentucky Computer Society! With that knowledge, plus the wide variety of things the computer is used for – and can do, it is reasonable for me to believe that every computer user in the Bluegrass should be a member of the Central Kentucky Computer Society. CKCS has something for everyone. It is up to us as members of CKCS to bring all of these potential members into our membership.

As members of CKCS we are blessed to have at our disposal the SIGs, classes, facilities, and our fellow members as resources to keep us current in the ever-changing world of computer technology. Membership makes our computer skills stronger for our work, home (taxes, bill paying, basic household responsibilities), hobbies, play, etc. The knowledge and skills we obtain by attending monthly Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and classes are actually dwarfed by exposure to our fellow members. The friendships we make attending CKCS functions help us to become stronger citizens, as well as to improve our computer skills. Shouldn't we be sharing these experiences with all of our friends and neighbors?

2011 is Membership year for the Central Kentucky Computer Society. It is the year when we as members are going forth into the community to “spread the word” about what we have to offer our fellow citizens of the Bluegrass for strengthening their computer skills. We are going to build up our fine organization by increasing our membership, and then we can move on to the task of adding more services to the citizens of the Bluegrass (classes, Sigs, etc.).

Please join me as your Membership chairman to meet these goals. Invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, golf partners, etc. to our meetings, SIGs and classes. Let us make the year 2011 the year the name of Central Kentucky Computer Society became a household word among all the computer users of the Bluegrass. Let us make the name Central Kentucky Computer Society synonymous with Windows, Apple, etc. 

Redesigned iMac Ahead?



Kurt Jefferson

By Kurt Jefferson, SIG Leader and Instructor for Mac topics

For several years Apple's laptops (called MacBook and MacBook Pro) have been outselling its desktop models called the iMac. It seems millions of computer users want to take their machines with them—into Starbucks, into Panera Bread

restaurants and into motels where they can use the free wireless Internet service.



Now the venerable iMac is getting some attention. Several news stories, including one in DigiTimes and in the

Washington Post tech section reveal that Apple might be preparing a major update to the best-selling all in one desktop machine. An article headlined "Is Apple Bringing the Desktop Back?" by Hayley Tsukayama reports on word from Asian component makers that Apple intends to release a newly redesigned iMac in the first half of 2011.

- **Washington Post article:** <http://wapo.st/hak18k>

The DigiTimes story says Apple intends to release an iMac offering a new panel size and price point for the midstream market.

- **DigiTimes article:** <http://bit.ly/hpH4hL>

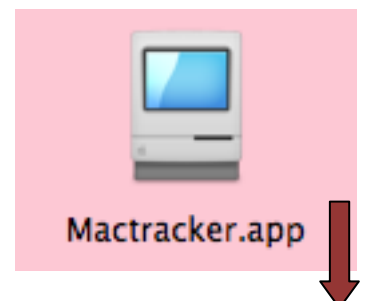
An Apple-oriented Web site, 9To5Mac says "New iMacs at lower price points will probably help Apple bring back the desktop fad. This year was all about new portables (iPad and MacBook Air) and it already appears that next year will be the year of new desktop and pro offerings."

- **9To5 article:** <http://bit.ly/hrAExE>

9To5 seems to think that Apple will begin selling a 22-inch iMac with touchscreen.

Fortune thinks the new iMacs coming in 2011 most likely will contain Intel's new Sandy Bridge chips that have the graphics and main processor together.

✓ If you'd like to keep track of Apple's Macintosh line, check out a free program called Mactracker. It shows every Mac product produced by Apple including mice and displays. You can download a copy of Mactracker here: <http://www.mactracker.ca/>



Amazon.com is one of the largest Mac sellers in the world. If you check out Amazon's "Bestsellers in Desktop Computers" page, you'll see the iMac has taken the #1 or #2 spot for months. Currently, the Mac mini redesigned in June 2010 is the best-selling desktop that Amazon sells. The iMac with the 21.5-inch screen and 3.06 GHz Intel Core i3 processor comes in second place.

By the way, if you buy anything from Amazon.com, why not lend a helping hand to CKCS? Go to the CKCS Web site www.ckcs.org and **click on the Amazon button** on the lower left-hand side of the page. CKCS gets a small commission from your purchase. But it all adds up to help out the computer society.



Opera 11 for Mac Arrives

Folks who know me realize that I have an affinity for Opera. I'm not sure if I have Norwegian blood (mixed in with German and British) but I have always been fond of it.

No, I don't mean that opera, where characters fill the stage and begin singing to one another. I mean this *Opera*—what I like to call the little browser that could.

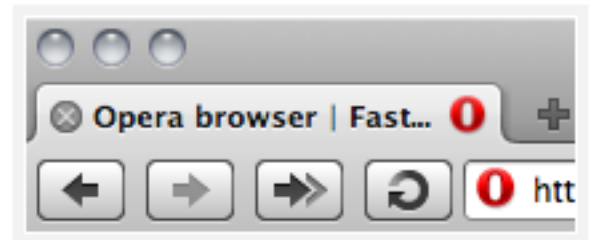
It's a Web browser invented by Norwegians to run on Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows, Linux, FreeBSD (which is a computer language on which Mac OS X is built) and formerly Solaris (a UNIX operating system developed by Sun Microsystems.)

The vast majority of Americans don't run Opera on their desktops or laptops. In fact, many Americans have never heard of Opera, the Web browser.

What you might not know is that Opera is the most popular *mobile* browser in the world. What's a mobile browser? Typically it's one used on a mobile device such as a smartphone. Mobile browsers display Web pages so they can be seen properly on small screens.

So while millions of Mac users have never heard of Opera the Web browser, there's a good chance they're running Opera the mobile browser on their iPhone, Droid phone, or similar handheld device.

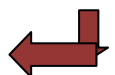
But I digress. Opera version 11 has just been released (this is not beta, it's the real McCoy ready



Introduction to Opera

The [Introduction to Opera](#) tutorial covers the browser layout and components, explains how you use it to browse the Web, and how to use Opera's unique features.

Continued on page 24 [click the red link to to jump to the continuation](#)
MAC ARTICLE



Digital Imaging short course set for January



Joe Dietz
Digital Imaging
SIG Leader

Joe Dietz is offering an unusual abbreviated course on Digital Imaging at the CKCS Resource Center on Moore Drive in early January. “At times I have heard some folks are unable to take our regular digital imaging classes since they have to work or have other obligations during the times we hold classes,” Joe said. This offering is Joe’s solution for those who have scheduling conflicts. The unusual part, this course will be taught all on one day and on a weekend. This is what will be happening. “Spread the word about this so we will have a full class. If more than 8 sign up, we will give another class later on” Joe said.

The session will be a four-hour, hands-on introduction to fixing up your digital images using Corel’s Paint Shop Pro X3. Class size will be limited to eight students (or up to 10 if two can bring laptops with the program installed). Earlier versions of Paint Shop Pro (X, X2, X3) will have most of the tools we will be using. Cost of the course will be \$30.00

Class will be held on Saturday, January 8, 2011 and will run from 10AM to 12, lunch break on your own and then continue from 1-3 PM. Members and guests are urged to sign up and join the fun.

Students will concentrate on a variety of different techniques to improve their pictures. Some of the important features you will learn will be how to lighten or darken your images, remove something from a picture that you don’t want to be there such as a utility pole, add something to a picture that actually wasn’t there, crop your image to a specific size, sharpen the image, and much, much more.

If you have questions about the class, the program being used, or how to get a discount on the program, give Joe Dietz a call at 859-533-7814. To sign up, call a helpful office supervisor on duty at the Resource Center during normal hours of 10 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday.



News to use

Office workers back on duty

The CKCS office supervisors had several days off between the Christmas and New Year's holidays. However, they will be back on duty on Monday January 3, 2011. Normal office hours are 10 AM to 4 PM, Monday through Friday. The phone number is (859) 373-1000.

Windows SIG on Holiday in January

There will be no Windows SIG during the month of January, according to Joe Isaac, SIG leader. The next meeting will be on February 8 at 7:00 PM at the CKCS Resource Center.

Word SIG has two Sessions in January

There will be two word processing session on January 4. The first one starts at 1:30 PM and the second one starts at 7:00 PM that day. The sessions are as identical as is possible, however, questions are handled at the start of each and to a degree, that controls the initial direction of the presentation. This SIG normally meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

Bad weather can cancel SIG meetings and Classes

Here we are in the midst of winter weather, and the CKCS policy is that the office closes anytime the Fayette County Schools cancel school due to bad road conditions. Normally, CKCS classes conducted in the Computer Lab are cancelled as well as scheduled SIG meetings, however, it is a good idea to phone the office since road conditions often improve during the day. Even if the office is closed because of the weather, the phone answering machine will normally be updated with the latest information about any scheduled events at CKCS for that day. The phone number is (859) 373-1000.

If there is no message about a SIG / Class on the answering machine, you may want to call the leader in charge. Phone numbers are available by going to MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS SECTION, found under the MEMBERS section on the CKCS web home page.

Got a new computer? Stop before you discard the old!

CKCS is offering a DISC ERASING SERVICE to erase your older disk drive so you can feel confident that no personal information is left on it before you give it away or dispose of it.

Bring your disk drive or whole computer to CKCS on any Thursday between 10 AM and 4 PM. There is no charge but a small donation would be appreciated. **For more information click [here](#).**





I'm Still waiting....

***I did what you told me
I sent the email to 10 people like you said.
I'm still waiting for that miracle to happen.***



***To all my friends who in the last year sent me best 'wishes', chain letters, 'angel' letters or other promises of good luck if I forwarded something,
NONE OF THAT STUFF WORKED!
For 2011, could you please just send money, chocolate, movie tickets, gasoline vouchers or airline tickets instead?
Thank you!***

Furnished by Carl Peter



There was a man who worked for the Post Office whose job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses.

One day, a letter came addressed in a shaky handwriting to God with no actual address. He thought he should open it to see what it was about.

The letter read:

Dear God,

I am an 83 year old widow, living on a very small pension.

Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension payment.

Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with, have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope.. Can you please help me?

Sincerely, Edna

The postal worker was touched.. He showed the letter to all the other workers. Each one dug into his or her wallet and came up with a few dollars.

By the time he made the rounds, he had collected \$96, which they put into an envelope and sent to the woman.

The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends.

Christmas came and went.

A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God.

All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened.

It read:



Dear God,

How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me?

Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift.

By the way, there was \$4 missing.

I think it might have been those bastards at the post office.

Sincerely, Edna



HUSBANDS

While creating Husbands, God promised Women that good and ideal Husbands would be found in all corners of the world.

And then He made the earth round.

Furnished by Gene Wheeler

CKCS Special Interest Groups

Check us out!

Each month the Central Kentucky Computer Society offers 13 SIGs which may be attended by members and their guests. Below is a summary of what takes place at each SIG. Information is provided by the SIG leader. Visitors are cordially invited to become active CKCS members.

NOTE; Always check the “Monthly Schedule” and the “Newsletter” link on the CKCS home page for any schedule changes. www.ckcs.org

COMPUTER CLINIC SIG

Meets monthly on the fourth Saturday – Leader Bob Brown

This group meets every 4th Saturday morning at 10am. Topics are anything in the field of personal computers and Internet sites. Typically we talk about newsworthy events such as new products or new developments on the Internet. Sometimes guest speakers are invited to demonstrate a particular software product of general interest.

Some recent topics include Google Apps, Twitter, Podcasting, and Buying a New Computer.

DATABASE SIG

Meets monthly on the fourth Thursday – Leader Garland Smith

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

Meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday – Leader Joe Dietz

The Digital Imaging Special Interest Group is a forum to provide and share information about digital imaging. The SIG frequently has guest speakers to cover a wide range of topics that are related to digital imaging. Some of our past topics have been on digital archiving (AKA Backup), getting the best out of your point and shoot camera, effective lighting when taking pictures, restoring old photos and many others. The goal of this SIG is to help attendees to better understand digital imaging, learning how to get the best out of their cameras and how to improve their images with digital imaging software such as Corel's Paint Shop Pro, Photoshop CS/Elements,

Gimp or other program. Each meeting starts off with a photo contest with a variety of different categories.

DR. FIXIT SIG

Meets monthly on the first Saturday – Leader Norm Funk

GENEALOGY SIG

Meets monthly on the third Tuesday – Leader Phyllis Spiker

Attendees have an opportunity to ask questions, share new ancestors, record discoveries or websites. Programs are not a course of classes, but topics of interest, such as new online databases, interpreting evidences, genealogy softwares or getting acquainted with repositories' websites. Opportunities for onsite research may be suggested. Wanna know, “who's your granddaddy?"; or “Where're the records?" We'll try to help you succeed. Join us 7 P.M, the 3rd Tuesday of the most months, except June, July and August.

INVESTMENT SIG

Meets monthly on the third Saturday – Leader Art Gonty

The Investment SIG meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 am at CKCS.

The main theme of the SIG is to discuss stocks, exchange traded funds and mutual funds. We try to guess the direction of the stock market so one's portfolio can be managed to prevent heavy losses. We discuss multiple online stock sites that can be helpful in managing or developing a stock portfolio. We discuss technical analysis and fundamental analysis. Members often present a stock that they think has potential to gain in price. There is often witty exchanges and

there is excellent rapport amongst the members. We do not contribute any funds to buy or sell stocks at the SIG. It is an informational meeting only. We invite anyone that has no, little or great experience to join us.

LEX MUG SIG

Meets monthly on the second Wednesday – Leader Joey Police

The Lexington Microsoft Users Group (LexMUG -- www.lexmug.com) meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (brown-bag lunch meeting) with networking until noon and then announcements and a 45-minute presentation starting at around 12:10. We keep a tight schedule and start and stop punctually to allow people to get back to work, but we have the venue all afternoon and many people stay up to an hour or so afterwards to talk in smaller groups. Our venue is Central Kentucky Computer Society (CKCS -- www.ckcs.org) here in Lexington. Online we have about 150 users, and in person we draw about 15-30 users per month to meetings. LexMUG is - not- a Small Business Specialist/Server group, but does draw heavily and have a large part of its constituents from an SBS background. We focus on all types of technology ranging from Hard drive recovery, Virus protection, to all Microsoft technology and products. Our online forum and social media is a great way to discuss topics more in depth. Our next meeting can be found on our web site at www.lexmug.com where we will be discussing which Antivirus solution is best for you?



MACINTOSH SIG

**Meets monthly on the second
Thursday – Leader Kurt Jefferson**

The Mac SIG is designed to be fun, informative, and an overview of everything "Mac" for new users and old. We talk about everything ranging from how to get more out of the features built into OS X (pronounced "ten," not "x.") to iWork (Apple's replacement for AppleWorks) to using the Internet. The Macintosh is one of the easiest to use computers on the planet. But hidden features abound. The more you know, the more you can do. We try to share tips at every meeting and provide insight to empower users to get more out of their machines. We see all kinds of visitors at the Mac SIG including new users, Windows users, and folks who are new to computers. We welcome you and hope to see you at the next Mac SIG—held the second Thursday of the month.

MICROSOFT ACCESS SIG

**Meets monthly on the third
Thursday – Leader Stuart Zahalka**

OPEN SOURCE SIG

**Meets monthly on the first
Wednesday – Leader Bob Brown**

This group meets every 1st Wednesday at 7pm. Topics are usually demonstrations of open source

software products or web-based applications for Windows and/or Linux systems. We usually have a Linux distribution of the month and a Windows software product of the month.

Some recent topics include Firefox, OpenOffice, Project Management Tools and PDF Editing.

WINDOWS SIG

**Meets monthly on the second
Tuesday – Leader Joe Isaac**

The Windows SIG or workshop meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Topics covered may be: Windows 7, Windows Live Mail, Internet Explorer, Windows Media Player, System Restore, Defrag, Desktop, Taskbar, Windows Live Photo Gallery, Windows Live Movie Maker, Basics, Files and Folders, Control Panel, YouTube, Disk Cleanup, etc.

**To see which topic will be covered
next go to:**

<http://computertips2009.blogspot.com/>

**To see a years' worth of email Tips
and Reviews go to:**

<http://www.ckcs.org/joetips.pdf>

WORD PROCESSING SIG

**Meets monthly on the first Tuesday
– Leader Jerry Heaton**

The Word Processing SIG starts with questions from classmates where the SIG leader and all attending help

provide solutions and answers. In fact many of the topics presented during each session, come from questions received by Email during the month. Topics are presented so that new as well as advanced computer users will benefit by attending. This workshop uses several Microsoft Word versions during the SIG. Presently three versions are available for instructional purposes; Word 2003, Word 2007 and Word 2010, however the version used by the majority of the attendees usually is the one used most prevalently.

UNIX / LINUX SIG

**Meets monthly on the fourth
Thursday – Leader Lewis Gardner**

The Linux SIG handles a wide range of technical topics. Linux is based on Unix which is the granddaddy of modern networking. We spend a considerable amount of time on servers, networks, routers, access points and general network configuration. These operating systems are at the heart of many devices in our increasingly connected world. Come out and we will try to get your questions answered, your problems troubleshot or devices configured



MAC ARTICLE

By Kurt Jefferson CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17.

TO RETURN TO THE START OF THIS ARTICLE, CLICK THIS HEADING [Redesigned iMac Ahead?](#)

with plenty of squashed bugs) and it offers many features unavailable in previous versions.

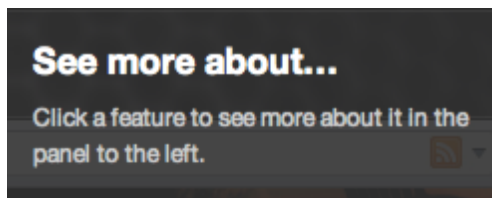


- The Opera Web browser is free. Download it at: <http://www.opera.com>

Opera

version 11 offers new features including:

- **Tab stacking:** Allows the user to drag one tab on top of another. This creates a stack. Watch a YouTube clip to see it in action: <http://bit.ly/euxeWq>
- **Safer address field:** Look for the security badge in your address bar. Opera 11 now offers one-click access to determine a Web site's security level and whether you should go there.
- **Visual mouse gestures:** There's now a visual guide to mouse gestures. You can open new pages, close tabs and do more by controlling your Mac with the flick of your wrist.
- **Extensions:** Safari users have been utilizing extensions for several months. Firefox users have been using add-ons for years. Now Opera offers extensions to improve the Web user's experience. Opera says the top five extensions are:
 1. NoAds (the ad-blocking extension popular on other browsers)
 2. LastPass (free password manager and form filler)
 3. FastestTube (YouTube downloader)
 4. Image preview (Preview of an image pops up)
 5. Translate (Automatically translates foreign language Web sites)
- **Mail panel:** The Opera team has re-designed its Mail program allowing the user to decide what he or she wants to show and in what order. I don't use Opera's mail program but for those who do this is a big deal.



Tab stacking **NEW**

Safer address field **NEW**

Visual mouse gestures **NEW**

Extensions **NEW**

Mail panel **NEW**

Opera Turbo

Speed Dial

Opera Link

Password manager

Opera Unite

Zoom



- Read about Opera 11 features: <http://www.opera.com/browser/features/>
- Take the Opera tutorial: <http://www.opera.com/browser/tutorials/intro/>
- Read about Opera's new Mail panel: <http://my.opera.com/desktopteam/blog/2010/09/08/mail-panel>

Mac App Store to Launch January 6th

Soon Apple will open its highly touted App Store for the Mac. Just as users of the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch are able to download and upgrade software from a self-contained store, Mac users will be able to do the same beginning on Thursday, Jan. 6.



- Read about Apple's new App Store for the Mac here: <http://www.apple.com/mac/app-store/>

During Apple's October "Back to the Mac" event, Macworld writer Dan Frakes wrote that the opening of the Mac App Store "will turn out to be the biggest news for the typical Mac user."

Frakes wrote that installing and updating software was the worst part of the Mac OS X experience. By contrast, he said that iPhone and iPad users regularly, and possibly obsessively, download new apps and update installed ones because it's so incredibly easy for iOS users to do that. (iOS is the operating system running on the iPad and iPhone. OS X is the operating system running on the Macintosh. Both share traits but are different animals, so to speak.)

Frakes praised the iOS app store and looked forward to bringing that simplicity to the Mac:

“There’s a convenient place to search for—and read reviews of—hundreds of thousands of apps. You purchase and install an app with a single click. The entire process is easy and automatic. You can check for updates for *all* your installed apps at once, and automatically download and install all those updates, again, with a single click. And you can be pretty confident that whatever you get from the App Store is safe.”

With the announcement of the App Store, Apple said it would shutter its own software update page where users could download versions of Apple software for the Mac.

Mac Orchard Shuts Down



It was several days before Christmas in 1995 when a Web site called *The Mac Orchard* first went online. This was a place you could go to download dozens of kinds of Mac Internet software (it reminds me of the old CKCS shareware sales that the computer society ran at Turfland Mall, Heritage Hall and other sites.)

The site provided one of the most complete and up-to-date sources of Mac Internet software available anywhere. The long list of available applications included Usenet newsreaders, Helper apps such as decoders and browser plug-ins, and file transfer (FTP) goodies.

The orchard also offered software reviews and gave users a helping hand to point them in the direction of software that would serve them the best.

Now the force behind the orchard, Drew Saur, has decided to close shop. He provided five reasons behind the move: (Read about it on the site: <http://www.macorchard.com/>).

He says:

1. Most Mac users don't go out of their way to find an alternative browser or e-mail program anymore because what comes pre-installed on the Mac is quite good.
2. People just aren't utilizing the different protocols they used to. He asks if you remember Gopher or NNTP?



3. The Mac is no longer an underdog. Most folks know others who use Macs and it's just not that tough to look online for help or ask other Mac users for advice on how to get a feat accomplished on the Mac.
4. Most people are acquainted with the Mac or at least know that it's a computer made by Apple running an operating system called OS X (the latest version of which is called Snow Leopard.)
5. The future of application distribution is clearly the Mac App Store to debut Jan. 6.

Saur says he'll keep The Mac Orchard domain, he's negotiating with another person who will make good use of the content, and he hopes to make an announcement soon.

He adds, most importantly, he'll keep track of the Mac Internet software scene.

Mossberg Picks the Best and Worst of 2010

"For a 1.0 product, the iPad was amazing," writes Walt Mossberg, the *Wall Street Journal's* technology writer. He adds, "With the new iOS 4.2 operating system and its huge selection of apps, the iPod continues to stay ahead of the competition."

The comments are part of Mossberg's remarks about notable technology products he sampled, reviewed, and wrote about in 2010.

The iPad came in first place in terms of what Mossberg considered the best product this year.

High speed 4G networks in the U.S. took second place while the Apple iPhone 4 and Samsung Galaxy S tied for third. Mossberg wrote "The Galaxy S is representative of the powerful force that Android has become within the smartphone marketplace. Despite no longer being the only game in town and all the initial controversy over its antenna, the iPhone 4 is still the best smartphone."

Mossberg turned thumbs down on the Dell Streak. It was his impression that the Android device was too large to be a phone and yet too small to actually be a tablet.

Read Mossberg's entire column here: <http://bit.ly/gd9rMT>

Get Much More Out of Google

Most folks who use the #1 search engine aren't using the tool to its full extent. Google is by far the most popular search tool in the world and yet many folks use only the most basic features. (What about Google Docs and Google Trends?)

Read the *Macworld* article (from sister publication *PC World*) here: <http://bit.ly/fbWErQ>



Macworld has provided an article written by sister publication *PC World* that might help you use Google to its fullest extent (or at least get a lot more out of it.)

Here are a couple of suggestions provided by the article:

Use Google's Directory (it might remind you of Yahoo!): <http://www.google.com/dirhp?hl=en>

Google Directory

A search directory (of which Yahoo! is the most popular) groups items under broad categories. So when you go to the Google Directory page, instead of seeing just a blank search box, you'll see categories that you can search.

For example, there's a broad category labeled Home. Underneath that link you'll see Cooking, Family, Gardening...

So if you are searching for a gardening tip it might be more fruitful to click on Google's Gardening link in the Google Directory rather than using the Google search engine and typing in your search words.

Google Trends

Google Trends is a neat tool allowing users to view the most popular search terms, where people searching these terms live, and learn how popular (or unpopular) a term is over time.

I typed in *Apple Magic Trackpad* to see who's using Google to search this phrase. Turns out on this snowy day shortly after Christmas, more people in Switzerland are searching that phrase in Google than in any other nation.

The top ten countries searching for Apple Magic Trackpad: (Remember this is a snapshot in time and is constantly changing. By day's end, Google Trends might reveal that folks living in an entirely new list of countries searched for that phrase.)

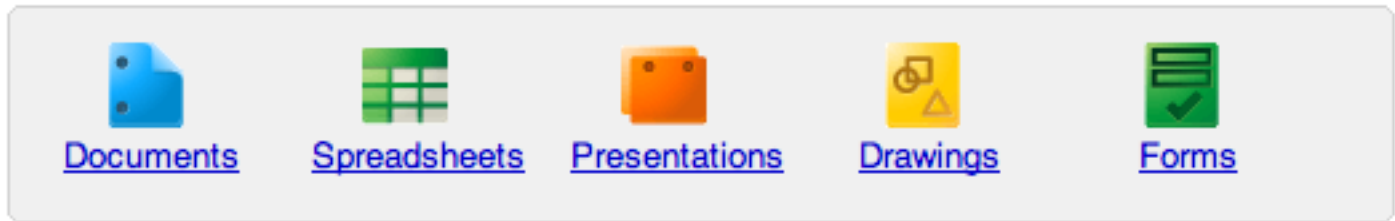
1. Switzerland
2. Australia
3. United States
4. Netherlands
5. Canada
6. Japan
7. Sweden
8. United Kingdom
9. Germany
10. France

Visit Google Trends here: <http://www.google.com/trends>

If you're not familiar with the Magic Trackpad, you can read more here: <http://www.apple.com/magicktrackpad/> and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magic_Trackpad



Google Docs



Cloud computing is a phrase that has been used for several years but some folks aren't sure what to make about it. Google Docs is a prime example of this.

Docs provides free word processing, spreadsheets, presentation, drawing and form software that you run from within your Web browser. When it's time to save your creation, you save it in the cloud.

Another way to put this is you save it on the Internet using Google's computers. The Docs are then accessible from any computer connected to the Internet. In addition, Google has launched a Docs version compatible with the iPad.

You can read about Google Docs adding iPad support in a September 2010 article from Pad Gadget here: <http://bit.ly/dxERhM>

Picnik

Photo editing made fun

Picnik makes your photos fabulous with easy to use yet powerful editing tools. Tweak to your heart's content, then get creative with oodles of effects, fonts, shapes, and frames.

It's fast, easy, and fun.

A screenshot of the Picnik web application interface. The interface is divided into several sections. On the left, there's a 'Home' section with a user profile and a grid of photo thumbnails. The main area shows a large photo of a ladybug on a green leaf. To the right of the photo is a 'Effects' panel with various filters like 'Black and white', 'Sepia', 'Burst', 'Soften', 'Vintage', and 'Halter'. Below the photo is a 'picnik.com' watermark. The top of the interface has navigation tabs like 'Home', 'Photos', 'Edit', 'Effects', 'Share', and 'Create'.

If you've ever wanted to edit a photo quickly without opening iPhoto, Photoshop Elements, Photoshop, Acorn, Graphic Converter (or another Mac app), look to Picnik. Google bought this product in early 2010.



Find Picnik here: <http://www.picnik.com>

Picnik provides an Adobe Flash–based system of quickly editing photos in your Web browser.

The program is already integrated with Google’s own Picasa photo–editing software in addition to Flickr, Facebook, Yahoo! Mail, and Photobucket.

Google says It has no intention of changing Picnik, but intends to focus on adding new features.

Google Desktop

Google Desktop: <http://www.google.com/quicksearchbox/>

After a user installs Google Desktop on his or her Mac, it automatically indexes all files on the computer. Google Desktop works alongside the Mac Spotlight, which also indexes files on the computer.

The difference is that Desktop can show its results in a Web browser, similar to a Google search.

In addition, Google Desktop can index Web browsing history from Firefox, office documents in Microsoft Office and OpenDocument formats (think NeoOffice and Open Office programs), e–mail, instant messenger transcripts from AOL, Google, MSN, Skype, Tencent QQ, and several others.

Some folks have raised security concerns about Google Desktop and have questions about whether the data on their machines is safe from prying eyes. Read about this concern and more via Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_desktop (Look under “criticisms.”)

Upgrading to Snow Leopard (Mac OS X 10.6)?

If you’re currently running Leopard (Mac OS 10.5) or Tiger (Mac OS 10.4) and want to find out if your applications will run under Apple’s latest operating system called Snow Leopard, here’s a page that can prove invaluable for Mac users who are upgrading an older machine or want to run an older program under the newest Mac operating system:

<http://snowleopard.wikidot.com/>



By the way as of late December 2010, the latest version of Snow Leopard is 10.6.5.



A Reporter's Favorite iPhone Apps

Veteran *New York Times* tech reporter John Markoff revealed shortly before Christmas the apps he relies upon downloaded to his iPhone. He writes that the app industry is reinventing the software world creating a cottage industry for tens of thousands of developers who have mainly good ideas.

In case you want a Cliffs Notes version of his article, here's a list of his top-12 apps:

- Kindle (free)
- OmniFocus (\$19.99)
- Google Mobile App (free)
- iExit (\$2.99)
- Routesy and Routesy Pro (free & \$3.99)
- Mapquest (free)
- AroundMe (free)
- Flixster (free)
- Zillow (free)
- 3D Sun (free)
- IFeltThat (\$0.99)
- MobileRSS Pro and Free (\$2.99 & free)

New York Times story is here: <http://nyti.ms/ftj7Oq>

Biersdorfer's Tip of the Week

New York Times tech writer J.D. Biersdorfer writes a weekly column in which she provides helpful information, which often answers the questions of many tech users. Many of the details she provides would not be considered heavy lifting, but many folks don't know where to turn to get this information. So I consider her column "spot-on" as the Brits would say.

Biersdorfer may not be a household name but you probably own, have read or at least spotted one of her popular books.

She wrote *iPod: The Missing Manual*, *The iPod Shuffle Fan Book* and is co-author of the second edition of *Google: The Missing Manual*. In addition, she co-wrote *The Internet: The Missing Manual* with David Pogue who started the Missing Manual series.

I enjoy reading Biersdorfer's columns because they're concise, they quickly get to the heart of the matter and they're usually written in plain English so one doesn't need a degree in plasma composition tracing to figure out what she's saying.

Her Dec. 10th column deals with Apple's Safari browser.

She writes that Safari offers a standard set of toolbar buttons but you can easily customize the toolbar by right-clicking (control + click if you use a trackpad or single-button mouse) in the grey area at the top of Safari's window. Then the Customize Toolbar box should magically appear.



J.D. Biersdorfer's columns here: <http://nyti.ms/hcNhLc>

Other recent columns tackled issues such as how to change Safari's settings to hide from nosy Web sites and how to alphabetize your bookmarks.

Sometimes it's the little things that make all the difference to really improve your Web browsing!

So That's What a Human Liver Looks Like Google Takes You on a Trip Through the Human Body

Google is a household name thanks to its search engine technology. But in mid-December, the search giant began allowing Internet users to search human anatomy with the first version of its Body Browser.

Google's Body Browser is here
<http://bodybrowser.googlelabs.com>

You need to use Google Chrome (beta), Firefox 4 (beta), a nightly build of the WebKit browser, or Web GL
http://khronos.org/webgl/wiki/Getting_a_WebGL_Implementation

Body Browser allows the user to zoom in on internal organs, and peel back layers of the body.

Currently, only a female figure is available and the controls aren't as smooth as they could be. But remember this is a work in progress from the folks at Google.

Body Browser doesn't work with Safari, Firefox, Opera, or Google Chrome in their finalized versions on any computer platform (not Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows, or Linux).

It requires beta versions of Chrome or Firefox 4, a nightly build of the WebKit browser (which is the engine running Apple Safari), or Web GL.

If you want to check out Google's Body Browser, here's where you can download the latest *beta* version of Google Chrome for Mac:

<http://mac.softpedia.com/get/Internet-Utilities/Google-Chrome.shtml>



Best-selling and Free eBooks

From all appearances, eBooks were a hit this past Christmas season, along with Apple's iPod tablet computer. The two best-selling eBook devices in America are Amazon.com's Kindle and Barnes & Noble's Nook.

What many new eBook readers do is test the waters before buying a long list of books.

One great way to do this is by downloading free books offered for the two top devices first before spending money on books. This gets the new eBook device owner accustomed to the process.

Amazon updates its list of Top-100 paid and free eBooks every hour: <http://amzn.to/dFMLQ3>

PAID Kindle eBooks <http://amzn.to/dFMLQ3>

On a snowy day in late December, I checked out Amazon's list. Here is the **top 15 paid Kindle eBooks list (for which folks paid money) in order of popularity:**

- Scrabble (\$2.49) Okay, technically this is a game, but still it's very popular on the Kindle.
- The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (\$5)
- The Confession: A Novel (\$9.99)
- The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (\$9.99)
- Cross Fire (\$12.99)
- MONOPOLY (\$2.49) Okay, technically this is also a game, but still quite popular on Kindle.
- EA Solitaire (\$1.99) This is Kindle's version of the Electronic Arts hit.
- Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption (\$9.99)
- The Girl Who Played With Fire (\$5)
- Decision Points (\$9.99)
- Free Kindle Books and How to Find Them (revised 12/10) (\$0.99)
- The Hunger Games (\$5)
- NY Times Crosswords, Vol. 1 \$1.99
- Room: A Novel (\$11.99)
- EA Sudoku (Again, the Electronic Artists version of the hit software game.)



FREE Kindle eBooks <http://amzn.to/dFMLQ3>

Here is the Amazon.com **top 15 free Kindle eBooks list in order of popularity:**

- Every Word
- Pride and Prejudice



- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
- Alice's Adventure in Wonderland
- Blackjack (Okay, this is a game)
- Sudoku (Another game)
- Stupid American History: Tales of Stupidity, Strangeness, and Mythconceptions
- Gulliver's Travels
- Treasure Island
- Dracula
- The Holy Bible English Standard Version (ESV)
- Deadly Sanctuary
- Little Women
- A Christmas Carol
- The Year She Fell

PAID Nook eBooks <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/ebooks/bestsellers.asp>

Here is the Barnes & Noble **top 15 paid Nook eBooks list (for which folks paid money) in order of popularity:**

- The Girl With the Dragon Tatto (Millennium Trilogy Series #1) (\$5)
- The Confession (\$9.99)
- The Lost Hero (Heroes of Olympus Series #1) (\$9.35)
- The Hunger Games (Hunger Games Series #1) (\$5)
- Decision Points (\$9.99)
- Cross Fire (Alex Cross Series #17) (\$12.99)
- The Girl Who Played With Fire (Millennium Trilogy Series #2) (\$5)
- The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (Millennium Trilogy Series #3) (\$9.99)
- Safe Haven (\$12.99)
- Water for Elephants (\$5)
- The Gift (Witch and Wizard Series #2) (\$9.99)
- Witch and Wizard (Witch and Wizard Series #1) (\$9.99)
- Dead or Alive (\$12.99)
- Port Mortuary (Kay Scarpetta Series #18) (\$12.99)
- House Rules (\$9.99)



FREE Nook eBooks

I couldn't find a top 15 list of free Barnes & Noble Nook eBooks, but here are the most prominent ones on Barnes & Noble's free eBook page for Nook:

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/u/Free-eBooks/379001668/>

- A Christmas Carol and Other Christmas Stories (Barnes & Noble edition)
- Don't Blink
- The Glades
- Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas
- The Wicked House of Rohan
- Maximum Ride
- Pride and Prejudice and Zombies
- The Lost Hero Signed Edition (Heroes of Olympus Series #1)
- Free 25 Language Phrasebook
- Irresistible Forces
- The Holy Bible English Standard Version (ESV)
- Carved in Bone with Bonus Material
- Witch & Wizard
- The Demon Girl
- His Lady Mistress

Considering Buying a Nook or Kindle or iPad?

Shortly before Christmas, *USA Today's* Edward C. Baig wrote an interesting article titled, *Kindle vs. Nook vs. iPad vs. Galaxy Tab: What to Consider*.

Ed Baig's article: <http://usat.ly/gpGkcv>

If you're considering buying a Nook or a Kindle or an iPad or a tablet called the Galaxy Tab, it's a good read. Baig asks the question: do you want to "buy a device whose singular purpose is reading?"

First, answer that question.

If the answer is yes, then it would appear Barnes & Noble's Nook or Amazon.com's Kindle (or another eBook reader if you prefer) fits the bill.

In my opinion, the iPad is *the* major technology invention of 2010. Sure, there are plenty of other great gadgets out there, but the iPad is what jump-started sales of computer tablets. It is responsible for dozens of new apps, for improvement of iOS (the operating system running on the iPad, the iPhone and Apple's iPod Touch), and for making touchscreen technology accessible to millions of new users who had never touched a screen before.

But if you want to read books, the Nook or Kindle might be a better purchase. The iPad excels in many different ways. But some folks might prefer the screen technology used on a device made



solely for reading eBooks. It's called "E Ink." And in my opinion, it cannot be beat for one thing: Reading words in a book.

To learn more about E Ink technology, check out Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E-ink>

Returning Tech Merchandise

If you've ever had a bad experience trying to return a technology purchase or gift, you might want to check out *Macworld's* article: Tips for trouble-free tech product returns.

The article discusses policies among retailers including Amazon.com, Buy.com, Best Buy, Costco, and Wal-Mart.

The article praises Costco for its liberal return policies (full refunds for anything unsatisfactory.) After that, the policies don't shine nearly so bright. Wal-Mart, the article says, imposes much stricter return deadlines. Best Buy has even stiffer return policies.

Read the article if you want to learn the policies you'll face should you have to return an item:

Macworld article (from sister publication *PC World*): <http://bit.ly/hEmCd2>

TO RETURN TO THE START OF THIS ARTICLE ON PAGE 15, CLICK
THIS HEADING **Redesigned iMac Ahead?**

CKCS