

Mountain Bits & Bytes

The Award Winning Monthly Publication of the Mountain Computer User Group

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Editing Digital Photography.

We all had a wonderful time at our annual July Picnic in Hiawassee at the fairgrounds on July 11th. See pages 2 & 3 for pictures.

The Board would like to extend hearty "Thanks" to all the people who worked to make the picnic such a success. Tim Cassidy managed the catering of the Bar-B-Que. Adrienne Cassidy purchased and assembled all of the beautiful baskets for prizes. Art and Diane Frenz, Randy and Cheryl Gehring and Dolly Davis were instrumental in keeping things organized and the food line moving. Anyone not named specifically, please accept our thanks.

On Monday, August 8th, the Mountain Computer Users Group (MCUG) will host a presentation. The presentation will be given by Alex Peers, who has an extensive background in photography and is an instructor of classes for ICL at YHC. Alex will be discussing uploading/downloading digital images, editing, storage and use of images. Some of the programs to be discussed include PhotoPos Pro, Paint.Net, Photobie, PhotoScape, and Picasa 3. All of these are freebies and can be downloaded from the Internet.

Alex has asked that you bring questions or problems regarding digital images. He will do his best to either fix the problem or give you a solution. You can send your problem image via email it to mcugUsers@gmail.com or bring it on a flash drive (USB). Please limit your file size to 400 KB or less.

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Officers for 2011



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MCUG Monthly Meeting Schedule

The regular monthly meeting of the Mountain Computer User Group (MCUG) is held on the second Monday of every month, at 7 p.m., in the Wilson Lecture Hall (Room 201) of the Goolsby Building on the campus of Young Harris College in Young Harris, GA. All regular monthly meetings and SIGs are open to everyone regardless of membership status.

MCUG Membership

Annual dues are \$20 and extend membership privileges to two (2) members of a household. Membership privileges include: special discounts on vendor products, access to products for evaluation and review, and association with a great bunch of people.

Affiliation

The Mountain Computer User Group is a member of APCUG, a nonprofit international organization dedicated to promoting communications between PC user groups and the computer industry.

Group Purpose

The Mountain Computer User Group is a nonprofit, tax-exempt educational organization without corporate or vendor affiliation. Its purpose is the encouragement and advancement of computer information and knowledge through "users helping users".





BITS & PCs

1M USB A to Mini-B 2.0 cable

3 feet long \$2.00

Vipre AntiVirus software

Antivirus and Anti Spyware

\$2.00 each (Four copies available)

DVI-D to DVI-D cable

Connect your DVI-D LCD, Plasma TV, or HDTV to your DVI-D computer 10 feet.

\$2.00 each (2 available)

Cassette Adapter Universal for MP3

\$2.00 each (2 available)

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HP-51645A

\$1.00 each (2 available)

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HP Photosmart Premium AiO

Wrks prntr w/8 mos. left on ext.

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Call Roger @ (706) 781-8653

Tom's Tip of the Month

Find out what famous event happened on the August Calendar for history concerning patents, trademarks, or copyrights. What famous inventor has the same **August birthday** as you.

See http://inventors.about.com/od/firststeps/u/inventor_nasics.htm

Examples:

Aug 14, 1984 - IBM released **MS-DOS** version 3.0. IBM first approached **Bill Gates** and Microsoft to discuss the state of home computers in 1980.

Aug 6, 1935 **William Coolidge** obtained a patent for the **cathode ray tube**, a critical ingredient of **TV** and other **electronic** applications.

Aug 21, 1888 The first practical adding & listing machine (**calculator**) was patented by William Burroughs.

Aug 30, 1994 IBM announced it would not oppose Microsoft's attempt to trademark the name "**Windows**."

Aug 11, 1950 **Steve Wozniak** was born, the co-founder of **Apple Computers**.

Aug 31, 1897 **Thomas Edison** patented a kinetographic camera.

Oracle and the Future of OpenOffice.org

By Geof Goodrum, President, Washington Area Computer User Group, VA

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Oracle Corporation, a technology company best known for its flagship commercial relational database management software, is alienating the Open Source community it once embraced. In 2008, Sun Microsystems acquired MySQL AB, the company that developed and provided commercial support for the highly popular relational database management system (RDBMS) software, MySQL, which is available in both Open Source and commercial license versions. MySQL is very popular (estimated at over eleven million installations) as backend software used by web sites world-wide, comprising part of the "LAMP" (Linux, Apache, MySQL, PERL/PHP/Python) software stack. Sun Microsystems is perhaps best known for the Java programming language used to develop software that can run on a wide variety of computer platforms. The Open Source community has been pushing for the release of control over the Java language

specification to the community since at least 2004. In 2006, Sun released Java software components under the GNU General Public License, but continued to release "non-free" executable versions.

Sun Microsystems also sponsored the OpenOffice.org community project, which developed and distributed a free, Open Source productivity suite comparable to Microsoft Office and built upon code from the commercial StarOffice product, previously acquired by Sun.

In 2010, Oracle Corporation completed acquisition of Sun Microsystems, including MySQL, Java, and OpenOffice.org. During the acquisition, the MySQL community expressed concerns that Oracle would discontinue support for MySQL as it competed

with Oracle's commercial RDBMS products. While this has not happened, Oracle recently doubled MySQL support service costs.

In August 2010, Oracle sued Google over its implementation of Java in the Linux-based Android operating system, claiming infringement on seven patents. This move alienated the Java developer community. In September, a core group of over 30 leading contributors to the OpenOffice.org project formed The Document Foundation with support from organizations including Red Hat, Novell, Google, Open Source Initiative, Canonical, and the Free Software Foundation. The Document Foundation's primary purpose is to support the community development of LibreOffice, a productivity suite built upon the OpenOffice.org source code. This move was in response to ongoing concerns about Oracle's governance and development process for the OpenOffice.org project, including Oracle's reluctance to accept patches to the software. The Document Foundation's stated mission is to facilitate the evolution of the OpenOffice.org Community into a new open, independent, and meritocratic organizational structure within the next few months. An independent Foundation is a better match to the values of our contributors, users, and supporters, and will enable a more effective, efficient, transparent, and inclusive Community. We will protect past investments by building on the solid achievements of our first decade, encourage wide participation in the Community, and coordinate activity across the Community.

Oracle responded to the formation of The Document Foundation by insisting that members step down from their positions on the OpenOffice.org project as it created a conflict of interest. As a result, it appears that community developers are migrating from OpenOffice.org to work on LibreOffice.

At this point, it appears that Oracle has squandered whatever credibility it had with the Open Source (MySQL, Java, OpenOffice.org) developer community, and the future of the original OpenOffice.org project is very questionable.

However, expect to see rapid development and improved software quality for LibreOffice under The Document Foundation.

When Outlook dies, Windows Live Mail lives

By Jo Grazide, Leader, Word Processing Workshop, Brookdale Computer Users Group, New Jersey

March 2011 Issue, Bug Bytes

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All screenshots: Jo Grazide

I had been using and enjoying the features of Microsoft Outlook 2007 since 2007, never

imagining that one fine day I would log in only to see a message saying something to the effect that Outlook was in use and that I had to close a "pst" file, or face the consequences. In fact, MS Outlook simply stopped. I was unable to move appointments, open an email, or do anything that I was accustomed to in order to

make my activities on the computer enjoyable and efficient.

For lack of a better option, I decided to turn to Windows Live Mail (WLM), a part of the

Windows Live Essentials suite that was already installed on my system along with my favorite photo management program and even my antivirus app.

Since this was already present, I didn't have to do much, except launch it. It happily

grabbed my mail downloads from Gmail and politely asked me if I wanted it to be the default email program. I said "Yes!"

I was pleasantly surprised. I use Gmail but I was pleasantly surprised. I use Gmail but

only for the convenience of having an online calendar and email program that I could access from any computer. As far as WLM, I would say the only real inconvenience is the loss of my Outlook calendar, but I can manage using the online Google calendar whenever I'm on my desktop.

First Impressions

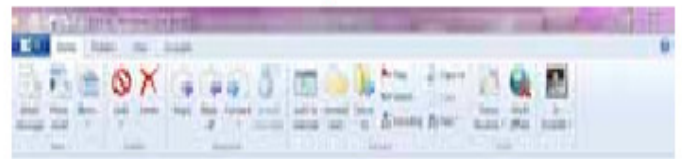
When you first use WLM, you are obligated to establish a connection with your ISP (Internet Service Provider). Since I use Gmail/Verizon/Hotmail/Yahoo, I can add these by going to the accounts Tab, clicking on the Email icon and adding an account. Since I sync everything on Gmail's server, there is no need to do this. In fact, it gets kind of confusing when lots of email accounts are listed, at least for me. So I stick to my Gmail

account and things have been going smoothly.

Tabs and Ribbons

Cosmetically, the interface is clean, uncluttered and easy to understand. You start

with a Quick Access Toolbar and tabbed ribbons familiar to those of us using current MS Office apps. The tabs are: Home/Folders/View and Accounts. Let's take a peek at each.



Screenshot of Home ribbon

The Home tab is where you compose, create Photo emails, mark as junk, and for those

Calendar challenged like me, an opportunity to add a message to that calendar. This may be the workaround I need. Anything to save typing! You will see a sign in request on the right side.

You don't have to be a member of Hotmail or Windows Live or sign in. I do so under my Hotmail name, as this allows the computer to sync and recognize my name on many other sites, such as Facebook, Windows Live Mesh, and others too tedious to mention here. I am a social networker, and am comfortable with such arrangements, but you don't have to subscribe to these. The email program will still

work for you, happily. I really like the Photo email option. In the example shown above, notice how the pictures I chose are inserted as

an album, and also that a picture tools and a photo album tools ribbon is provided. Even though that may be considered overkill on Microsoft's part, it is still handy in case you want to do a bit more work before sending your pictures out.



Screenshot of View ribbon

Also useful is the View ribbon. Here you can change the layout of your screen. My favorite button here is the Account color - among others, you can change your theme to Fuchsia or Smoke. Other colors you can use are Lime or Twilight. Someone must have had a sense of humor when they wrote this app. But you can use a different color for multiple accounts, so there is a reason for this virtual rainbow.

The Accounts ribbon is one I hardly go to.



Screenshot of Accounts ribbon

Anything here is handled elsewhere. In fact, IMAP folders or Newsgroup is a bit beyond

what I need in my email program, so I leave these alone.

Summing Up

In using WLM, there is little to worry about. It will download your messages, keep your

appointments once you enter them, and handle your contacts. In fact, it handles contacts only too well. I was happy to see that it has the uncanny ability to find and list my Facebook contacts as well as the ones imported from MS Outlook. It won't list their emails or any unavailable information, but it does three things I like. It gives me a picture of the friend from

their Facebook profile, a link to their online Facebook page, and whether they are currently there. So even if I'm not online, I can quickly get to their page and see what my fellow networkers are up to. LinkedIn also seems to be important

enough to be included in this feature.

No Calendar sync

A quick mention of the Calendar - since it does not sync with Google calendar, unless I have a lot of time to re-enter my appointments, Google will have to be my source of information. I have read recently that Yahoo Mail will sync with WLM and Google, but have not had the time to really investigate this. With the way that the Internet is combining profiles and individuals' information, it would just be one more intertwining of online information. Perhaps in time there will be a better way to do this.

I will miss MS Outlook. But I will not miss the fact that one fine day it just stopped working, gave me strange error messages, and was unwilling to be reinstalled properly. I know that there are always more options, and WLM is a fine option. Being downloaded from the Internet, it is always up to date and free. Try it if you want to use a local email program with lots of features and an uncomplicated interface.



Mountain Computer User Group August 2011 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 MCUG Board Meeting	4	5	6
7	8 MCUG Mtg 6:00 Q&A 7:00 Program	9	10	11	12	13 Perseids Meteor Showers Peak Day
14	15	16	17	18	19 Last Day To Submit Articles	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Philo Farnsworth patented television 1930	31			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Bob Davies	08/01
Jim Bell	08/14
George Woodberry	08/14
Susan Scott	08/18
Ann Brown	08/23
Mikele Carter	08/31



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Gary & Carol Mashburn	08/06/1968	43 yrs
Paul & Carolyn Filer	08/30/2003	11 yrs
Tom & Betty Shope	08/27/2008	3 yrs

