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**CADDO-BOSSIER
 WINDOWS
 USER GROUP**

Shreveport – Bossier City
 Louisiana

Volume 12 No 6

Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group Newsletter

June 2010

May Meeting

By Glenda Conradi



Carole White, Bernie Conradi, Bernie Tull & Richard Conradi

Our speaker for the May meeting was member Richard Conradi, who is with After Hours Computer Specialist, LLC. Some of our members have been asking for a program on Face-Book so Richard gave a very interesting and informative one on

this popular social networking website where people can post messages, pictures and communicate back and forth using the Internet. He set up a FaceBook account and explained how to protect yourself and things you should and should not put on your FaceBook page.

June Program

Please join us Thursday, June 10 at 7:00 PM for another interesting program. Bernie Conradi has some interesting

things lined up to share with us. There will be plenty of time to ask questions. We hope to see you there.

MEETINGS

Thursday June 10, 2010

Thursday July 8, 2010

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q

1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy
 Shreveport, Louisiana

Meetings 2nd Thursday of each month

7 p.m.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Richard Conradi

Thanks to Richard Conradi for presenting the May program about FaceBook.

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THE WINDOW

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Membership Dues.
 Full: \$12.00 a year
 Spouse: \$6.00 a year
 Student: \$6.00 a year.

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~Thank You~

We want to express our gratitude to:

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy for letting our group hold our monthly meetings in a private dining room in their restaurant.

BancorpSouth on Youree Drive for providing us with a checking account at no charge.

~A QUICK TIP~

Access Jump Lists with the Left Mouse Button

Jump Lists in Windows 7 usually show up when you right-click on a taskbar icon. However, they can also be accessed by holding the left mouse button and dragging upwards. If you're using a laptop touchpad or a touch screen, this is convenient because you do not have to click any button to access a context menu.

President's Page



Caddo-Bossier Windows Users Group May Meeting

We had a very short business intro to our meeting this evening so our guest could spend as much time as necessary to cover the requested subject. Bernie Tull was a guest this evening and John Mitchell renewed his membership. Now we will get to the program for the month. Richard Conradi, of After Hours Computer Specialists, LLC, gave us a very attention getting, interesting and informative program on Facebook. He started the presentation with the seven things not to do on Facebook. 1. Do not use a weak password. 2. Don't leave your full birth date in your profile for all to see. 3. Do not overlook useful privacy controls. 4. Do not post your child's name in a caption or in a photo tag. 5. Do not let search engines find you in the Search Section. 6. Select only friends for Facebook search results. 7. Do not permit youngsters to use Facebook unsupervised. The remaining part of the program demonstrated how to abide by the above seven things and how to set the privacy options to achieve those goals. He actually set up an account and demonstrated how to set some of the preferences and how to add a friend. He also demonstrated how to add a picture and how to set the preferences for your photos. Richard was asked numerous questions in regards to the use of Facebook and why you would want to be a member. He stated that it is a personal decision to participate, but it is a good way to keep in contact with family, friends in far off places and classmates from twenty years ago, etc. I want to thank Richard for his excellent program and believe all in attendance received some valuable information on how to use Facebook and how to stay secure doing it.

The door prize winners for this month were: Wayne Ebert winning a Pocket Photo Frame and Carolyn Franklin winning a laser mouse. Congratulations to our winners. As you know the door prizes are obtained using the empty ink cartridges that are turned in. Thanks to all who help with this project.

Bernie Conradi, President Caddo-Bossier Windows Users Group.

Toxic Apps

by Jay Graff

Anyone that has an Ipod has discovered that the only way to put songs and other files on it is to download Itunes and get them on the device via the Itunes store. You don't have to necessarily buy them there, but it is a marriage of convenience, you have to go to the store to access your device. This has always seemed like a round about way to get there, sort of like going to Dallas to get to Monroe. There are other issues about Itunes as well. It is a monster download, probably 100+mb. Plus, you don't just get Itunes, you must also get QuickTime to go along with it. You can't get one without the other. Just downloading Itunes is not the end, being a large download, it takes a very long time to get it installed. If you are so inclined to do so, uninstalling takes an equally long time to get it off. But the main problem I have with Itunes is that once you get it installed and running, you MUST use that computer to keep it running. To change computers almost takes an act of congress, it is very, very difficult to change. Before I get any further, let me explain that even though this sounds like a slam on Itunes, it really isn't. With all of its faults, it follows that I was looking for something a little better and easier to work with. My ultimate objective was to put my songs on a thumb drive and take my Ipod with me to other locations and put the songs on, or take some off. I heard of a program called CopyTrans Manager that was advertised to do just that and I thought this was what I had been looking for. This was not to be. I downloaded it and after I ran the program, I was notified that I had to install Itunes on that computer. I could uninstall it afterward, but in order for the program to work, it needed the Itunes drivers. Reluctantly, I did this and ran the program again. This time I discovered that it was very limited in what it could do. In fact, the only thing I was able to do is delete

some of the songs from my list. This was not what I signed up for. But the worse part was when I exited the program, my Ipod just sat there with a little twirling circle and never came back. I was crushed and had visions of having to order a new Ipod. Luckily, I discovered that I could reset it (a lesson useful later on) by holding down the power and menu buttons for 6 seconds. Speaking of lessons, I guess the lesson to be learned here was that even though something looks and sounds good, it not always is. As I indicated before, sure, Itunes has its problems but at least it works. Once you get past the time it takes to install it, it runs just as well as most of my programs run. It has the distinct advantage of never messing up the device that you attach. I guess I can live with only adding or deleting files from my Ipod using one computer. As for CopyTrans Manager, after that last episode, I considered it to be a toxic app and could not get rid of it fast enough

GETTING STARTED TIPS

Use Keyboard Shortcuts

Using the mouse, you can drag 'n-dock windows to either side of the screen, or drag it to the top to maximize it. These keyboard shortcuts are even faster in Windows 7.

- **Win+Left Arrow** and **Win+Right Arrow** dock the window to the left and right side of the screen
- **Win+Up Arrow** and **Win+Down Arrow** maximize and restore/minimize
- **Win+M** minimizes everything
- **Alt+Up**, **Alt+Left Arrow**, **Alt+Right Arrow** navigate to parent folder, or browse Back and Forward through folders in Explorer
- **Win+Home** minimizes/restores all open windows except the active window
- **Alt+Win+#** accesses the Jump List of program number '#' on the taskbar

Door Prize Winners for May 2010 Meeting



Carolyn Franklin and Wayne Ebert

The May door prizes were won by Carolyn Franklin, a Laser Mouse and Wayne Ebert a Pocket Photo Frame. All Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group club current members in attendance are eligible to win door prizes at the monthly meetings.

Nybbles and Bits

By John Pearce, Chair, WebBoard,
Pikes Peak Computer Application
Society, CO
February 2010 Bits of Bytes,
Newsletter of the P*PCompAS
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Last month, I mentioned an article in TechRepublic regarding removing old drivers from your system. Little did I know that issue was going surface in my notebook computer that I upgraded to Win 7. The touchpad on my notebook computer has a vertical scroll area at the right side of the pad. I had no problems using the vertical scroll until I upgraded to Win 7 at which point, it stopped working.

I ignored the problem until just after the January P*PCompAS meeting. When I started to investigate and tried to access the settings for the touchpad, there was a pop-up dialogue box telling me that IntelliPoint was blocked from running because of known incompatibilities with Win 7. It took me a few minutes to remember that I had bought a USB mouse and installed Microsoft IntelliPoint software shortly after purchasing the notebook. I had used the USB mouse until I bought a Logitech wireless mouse a year or so ago.

My first thought was to just remove the offending software. Good idea except there was nothing shown for IntelliPoint in the Programs and Features list and nothing for the USB mouse in the Mice section of Device Manager. Connecting the USB mouse made it appear in Device Manager and caused IntelliPoint to appear in the Programs list. I thought I was close to being done. Surprise, surprise! Trying to perform an uninstall of the software produced the pop-up about IntelliPoint being blocked. I wondered how you could uninstall it if it was blocked from running. This time the pop-up dialogue box provided a link to an update and I performed the update. After the IntelliPoint update completed, the vertical scroll on the touchpad worked correctly. However, I decided to remove IntelliPoint because I no longer use the USB mouse and could not think of a good reason to leave the software installed.

This is the first time I can remember where it was necessary to upgrade software just to remove it. I expect the Win 7 upgrade did not upgrade the IntelliPoint software because the USB mouse was not connected at the time the upgrade was performed. Maybe next time I will remember that USB devices should be plugged in during an upgrade and to make the related software and drivers visible. Even better would be to remove old drivers as TechRepublic suggests.

~Web Sites~

Free computer tips & Tricks

<http://free-computer-tips51.blogspot.com/2009/06/windows-7-short-keys.html>

(This site contains lots of free computer tips for windows 7 shortcuts)

File Extensions

<http://www.file-extensions.org/>

(If you encounter a file in your computer with an unknown file extension, then you are at the right place. You can check our database for information about file extension you were looking for, including list of associated applications.)

Gizmo's Freeware

<http://www.techsupportalert.com/>

(At this community site you'll find the best freeware, reviewed and rated.)

Free App

<http://www.freenew.net/>

(FREE Forever For Personal Use Safe and Easy Freeware Downloading!)

National Geographic Screen Savers

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/screensaver>

(You can download National Geographic custom screen savers to display on your desk top. They offer a lot of beautiful National Geographic pictures to choose from)

Autodesk Homestyler

<http://www.homestyler.com/designer>

(Use Autodesk Homestyler free* online home design software to create and share home design ideas for your dream kitchen, room addition or interior design project. View floor plans and interior designs in 2D and 3D. Experiment with different styles. Save and share designs with friends.)



DID YOU KNOW?

You might improve your computer's performance, and find files more easily, if you store files in the Documents folder, Or in folders you have created, rather than on the desktop.