



PC Performance Tips

Windows Registry

The Windows Registry can be a mysterious beast. It's a vast database that Windows uses to store and retrieve data about installed applications, hardware, and various settings that affect your entire system. It's true that if you or a misbehaving program messes up the registry, then your system may become defunct as a result. Thankfully, it's not that easy to cause that kind of irreversible damage to the registry, and as long as you back it up before exploring and creating and changing values in it, you'll be safe from disaster. The registry can be used to give your PC a little more peep on the performance side. Let's go through several methods of increasing performance via the Windows registry. **Remember to back it up before doing the below tweaks!**

Disable Last Access

Windows Explorer is used as a virtual file cabinet, allowing you to get an organized view of the file system. It can also give you interesting bits of data pertaining to your files and directories, such as size and date created. It can also custom tailor specific directory information of your choosing; for example, if you have a folder full of mp3s, Explorer can list each audio file next to its artist and bitrate. There is also a "last accessed" time stamp. While useful to an extent, the last access data may sap performance, especially when viewing a lot of folders in a single directory. To disable the last access setting, go to the Start menu, Run, and input "regedit". In the registry editor, navigate to

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HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINES\System
\CurrentControlSet\Control\FileSystem
. Make a DWORD value named
"NtfsDisableLastAccessUpdate".
```

Set this new DWORD value to 1. You'll need to re-boot for the setting to take effect.

Keep Windows in Memory

Windows will sometimes transfer its driver and kernel files to the page file on your hard drive when it gets low on memory. The page file on your hard drive is what's referred to as "virtual memory", and it's what Windows resorts to when there's not enough physical memory for it to use. If you have an optimal amount of RAM in your PC, you can turn this memory transfer setting off to boost performance.

Once inside regedit, go to
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM
\ControlSet001\Control\Session
Manager\Memory Management, and change the DisablePagingExecutive DWORD value to 1.





Minutes of October 18th Meeting

Submitted by Secretary, Dee Hindman



Meeting Opened

The meeting began at 7 P.M. with the reading of both the minutes and the treasury report. Both accepted as read. There were 13 members present.

Dr awing

The initial drawing was won by Joe Cavallaro Sr. who split \$18.00 with the treasury, \$9.00 each.

Members who were not present

Jessie Brant, Tammy Cooper, Alan Love, Fred Veleba and Larry Puls, who is still recovering at Risen Son Care Center. Have you dropped him a card, or visited him recently?

Christmas Party Plans

Discussion too place of when to hold the Christmas party, since Bill is scheduled to have his 'reversal' surgery during December. It was decided to hold the event at the same church where it was held last year, sometime in January. Mary Alice was to notify us of the date we will have the hall reserved. As usual, there will be no meeting during December.

Topics Discussed

Considerable discussion took place during the 'gab-time'. Some of the topics covered were any problems members may have had during the past month, the evolution of T.V. into 3-D, digital etc. Some features of Linux operating system, which both Lem and Dean are involved with, and several other topics.

Demo

Lynn & Mary Alice offered the demonstration, showing their new Negative/Slide/Photo scanner they recently purchased. It's the Cobra which sells for \$179.00. They did a nice job, showing how slides can be scanned and imported into the computer to be manipulated the same as you would from pictures you took with your digital camera. Good demo guys, thank you! No demo was discussed for November.

Final Drawing

The 'Stick-Around' drawing was won by Dee Hindman, who is now \$1.00 richer, with the Gold Dollar she won. Nice meeting, which closed at 8:45 P.M.

ATTENTION - PARTY PLANS

With the change of dates for Bill's surgery, we have tried to plan the 2011 ***Christmas*** Party at a more convenient time, so we can (hopefully) spend this once-a-year event with as many members present as possible, including Bill.

At the October meeting, we elected to hold the meeting in JANUARY, rather than the usual month of December. That way, since Bills 'reversal' surgery will have taken place and we hope he'll be healed-up enough to shout a loud, energetic, "Merry Christmas to ALL!", even though it will be JANUARY 7TH.

Mary Alice & Lynn have arranged to secure the church hall where we held the Christmas Party last year.

LOCATION: 30 Valley View Drive

CHURCH: New Horizon Presbyterian Church

DATE/TIME: Saturday, January 7th from noon to five.

With our ever shrinking membership, it's going to take dedicated interest from everyone to make this get-together a successful event. Please consider bringing guests with you – family members, neighbors, etc. We can have an even more enjoyable time with a larger crowd in attendance.

As usual, the voluntary \$5.00 gift exchange will take place. If you bring a five dollar gift, you can exchange it for a gift someone else brought – purely voluntary. PLEASE, if you choose to take part, be fair and abide by the minimum amount suggested for your gift – at least \$5.00. (This prevents someone going home disgruntled with the \$1.00 gift they got!)

***(Editor's Note: Since (sadly) I am still your newsletter editor, I am taking the freedom again, of calling this event our CHRISTMAS Party and not our 'winter event', season event, holiday celebration, or by any other obscure name except for the name that depicts the reason for the Holiday – a time that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ CHRISTmas. Your religious belief is your business and your choice, so come to New Horizon Presbyterian Church on SATURDAY, January 7th and plan to enjoy some quality time with your fellow club members and (hopefully) members of their family and their guests at our 27th consecutive annual CHRISTMAS PARTY!)**

.... Editor, Joe Cavallaro

Windows, Duh!

Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with that expensive double-pane energy efficient kind, and today, I got a call from the contractor who installed them. He was complaining that the work had been completed a whole year ago and I still hadn't paid for them. Hellloooo,.....just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid. So, I told him just what his fast talking sales guy had told me last year, that in ONE YEAR these windows would pay for themselves! Hellloooooo? It's been a year! I told him.

There was only silence at the other end of the line, so I finally hung up.

