

Metro Area Personal Computer Club

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Monthly Newsletter

M.A.P.C.C.

May 2009



Geoff Kebby, Stratford-upon-Avon, England passed away on April 16, 2009. Geoff was quite ill, suffering the ravages of Parkinson's disease. I met Geoff well over ten years ago while browsing a chat program called "PowWow". Noticing he was from England I thought, "How great it might be to chat with a person who lives so far away from Council Bluffs, Iowa." And great is what it was!

We learned we had many similar interests including poetry, writing and above all, photography and of course computer use. It made our friendship much more interesting sharing our similar interests.

Geoff was the President of the **Stratford Writer's Circle** and because of his interest in computers and his association with our club he was able to inspire several of his club members into owning computers. Our slogan, "**Pass it On**" was literally put into practice by Geoff. He joined the MAPCC and was an active member, considering the distance separating him from our group. Fred Veleba soon made it a trio and he and Geoff played Internet Chess, each of them making a chess move daily.

Over all those years Geoff and I exchanged three email messages **every day**, not to mention our video chats we enjoyed. I was amazed; in one email he sent me he actually figured the total of how many messages we had exchanged to date. It was a huge number, something well over 9,000!

Each of our families became well acquainted with Geoff and his wife Eddi, who succumbed to cancer over a year ago.

Our Granddaughter Taylor looked forward to each Saturday when she came to spend the day with us, to discover the special weekly email message and photo waiting for her from Geoff that he sent each and every Saturday, without fail. We will all miss Geoff.

Eddi's daughter Paola cared for Geoff and was a tremendous help to him, especially during his last days which was no easy chore for her since she lives in London, well over 100+ miles away from S-u-A. Geoff was a great friend and a tremendous asset to our club. We're now no longer an "International Club". Geoff will certainly be missed.

.....Joe Cavallaro

Windows Mojave Experiment

(Are critics of Windows Vista just jumping on the bandwagon?)

When Windows Vista was released to the world in January of 2007, the reception it was met with was, overall, very warm. People loved the way it looked, that it made using their PC easy and enjoyable, and how it no longer had the security issues of operating systems past.

It wasn't all peachiness though, with Windows Vista coming under flak from customers unhappy that some of their old hardware that they were using in Windows XP, or the games they used to play, now - for some reason - no longer worked.

Microsoft, with support from manufacturers, soon ironed out these bugs, but for the critics, the damage had already been done. A quick search on the Internet is enough to know this; it seemed every other person had a bad word to say.

But why, when Windows Vista has been refined, is selling well, and has been accepted the world over as the number one operating system? Had these critics even used Windows Vista before, or were they just jumping on the bashing bandwagon?

Naturally, Microsoft wanted to know. But instead of carrying out an anonymous survey, Microsoft came up with an intriguing scheme called the Windows **Mojave Experiment** - by now you've probably seen the TV ads.

It might sound like something involving rats in a maze, and - in a sense - it was. A group of people still using Windows XP or other operating systems, who had said they didn't like Windows Vista, were invited to try out Microsoft's new operating

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Meeting Minutes April 21, 2009



Dee Hindman, Sec.

The meeting opened at 7:35 P.M. Mary Alice read the treasury report. which was accepted as read. Dee read the minutes of the past meeting also accepted as read except for one correction. Joe typed March instead of April regarding the demo that Fred was scheduled to offer. The club agreed not to fire Joe... this time!

Jessie Brant won the first drawing and split \$20.00 with the Treasury. Congratulations, Jessie!

Bill donated the latest **Vista** magazine to the club Library and Lem, our Librarian loaned it out already. Thanks Lem for being such a reliable Librarian.

We were all sorry to hear of the loss of Geoff, our member in England. The club was to send a sympathy card with member signatures.

We discussed some pretty heavy computer problems Tammy is having with no apparent solutions being discovered. It even seems to have Bruce stumped!

Joe and Bruce bought their own web site and Joe shared the address to his site where he has posted over 40 home movies to date. You are invited to view or download any of them.

Once again Joe asked for input for the monthly newsletter, especially from our President. No input - no newsletter.

When to hold our summer picnic was brought up again by Dee, so be thinking of a good time to hold the event so we can decide on a definite date and begin planning for it.

April is normally Nomination month but no new nominations were made at the April meeting. It was suggested we run the same slate of officers. May is Election month, so if there is no opposition, we will vote for the same officers of the past year.

Fred, who was scheduled to offer the demo, was ill, so the club took a mass test, using a club Library program called "Pre-Assessment Test, Training for the PC". The overall club average was 75%. Sounds like we need to brush up a bit more, eh?

Esther drew the winning ticket for the "Stick Around" drawing. The gold dollar winner? ESTHER! Hmm. Meeting closed at 9:15. Next meeting will be May 19th.

FROM JESSIE'S KITCHEN



Jessie Brant

OATMEAL CARROT MUFFINS

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 1 cup all purpose flour
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1/8 tsp salt (optional)
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 cup Splenda brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- OR 1/4 cup Splenda + 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 2 eggs + 1 egg white beaten
- 1 tbs vanilla
- 1/2 cup uncooked oats
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 2 cup shredded carrots
- 8 oz can crushed pineapple

- 1 preheat oven to 350 degrees
lightly spray muffin tin with canola spray
- 2 mix white and wheat flour, baking powder, soda, salt and cinnamon in a large bowl. Make a well in the center of this dry mixture and add white sugar, brown sugar, canola oil, 1 applesauce, beaten eggs and vanilla. Mix until evenly moistened
- 3 Fold in oats, raisins, carrots and pineapple.
Fill each muffin cup about 2/3 full with batter
- 4 Bake 22 to 25 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean

Yield 15 muffins

Nutrition per muffin:

- calories 150 (if use splenda + sugar) 170 if use only sugar
- fat 4.5 g
- saturated fat 0.5 g
- carbohydrate 25 g (if use splenda + sugar) 30 g if use only sugar
- fiber 2 g
- sodium 220 mg

Windows Mojave Experiment (continued from page 1)

system, codenamed **Windows Mojave**.

After they had tried out the system, the guinea pigs were asked what they thought and the overall reaction was very positive. What they weren't told, and what they were later to find out was that the 'new' operating system they were putting through its paces, was - in fact - **Windows Vista**.

It just goes to show that, when approached with an open mind, Windows Vista performed well. So, if you know of anyone yet to be convinced by Windows Vista, but who hasn't actually used it, maybe you should give him or her the Windows Mojave challenge. At the very least, they might get to try it out before they open their mouth.

(Source: Spring 2009 Windows Vista Magazine)



From the office of the President



Wm. Pennington,
President

Our club members discuss many wonderful interesting topics. Demo's that we share with each other from members of the club and by others who want to share things with us.

How many of you remember how the first computer worked? Can you tell how the computer understands? Can you remember what type of computers... do you know? Can you tell what languages computers use? Remember that some of the languages for the computer need and require a compiler?



When I was in school at Gateway I studied GW-Basic, assembly Language , C language and Cobol , all with their own compiler and Cobol in its own work area.

When you compile from these languages, if you have an error, look at your script very closely to find out what and where the error is. Some of the errors could just be a “, : ; words that need to be there in the statement like either or” and these are just some examples. Any program could run ok or it could be with an error in your program. Just take it easy and some times it takes two sets of eyes to find where your error is. Then when you make your changes and recompile it see if you got your errors taken care of. Some times it takes a couple of tries to get all the errors out.

Can you remember where you were when you saw or worked with your first computer? The first one I got to use was an Apple computer when I was in grade school. The next one was the Radio Shack Color Computer 2 and then the Color Computer 3. Then I went to Gateway where I got another computer, an 8088. Then a 286,386, 496, and a computer with XP and now I have a laptop with Vista HOME Edition.

~~On our next meeting~~ **Fred Veleba** will be demonstrating the basics of the computer.

Remember to invite your family, friends, co-workers or anyone else about coming to the meeting and enjoy the time with us. Maybe they can also share what they know with us.
Hope to see all of you at our next Meeting.