



April 2004 Vol. 10 #4

HAPPY EASTER

The Prez Says:.....



The following information was sent along by a club member with the idea that other club members might have use for a site like this. Take a look at the site and see what you think.

"We are firmly committed to making GIssearch.com the most used and useful military network on the Internet, and we need your help. Ours is a grassroots effort. If you like GIssearch.com, tell others about it and encourage them to register.

Please forward this email to everyone you know who might be interested in using GIssearch.com.

GIssearch.com is completely free and it's a great way to keep in touch or reconnect with lost friends.

You can visit us at <http://www.gisearch.com>.

Gisearch.com is a great tool for:
Service members
Retirees
Veterans
Honoring deceased service members, retirees and veterans
Honoring POW's and MIA's



Spouses of service members, retirees and veterans
Children of service members, retirees and veterans
Civilians searching for service members, retirees and veterans.

Anti-Spam Policy

Our goal is to provide a convenient environment in which current and former service members as well as their families and friends can reunite. GIssearch discourages spam because of its obtrusive nature. Please send this email out to only people you know that may be interested in GIssearch.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions about GIssearch, please email GIssearch at info@GIssearch.com."

The following is the latest from Kim Kommando's newsletter and has information and web address for sites that have the software available. Some of these we have mentioned in previous club meetings and I thought this would be a good addition to the newsletter to remind members of those sites and the others she mentions in the newsletter.

"Computer prices are so low, just about everyone can afford one.

The expensive part is stocking the computer with software.

Fortunately, there are many great free programs. They may have fewer features than their paid counterparts, but they often work as well.

Unfortunately, much free software contains adware. These programs track surfing habits and tailor ads to your interests. The publishers of the programs are paid to include the adware. The programs in this column do not include adware, according to their user agreements.

1. So let's start with the Internet. Threats there are serious and growing. But free software can put a wall around your computer. For instance, you simply must have a firewall. This makes your computer invisible to hackers' probes.

ZoneAlarm and Outpost provide basic protection for Internet users. First-time users should go with the default settings. Both are available for Windows 98SE, ME, 2000 and XP. In addition, Outpost is available for Windows 95 and 98. ZoneAlarm: <http://www.zonelabs.com>
Outpost: <http://www.agnitum.com>

2. A firewall cannot protect your computer from viruses or Trojan horses. For them, you need anti-virus software. AVG Anti-Virus by Grisoft scans your hard drive and e-mail. Virus definition updates are free as well. AVG Anti-Virus is available for Windows 95 and higher. AVG Anti-Virus: <http://www.grisoft.com>

3. You need software to scan for adware. In addition to tracking your surfing, these programs sometimes hijack your Internet home page.

Ad-aware and Spybot Search & Destroy are adware killers. Both programs

work on Windows 98, ME, 2000, NT and XP. Spybot Search & Destroy is also compatible with Windows 95. Ad-aware: <http://www.lavasoftusa.com/>
Spybot Search & Destroy: <http://www.safer-networking.org>

Now that your computer is safe for surfing, here are some programs to make your computing experience more enjoyable.

4. Pop-up ads are often delivered by adware. One of the best pop-up blockers is included on the Google Toolbar. It not only blocks pop-up ads; it also gives you numerous search options. It's available for Windows 95 and higher, for use with Internet Explorer 5.5 and higher. Google Toolbar: <http://toolbar.google.com>

5. If you chat with friends, you know how cluttered your desktop can get. It's not uncommon to have two or three instant messaging programs open at the same time.

Trillian Basic allows you to chat with AOL Instant Messenger, ICQ, IRC, MSN and Yahoo! users simultaneously. Trillian is for Windows 95 and higher. Trillian: <http://www.ceruleanstudios.com>

6. PowerToys are additional programs that extend the functionality of Windows. One of the most popular PowerToys is Tweak UI. With it, you can clear your Internet tracks, manipulate mouse functions, get rid of arrows on shortcut icons, and more. Tweak UI is available for Windows 95 and higher. PowerToys: <http://www.komando.com/bestshareware.asp#powertoys>

7. Microsoft's Outlook Express is a popular e-mail program. Outlook Express doesn't have a built-in spell checker.

It relies on the dictionary from Microsoft Word or Works.

If you don't own Word or Works, Spell Checker for OE can help. It's a stand-alone program and works on Windows 95 and higher. It requires Outlook Express 5 and higher.
Spell Checker:
<http://www.geocities.com/vampirefo>

8. Free software sometimes can substitute for expensive software. Office programs fall into the "expensive" category. Word processing and spreadsheet software can cost several hundred dollars.

You can open, create, and save Microsoft Word and Excel documents with 602PC Suite. It also comes with a basic photo editor and organizer. It's compatible with Windows 98 and higher.
602PC Suite: <http://www.software602.com>

In addition to adware, free programs often have other downsides. Documentation is sometimes sparse, so you may have to experiment to master them. Technical support is limited or non-existent. If there's a problem, you may be on your own." See you at the club: Ed

Lon's Freeware of The Month
lwhis@hotmail.com
Winpatrol

This neat little utility not only lets you see and disable start-up programs, but it also gives you quick access to the services and processes that are running. Of course, WinPatrol sets itself to load at start-up, but that's one icon I can live with.

Several people have asked about this program, so here it is.

.... Also.....

HijackThis

A general homepage hijackers detector and remover. HijackThis examines certain key areas of the Registry and Hard Drive and lists their contents. These are areas which are used

by both legitimate programmers and hijackers. It is continually updated to detect and remove new hijacks.

Note: HijackThis does not target specific programs/URLs, just the methods used by hijackers to force you onto their sites. As a result, false positives are imminent and unless you are sure what you're doing, you should always consult with knowledgeable folks (e.g. [the forums](#)) before deleting anything.

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www.janos.net/seniorsource

Have you checked out the Senior Source web site? Many seniors have found it to be highly informative and financially beneficial.

Senior Source is created and maintained by Jim Richardson, a CCMV member. Shortly after moving to Sun City and assisting friends and neighbors with their computers, Jim became aware of the need to provide increased visibility and access to beneficial and supportive Internet sources specifically tailored for Seniors.

Utilizing sources such as the Librarians Index to the Internet (lii.org), the cyber atlas (now clickz.com/stats), AARP, the Administration on Aging (aoa.gov), the Economic Development Agency (eda.gov) and numerous search engines, Jim compiled a list of hundreds of web sites created for seniors. He then screened his collection for privacy, security and ease of use.

The Senior Source web page was then designed with a view toward providing an effective one-stop, Internet portal for new Seniors users. For example, Jim broke with established convention by building his web pages in 8 ½ by 11" size to simplify printing of the information presented. This enabled new Senior users to easily print a copy of the information and pass it on to friends and neighbors without having to branch or click away to a printable page.

The Senior Source web site features a favorite web site on the home page, easily links to a list of favorites and contains a frequently asked questions (FAQ) section with links to on-line sources.

Seniors are invited to use the email contact link and submit their questions regarding the myriad Internet sources available on the World Wide Web. Jim has provided visitors with Internet source information on wide variety of topics ranging from "Where can I find a free sample of my family coat of arms?" to "Are there any local programs to help Seniors on fixed incomes with housing repair?"

Jim is always seeking additional Internet sources to include in the Senior Source web pages. So, if you have a favorite web site that you believe would be of interest to Seniors, you are invited to email Jim at seniorsource@msn.com with the information.

If you are looking for specific information on a topic of interest to seniors, email Senior Source with your question and Jim will respond with at least one Internet source as soon as time allows.

Not surprisingly, Jim is now searching for information on effective time management. If you have any suggestions, Jim anxiously awaits your input.

Browse by and check out the Senior Source web pages. The site is hosted (free of charge) by LOG-ON Internet Café, a Cyber Service Center located in Palm Springs. (what some people won't do for a tax break!) Hence, the unusual web site address.

www.janos.net/seniorsource

By the way, Jim says he is currently working with Leslie Covey at the Kay Cenicerros Community Center to provide a presentation on "Seniors and The Internet." Check the Kay Cenicerros FOCUS newsletter's forthcoming issues for scheduling and sign-up information.