NEWS JOURNAL
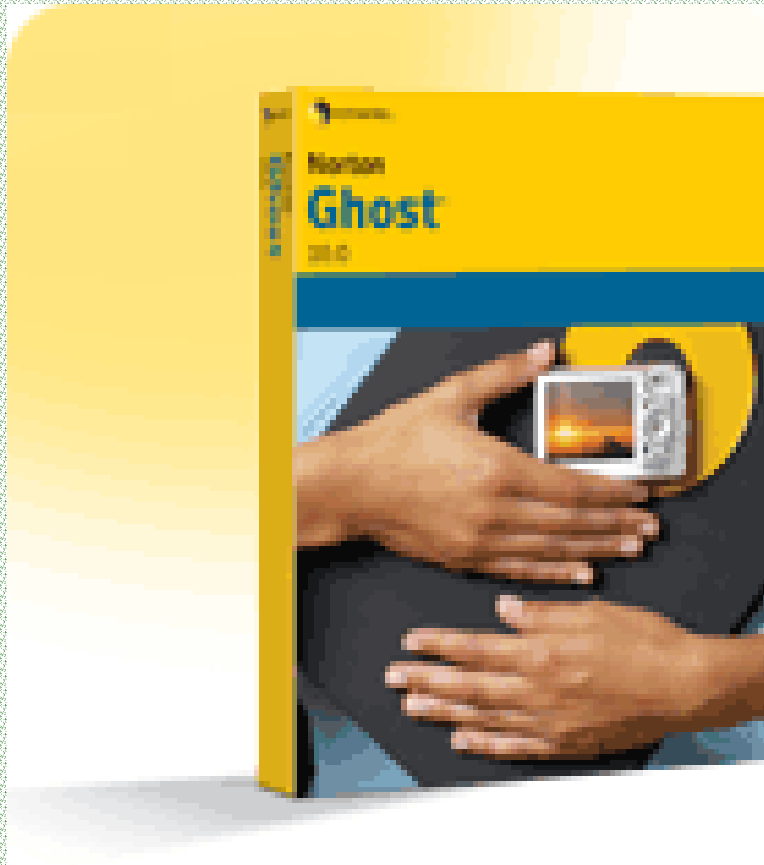
Symantec Ghost

LCACE Meeting Dates 2005- 2006

03 December - Holiday Party

14 January - Build Your Own Computer

11 February - Round Table

Inside this issue…

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2005-2006

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The L.C.A.C.E. News Journal is published eleven times annually. Members are encouraged to submit contributions and will be acknowledged in this newsletter.

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The News Journal is produced using a Dell Dimension 2400, Dell Printer, and **MS Publisher 2003** software. Graphics editing and artwork provided by *Pegasus Enterprises.* Photos taken by **Various** digital cameras and Adobe Acrobat Pro 6.01 for PDF conversion.

Membership

Membership for LCACE is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are $20.00 per individual/family. Associate membership is only $10.00 (out of state, unable to attend meetings). Membership includes a one year subscription to the L.C.A.C.E. News Journal and access to all club libraries and functions. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meeting, by request on the club Hotline, and are now available on our WEB site at - http://www.lcace.org.

Meetings

LCACE meetings are usually held on the second Saturday of each month at the Grayslake Area Public Library, 100 Library Lane, Grayslake, Illinois. The meeting room opens at noon and the formal meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

Advertising

Ad rates per issue: Full page - $25, Half page - $15, Quarter page - $10, Business Card - $5. Discounts are available on advance purchase of multiple issues. Please send camera-ready copy and payment to the club address by the 21st of the month preceding publication. For more information on ad pricing, please call our Hotline. Ads are FREE to all paid members.

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President's Notes

Dwight "J.J." Johnson
President
Lake County Area
Computer Enthusiasts

In my job as President of LCACE, I focus on pretty much one area: the educational side of things. This is a perfect job for me because I love to share the latest computer news and the easy way of doing things. I love writing reviews, and conducting our Digital Corner SIGs. It is a blast and I cannot think of a job I would like more.

So much information, so little time. Therefore, I give Jim a hand for his brief Microsoft Genuine Advantage Authentication Program presentation. Using not quite legally purchased Windows software on the home computer and selling not legal versions of the operating system into dubious channels is getting more complicated with every new security feature Microsoft introduces. I hope everyone now has a better understanding of the importance of obtaining and installing legal software on his or her computer(s).

I would also like to thank Jim Martin from Jimmy's Wireless for his outstanding presentation of "WANs, LANs and MANs. In addition, thanks to those others who attended the Digital Corner SIG. I hope everyone was able to take home some new knowledge from both presentations.

As Linda would say, "Only a few more shopping days until our Holiday Party". Mike tells me everything for the party is on track and it appears that raffle ticket sales are doing well. I got a glimpse at the door prize list, so there will be lots and lots of stocking stuffers for you to take home. As always, I am looking forward to the great selection of food goodies, but let us keep in mind that we should "think healthy."

I will not be at the November meeting, so I will see all of you at the Holiday Party.
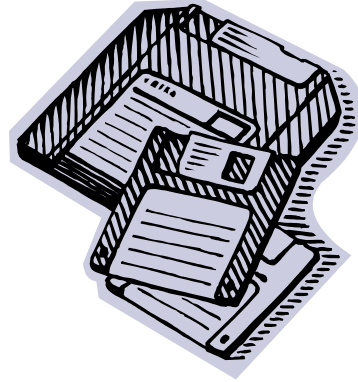
J.J.

What Do I Do For Backup and Recovery?

J. Rutledge

In this day and age, parts and computers are getting cheaper, material doesn't hold up very well and end users try to be geeks. Let's face it, data is important.

What has been your backup plan? Some of the common ways are:

Floppies
CDRs
DVDs
USB/Firewire Hard Drives
Pen Drives
Zip Drives
Tape Drives
And yes, Syquest drives.
Maybe MP3 players.
Micro Drives

That is to name but a few of the media available for EUs. Or, how about the method. Local backup or Network backup? What are you supposed to do and still survive costs?

If you have a business, you probably have your own IT department taking care of backups. But how about at the house? Mom, Dad, sister or brother, I mean who will do it????

Rule 1:

Your data, your responsibility. Backups don't happen by themselves.

Rule 2:

Backup only what you need. Documents, letters, spreadsheets, databases or financial records.
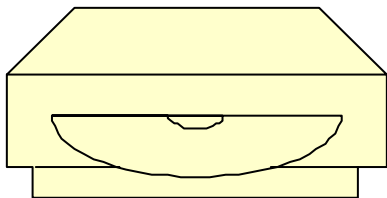
Rule 3:

Use the KISS method. Keep It Simple Sailor.

Rule 4:

Get help if you do not know how.

One of the best backup programs on the market is Ghost. It is sold through major computer stores. It is created by Symantec, the some folks that sell Anti-Virus software. There is other software out there, both commercial and shareware.

A simple backup would just copy files from one medium to another. No matter which method you use, it will pay dividends when a computer goes down for the count. Take my advice, better safe than sorry.

Editor Request

Please inform me of the special functions that you members perform for the LCACE so they can be posted in the Journal.

I received this from JJ last month.

From: J.J.
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2005 21:39:12
To: 'Jim Rutledge'
Subject: Newsletter BOD and Volunteers

It has been brought to my attention that the club volunteers (i.e. Newsletter Editor, Special Reporter, and Assistant Directors). Could please add those additions to the next issue of the newsletter.

J.J.

Digital CORNER

Photoshop Elements 4.0 and Premiere Elements 2.0

Adobe has recently announced the early October release of Adobe Photoshop Elements 4.0 and Adobe Premiere Elements 2.0 for Windows. The two products can be purchased separately or in a bundle. Although it does not sound like a major upgrade for existing users, a few things in Photoshop Elements 4.0 sound intriguing. Upgrade discounts are available on both these products. For more information http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshopelwin/main.html

ACD See 8.0

ACD Systems has announced version 8 of its photo management software ACDSee. New features include a Quick Search bar, Photo Repair Tool, full IPTC metadata support, photo captioning and the ability to create VCD slideshows. IPTC metadata support allows photographers to add or edit caption, keyword, category and credit fields and the Photo Repair function will allow you to remove flares, lens scratches and fix red-eye. ACDSee 8 is available for $49.99 or $39.99 as an upgrade from ACDSee 7. http://www.acdsystems.com/

Photoshop Elements Online Training

Photoshop Elements Online Training in now offering three 21-day online training courses developed for all current versions of Photoshop Elements and Premiere Elements.

Digital Photography Workflow with Scott Kelby
Portrait Retouching with David Cross
Premiere Elements 101 with Bruce Bicknell and Tamara Fry
Each course offers 21 days of the most comprehensive in-depth

training that will have you doing the things you always wanted to do but didn't know how to, in no time at all. http://www.photoshopelementsuser.com/

Photoshop Elements 3: The Missing Manual

Photoshop Elements 3: The Missing Manual is subtitled "The book that should have been in the box." With over 490 pages, this book does make an ideal companion to the Photoshop Elements 3.0 software installation disc. Everything is explained in a clear and simple way that doesn't lose you in technical jargon. Every chapter is packed with practical examples, colour photographs, screen shots, tips and frequently asked questions. The paperback version is available on www.amazon.com for $26.37.

Many new digital photographers don't bother to organize or retouch their pictures. However, take it from me; most photos could stand some touch-up, whether it's as little as removing the red-eye or as serious as removing the telephone poles growing out of someone's head. Nor do we want to see shot after shot of the same scene, simple because you didn't take the time to pick the best one. Recently reviews have compared the cheap alternatives to Photoshop. Photoshop Elements was not the winner, but edged out by only 1/10 of a point by Corel Paint Shop Pro X. Still the fact, whichever program may be your choice, you still need to edit those photos.
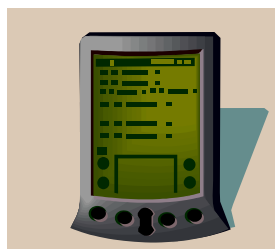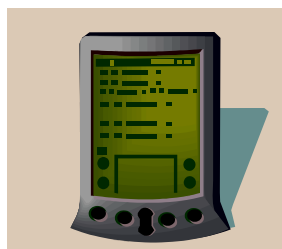
Paint Shop Pro

Memory Tip

M. McEnery

Here is a memory tip that works. I have been using it for awhile. It makes windows use real memory vise virtual memory and it does put life back in your machine. You might not realize it right away, but programs that seem to run slow sometimes run much better.

Use all your memory. WinXP swaps data into virtual memory (aka your hard drive) even when it doesn't have to, which is why you will get mysterious disk activity in the background even if you have only one app open and a full gig of system RAM. You can force the OS to swap data to disk only when it runs out of volatile memory by adding a line to your System.ini file. Go to the Run dialog box and type msconfig to open the System Configuration Utility dialog box. In the System.ini tab, highlight [386enh] and click New to add a new line beneath this branch. Type ConservativeSwapfileUsage=1 in the empty box that appears, then click Apply and restart your PC. We found that this helped clean up game jerkiness because it reduces the background file swapping that causes video hiccups and pauses.

Smart Computing Tips

As a member of the *Smart Computing* User Group Program, you are welcome to reprint these tips in your user group's newsletter. If you choose to do so, please include the following disclaimer with the reprint: "Reprinted with permission from *Smart Computing*. Visit http://www.smartcomputing.com/groups to learn what *Smart Computing* can do for you and your user group!"

o **Reduce Dust On Your PDA Screen:** Thanks to static electricity, your PDA screen will attract inordinate amounts of dust in a short period of time. To reduce the amount of dust on your screen, wipe it with a static-cling control sheet that you already sent through the dryer with a load of laundry.

o **The Best Type of Projector:** Though LCD (liquid-crystal display) projectors dominate the consumer market, another type is available. LCD devices project light through a liquid-crystal screen that controls the brightness and color of each pixel. DLP (Digital Light Processing) projectors, on the other hand, use thousands of tiny mirrors, oscillating to create patterns of light and darkness through colored filters to create an on-screen image. The two technologies are comparably priced (starting at about $1,200). DLP projectors provide a smoother image but with less brightness, so they're best if you can control room conditions. LCD projectors, however, are probably more versatile under varying conditions. The right type for you depends on the importance of image clarity vs. brightness.

Any Advantages To Using A Docking Station With A Laptop?: A notebook's size, weight, and sturdiness are its main advantages over a desktop PC. But when you finally do get back home or to your office, why not regain the advantages of a desktop? A docking station is like an exoskeleton for your notebook, permanently connected to your office printer, network, full-sized monitor, keyboard, etc. Plug your notebook into it, and all the capabilities of a desktop are instantly yours. Prices and options vary according to notebook model, so your best bet for locating a docking station suitable to your needs is by checking with your notebook's manufacturer.

LAKE COUNTY AREA COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

Holiday Raffle & Party

December 3, 2005

University of Illinois Extension Site
Highways 45 and 120
Grayslake, Illinois

Tickets: 6 for $5.00 or $1.00 each

1ST PRIZE

TOSHIBA
Satellite Notebook

- 1.4 GHz Intel Celeron
- 15" TTF Display
- 512 MB DDR SDRAM
- 40 GB EIDE Hard Drive
- DVD/CD-RW
- Wireless 802.11B

- 2 plug-and-play USB ports
- Built-in 10/100 Ethernet LAN (RJ-45 connector; V-92 high speed modem)
- Weighs 7.7 lbs. ; lithium-ion battery and AC adapter
- Windows XP Home Edition operating system

2ND PRIZE

KODAK Easy Share
Digital Camera with printer dock

- 4 Mega Pixel
- MMC, SD Memory
- 16 MB Memory
- 2.8x Optical Zoom
- 3.6x Zoom

3RD PRIZE

Western Digital
160 GB External Hard Drive

- Dual-option Backup
- USB 2.0
- 7200 RPM
- Stackable

4TH PRIZE

Last, but certainly not least, a **ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP** to Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts.

Ask any member and they'll tell you that this is the best prize!

Winners need not be present.

Classifieds

FOR SALE:

2- Dell 17" monitors with built-in speakers
Price $50 each.
If interested, contact: J.J. Johnson
Email: jj1450xl@megsinet.net
Phone: 847-623-3815

Western Digital external USB 2.0, 80g hard drive for
$55.00 or; swap it for an internal 80g or +, 7200 Hard
drive. Julio Rivera

Do You Have Your GMail Account yet?

Info about Gmail and isnoop can be found here:

http://blogs.pcworld.com/techlog/archives/000596.html

PC World's Techlog
News, opinions, and links from Editor-in-Chief Harry McCracken.

See all PC World's Techlog.

Good Grief! Two Gigs of E-Mail From Google
Posted by Harry McCracken
Friday, April 01, 2005, 08:58 AM (PST)

Whenever I post about Web-based e-mail news, it seems to get read. So hear ye, hear ye: Google's Gmail, which started the in-box space wars a year ago with a gigabyte of storage, is doubling that space to two gigabytes. And it's saying that it plans to add even more space over time, Which must take some wind out of Yahoo Mail's sails (um, pardon the ungainly metaphor), since it just recently announced plans to match Gmail's 1GB offering.

The Gmail expansion will apparently be rolled out over the coming weeks. (I see that my Gmail account says I have a total of 1.4GB at the moment.) Gmail remains in beta, and in theory you need to be invited to join, but it's not very hard to find your way in.

http://www.gutenberg.org

Project Gutenberg Free eBook Library

Site submitted by Robin Seidenberg

I ran across this site about a year ago. It is a very interesting project. Project Gutenberg is a repository of over 16,000 free e-books. There you can find the complete Sun Tzu's Art of War, H.G. Wells' The War of the Worlds, and more. Some are in audio format. Lists of the top 100 titles and authors are available. It's a great way to fill up your Palm for the next time you're stuck somewhere with nothing to do.

This site is worth checking out.

J. Rutledge

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As much as we try, we do make errors. Please advise us if there is a mistake in your E-Mail address or if it is not included in this listing. Send E-Mail to Ms. Dorothy Sutherland at membership@lcace.org with the additions and/or corrections. Thank you. This listing last updated February 28, 2005

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Call: 847.623.3815

Web Site: http://www.lcace.org

members

LCACE
Video / CD
Library

**Learning Illustrator
Power Point XP
Digital Photography - The Easy Way**

Take a good look, you just might see

**LCACE CLUB PICTURES at:
http://lcace.org/PhotoAlbums.htm**

TIME TO RENEW

If it is time for you to renew your membership, please fill out a new Application and a Member's Profile Sheet. These forms can be obtained at the meetings or downloaded from our WEB site.

LCACE Online
View our Site
http://www.lcace.org

E-Mail Us At:

webmaster@lcace.org

Sign the Guest Book and tell us what you think
- ♦ **LCACE E-mail addresses**
- ♦ **LCACE information**
- ♦ **LCACE history and pictures**
- ♦ **LCACE meeting, location, and map**

NEXT MEETING

November 19, 2005

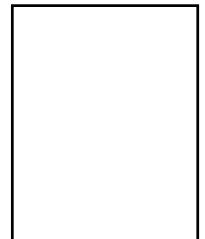Grayslake Public Library

12:30pm—3:00pm

Meeting Room Opens at Noon

This month:
Backup and Recovery

LCACE
Lake County Area Compuer Enthusiasts
409 S. Elmwood Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085-5219