

THE PREZ SEZ:

With the tech sector in shambles, one effect has been the cut-back (almost elimination) of user group presentations by software manufacturers. A major loss for our club has been not having Gene and Linda Barlow's annual visit. With an assist from Gene, I will bring you up to date on Partition Magic v8.

Version 8 can, as with other versions, resize, split, merge, delete, undelete, and convert partitions — doing all these wondrous tasks without destroying data in just a few minutes.

For the uninitiated, partitioning is a process of convincing the computer that a single hard drive is more than one hard drive. The reasons for doing this are many and will be left to your imagination.

A major new feature (one of several we will look at) is support of large (160GB) partitions. With huge hard drives the standard on new computers, this feature is a welcome addition to this award-winning program. Support for USB/USB-E and Firewire has also been added. The user interface has a new look similar to the Windows XP interface. The five Wizards have been redesigned for easier use and two Wizards have been added to help with installation of another OS (Operating System) and to create a back-up partition.



PQBoot will let you select the OS you want at boot-up. It will also let you move from one operating system to another without having to run Boot Magic (which had some problems in version 7).

A File Browser has been added to let you move and copy files from partitions that are not available to the OS you are using. You can copy files from an NTFS partition while running Win98, which is usually a Fat32 file system.

Linux users will now have full support of the Ext3 partitions as well as the GRUB boot loader. In addition, the cluster size of Ext2 and Ext3 partitions can be specified when the partitions are created.

Partition Magic allows you to fine tune your system performance by converting to a more efficient file system, changing cluster sizes or adding a Linux SWAP file partition.

PowerQuest's DataKeeper file backup utility is included as an extra bonus offering.

Those of us who use this program swear by it and can feel secure with the latest additions that Partition Magic will meet the needs of all as we upgrade or buy new computers. The sad part is not seeing Gene and Linda at our meetings.

Ed Freeman

If Microsoft had been the first to invent books:

1. Before you can open the cover of your new book, you must obtain a book activation code by phoning Microsoft.
2. Sorry, only one person may ever read your book.
3. It's full of spelling mistakes and typos.
4. When you're reading your book, the type can mysteriously disappear.
5. Libraries, which are for sharing books, are illegal.
6. You must acknowledge you have read and understood the Book License Agreement Hype (BLAH) before you can read your book.
7. Microsoft has the right to enter your premises to conduct book inspections to make sure your book is being read in accordance with the BLAH.
8. The Book Users' Group General Alliance (BUGGA) calculates that the annual loss of revenues to Microsoft arising from BLAH violations in 2001 was \$10.97 billion.
9. There are two versions of your book - the "Standard" and the "Pro" versions. In the standard version, those pages containing the most useful information have been stuck together.
10. Confidential information is inexplicably in bigger type

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

As usual, Today, is Q and A and Special Interest Groups — Techies, Digital Imaging, Newbies, Genealogy, Quicken, or whatever. Also a demo of a fab screen saver

NEXT MEETING February 25, CARL BRESLER will tell you everything you ever wanted to know about care and repair of printers.

NEXT MONTH March 25, we have invited Detective J. Reichman of the Riverside Sheriff's Office to tell us about Identity Theft — how crooks get information and how we can protect ourselves from being

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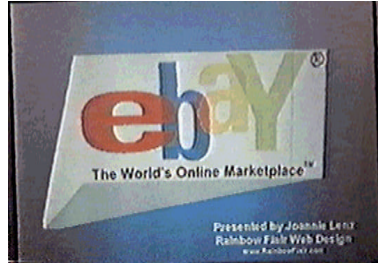
Take a look and take the poll

Meeting Time and Place

2nd and 4th Tuesday
9: to 11: a.m.
Seventh-day Adventist Church
29885 Bradley Road
Sun City, CA

Joan Lenz (RainbowFlair.com), our CCMV.net web goddess, is from upstate New York, a specialist in Web design, manages a site about Menifee Valley community events, serves as active member of Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce, and many community committees. We'll have a bio with all the details in a future issue.

The following are hopefully sensible but not necessarily literate notes on a very animated and enjoyable presentation made on January 28. You can see the whole thing with slides by checking out the video tape — from which we took the illustrations below —made by Orien Pfeiffer, at the back table.



It's the largest yard sale in the world. It's easy to learn. Joannie described the system with a story about her paper doll collection.

eBay is a safe place to do business. They don't want people who could damage the system reputation. The secure server on eBay for information you enter includes a requirement for a credit card number to confirm who you are. You must register to buy or sell but not to search. An insurance feature can aid the seller.

Buyers: It's easy to get caught up in bidding excitement. Set a budget. Don't get caught up in bidding if you aren't going to buy. Wait to bid near the deadline. Create a My_eBay page and put what you're interested in on a "Watch List." Bidding on two offers can lead to trouble. Put in a personal profile. The system can retain information on what you bid on even if you didn't get it. Ask questions, chat with others. E-mails remind of end of auction.



Sellers: Choose 3-, 7-, or 10-day auctions. The price of item controls the listing fee. No fee if it doesn't sell. Buyer doesn't pay an eBay fee.

Include lots of picture(s) of what you're selling. Item description is very important -- be very honest! Feedback to eBay from buyer and seller about their experiences with a particular sale creates a point system. Anyone can click to read entries. Buyer has power to cause trouble through the feedback system. Detail specifications and any faults of the item you are offering. Buyer can question for more info. Seller should answer as quickly and thoroughly as possible to help get good feedback. Don't be impatient with seller who may not respond quickly. Everybody has problems.

Put the item in a category. Search for similar items to determine which category to use and likely going price. A search yields a count of items of the specified type presently on the system. Set a "Reserve" on item sale price -- essentially the lowest price you'll really take although there is a starting bid price that can be lower. Don't over-price or under-price. Set start and end dates. Instructions are provided for each of five steps to list.

Watch the bidding.

Accept certified, regular checks, or a method for payment by credit card.

Ship the item after you get your money.

"Sniping" said to be a service that lists a maximum amount the buyer would pay and enters a bid at last millisecond of auction if current bid is lower.

Celia Douglas recommends a **Site of the Month** from Don Edrington's PC Chat (Computer Tutor Don), an e-mail newsletter full of PC tips at www.pcdon.com along with all PC Chats from 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 (not to mention all kinds of free downloadable music, cartoons, and some vintage jokes). A recent issue described how to back up your e-mail address book and how to send an e-mail to more than one recipient without typing all the



ANOTHER VOLUNTEER by Evelyn Rahn, erahn@inland.net

SHIRLEY FRYREAR is that attractive, pleasant "right-hand woman" to vice president Art True at the Cue-Cards table. And a very interesting lady she is. It was in 1953 when she took a vacation from her home in the East to visit her aunt and uncle in California. She never went home. She was already a competent comptometer operator so went right to work. She

also met her husband-to-be on this job. They were married, had three sons, and after 13 years of marriage she became the sole support of her family due to divorce. Her three sons were 9, 7 and 2 years old.

She continued up the ladder with Knudson Dairies. In 1969 a friend suggested a career change to join her at work with San Bernardino County. Shirley proceeded to climb another ladder over the next 25 years until she retired as head of the San Bernardino County's Fraud Prevention Department with the title of Quality Review Specialist..

This gutsy lady 's role was to go before the judge, facing

the accused "crooks" as she called them, presenting the County's proofs of fraud and getting the "crooks" convicted and prosecuted. She was instrumental in recouping many losses for the County. She tells of one instance in which a couple got their dog a birth certificate, claimed it as a child, and received welfare checks. They got away with it for years!!

When she moved to Sun City upon retirement, to be near several friends who live here and one son who lives nearby, she decided it was time to play. By this time one daughter in law was an expert in computing, programming as well as construction, and suggested Shirley get a computer so they could e-mail from Arkansas to Sun City. Shirley was an executive and had other people to operate the computers. Now she has to learn to operate them and is in the process of taking as many courses with CCMV as she can work in.

Being such a "go-getter," as her friends call her; she became involved in assisting with Estate Sales; she joined the CCMV and is volunteering at the Cue Card table; she has taken trips to see her son in Arkansas, has taken an extensive tour of Europe and is off in February on a cruise to the Southern Caribbean.

MEETING SUMMARES by Sandy Kandl, kandysland@hotmail.com

Please see the full meeting summaries on our web site: www.ccmv.net)

January 14, 2003 — Our first meeting of the New Year brought out 97 members, including 3 new attendees. Art True reported that there are new Cue-cards for XP as well as older cards that have been replenished for those wanting them. Lon Whistler reported on a new disk called Digi-Book, which organizes digital pictures in album form. He also reported that Ad-Aware is no longer updating its product so it's probably a good idea to uninstall it.

Joannie Lenz (301-6226) is giving lessons in Basic Microsoft Windows, Basic Microsoft Word, Intermediate Word, PowerPoint, Basic Microsoft Excel and Intermediate Excel, all at the Ceniceros Center in the evenings. The cost will be \$55, which includes a class manual.

President Ed Freeman discussed security and identity theft while computing. Here are 10 Safe Computing Recommendations:

1. Use protection software. Anti-virus programs should be updated weekly or more often.
2. Don't open email from unknown senders. Be cautious about messages from known senders with strange or unexpected subjects. Most viruses and worms hijack address books and send themselves.
3. Use hard to guess passwords (combination of letters and numbers).
4. Protect your computer from Internet intruders. Install a Firewall. Dial-up connections are a vulnerable as broadband.
5. Don't share access to your computer with strangers, including children and grandchildren.
6. Disconnect from Internet when not in use. Especially true of broadband -- turn off modem.
7. Back up computer data on regular basis.
8. Regularly download security update patches.

9. Check your security on a regular basis. Monthly is a good idea. Sites that run checks include www.pandasoftware.com, www.grc.com, and www.symantec.com/securitycheck/.
10. Make sure your family and/or employees know what to do if a computer gets infected with a virus.

Our member from Hemet, Norm Spiere, told us about a web site that will test your anti-virus program and/or firewall by sending a synthetic virus. If you're well protected, it will not get through. You can find it at either www.eicar.org or www.eicar.com.

After the break, special interest groups met. Chet Hartley reported that the Techies had a general discussion on remote access to your email from libraries, cruise ships, etc. They also discussed new technologies for DVD and CD copy protection and "one-way rentals". They further talked about a single CD drive and the best ways to copy a CD using a hard drive for interim storage. One member was having problems with system slowdown after installing Norton System Works. Advice was to remove Works, install only the antivirus and run the other utilities from the CD when needed. Also suggested was checking MSCONFIG startup list and unchecking those programs not needed. The Digital Imaging SIG concentrated on the specifications of the video equipment Orien Pfeiffer and others in the group use.

January 28, 2003 — Today's meeting brought out 107 members, including nine new attendees. President Ed Freeman showed us the new and portable screen the Club purchased so we all may view the presentations more easily. Since we do not have any dues, the money collected from the Shareware table, the Cue-Cards table, raffles, and the classes pays for the purchases made by the Club for the benefit of

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A FEW OF OUR NEWCOMERS

by Evelyn Rahn, *erah@inland.net*

We hope you will want to get acquainted with newcomers to the club. We want them to feel welcome and eager to participate

ALBINO CHAUVEZ was asking about computers, thinking of giving one to his son for Christmas. His son interpreted his questions to be for himself, so the son gave Albino a computer for Christmas and purchased one for himself as well. He is helping an aunt get family data onto the computer. His hobby of rejuvenating older automobile is taking less of his time these days.

PEDRO (TODD) MARTINEZ (*martinez22@earthlink.net*) aspires to learn more about application of digital equipment. It sounds as if he hopes to use the pc in business.

HELEN HECHT, whose recently deceased husband had urged her to learn about computers came to the meeting for the presentation on eBay, which her son had told her about.

SHEILA NEAL (*redneal2@aol.com*) was born in Canada but came to California early on. She is currently trying to get XP installed on her PC. Well acquainted with computers through her work as an Avon representative, she uses hers extensively for ordering, selling, and record keeping.

DONNA M. MEADOR (*dmeador@mchsi.com*) arrived in

Sun City about Thanksgiving last year. She uses the computer mainly for email. Her work was with the government of the state of Oregon and when retirement time arrived she decided to move to be nearer her three children who live in Southern California. She has found that she needs work of some kind to supplement her retirement pension. She can do office work but thinks she would even try waitress work if she could find something. Let's try to help her find a job that will enable her to continue to be a member of CCMV.

DOROTHY OHRN has worked with computers for years; Until he died, she helped her husband, a stock advisor, with his records, etc She is now alone with the company of two dogs and wants to learn more about the computer that she can use for Fun Things.

BETTY HEBERT arrived in California from Michigan in 1986. She worked until retirement in social services for San Diego County. Her children are in Texas and Pennsylvania so e-mails must fly back and forth. She has a new computer with XP, which she is learning how to use. She wants to delve more deeply into genealogy of her family.

THERESA DANIELS (*benandt@aol.com*) uses her PC with WIN2000 in business ; has a web site; and sells jewelry.

TOM BRYAN (*bryantom@earthlink.net*); **GRETCHEN STOVER** (new to computers, with a 486) is eager to learn; **PHYLLIS SMITH** is also a new user and we hope they will return and let us help them.

Lon's Freeware of The Month

by Lon Whistler, *lwhis@hotmail.com*

Solitude For Windows 1.52 consists of the following 91 Solitaire games:

Aces Up, Alhambra, Amazons, Auld Lang Syne, Baker's Dozen, Baker's Game, Batsford, Beleaguered Castle, Betsy Ross, Black Hole, Blind Patience, Bowling, Bristol, Calculation, Canfield, Carpet, Chameleon, Clock, Contradance, Cribbage Solitaire, Cruel Deuces, Dutchess, Eagle Wing, Easthaven, Eight Off, Fan, Fire And Ice, Flower Garden, Fly, Fortress, Four Kingdoms, Four Seasons, Fourteen Out, FreeCel, Frog, Gaps, Gargantua, German Patience, Golf, Good Measure, Icicles, Indian, King Albert, Klondike, La Belle, Lucie, Lady Betty, Limited, Lucas, Miss Milligan, Monte Carlo, Moojub, Mount Olympus, Napoleon at St. Helena, Nestor, Osmosis, Pas Seul, Peek, Penguin, Pluto, Poker, Solitaire, Pyramid, Rank and File, Scorpion, Scotch Patience, Seven Devils, Shamrocks, Simple Simon, Simplicity, Sir Tommy, Six By Six, Spider, Spiderette, Stonewall, Storehouse, Streets and Alleys, Strategy, Sultan, Tam O' Shanter, Terrace, Thirteens, Thirty Six, Three Shuffles, Thumb and Pouch, Trefoil, Wave Motion Solitaire, Westcliff, Whitehead, Will 'O The Wisp, Windmill, Yukon

There should be enough card games here to satisfy everyone.

(Meeting Summaries Continued from Page 3)

the Club. He reminded us to up-date our email addresses with Dee.

Larry Nelson warned of a telephone scam in which someone calls saying he is a technician from one of the phone companies (Verizon, AT&T, MCI, PacBell, etc.) and requests that you press 90# and hang up. Doing so allows the caller to place long distance calls and have you pay for them. It has been reported that this scam has been originating from many local jails and prisons.

For those who receive questionable e-mail, the following are web sites to check them out: (All preceded by <http://www.>)

hoaxbusters.ciac.org; .sophos.com; snopes2.com;
vmyths.com; symantec.com/avcenter;
truthorfiction.com; scambusters.org/hoaxes

Once again, we had a free drawing for door prizes.

Ben Guaydacan volunteered to evaluate a software program called Tell A Phone and report his findings to the Club. In return, he gets to keep the program. Good deal for all of us.

FOR SALE: TWO UNOPENED LEXMARK COLOR CARTRIDGES MODEL 12A1980. PURCHASED BY MISTAKE. WILL TAKE HALF PRICE. 679-9261