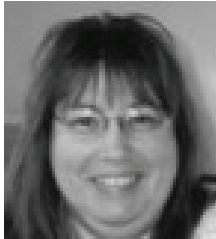


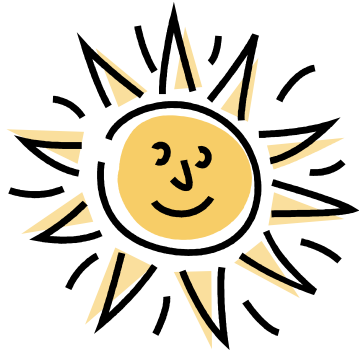


THE PREZ SEZ...



On Friday, August 18, 2006 at 7:41 PM, my third grand child John William was born. John was 7 lbs. 10 ozs, and joins his two sisters, Emily and Ashley in terrorizing errrrr bringing great joy to our lives. I am still trying to figure out just how SO MUCH ENERGY is packed into such little packages. I also never realized how powerful I am. Seems a Mim Kiss can cure just about anything. hehehee. Being a Grandma is AWESOME!!!! I arrived in NY on Tuesday, just in time to play "Mim" (Grandma to those of you who are not family) and help a little during this very busy time. Mom and baby are doing well and came home Sunday. I am looking forward to the rest of my stay here and hoping that when things calm down a bit I will be able to do some visiting before returning to California on September 10th. Love to all. Joannie

The above was an e-mail I received from Joannie on August 21, 2006 while she was visiting her daughter in New York. Frank



LABOR DAY

Southwest Users Group Conference

Article by Frank Porter

On August 11,12, and 13, Josephine and I attended the Southwest User Group Conference in San Diego. At the Friday mid-afternoon registration we received a booklet and a large sack with information about the Conference, and various CD's and literature about the vendors supporting the Conference and a unique keyboard and T-shirt. The booklet included the three-day program, the menus for the six meals, a list of the clubs and members attending, a list of the supporting vendors, summaries of the workshops and information on the presenters plus other information.

There were 60 clubs with 255 members in attendance. The majority of the users were from Southern California and Arizona. Patricia Hill and Judy Taylour, co-chairs, did an outstanding job in organizing and keeping the programs moving at a good pace. They plan to have the 2007 conference on July 13,14, and 15. Mark your calendar. More information will be in the May, June, and July 2007 Newsletters.

At the conclusion of each meal, one of the vendors (Smart Computing Magazine, Pinnacles, Intel, CompUSA, Corel, & Microsoft and others) gave a PowerPoint presentation. At the conclusion of the presentation, there were drawings for gifts and vendor products. On Saturday there were two workshops in the morning and two in the afternoon with sixteen workshops to choose from. After the Saturday evening meal, there was a Vendor Faire where tables were spread around the large dining room for vendors to show their products and discuss them with interested persons.

The Town and Country Resort offered rooms to the attendees at a discounted price of \$99 single or double occupancy..

(continued on page 3, column 1)

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*Take a look and take the poll
Get help on the Message
Board*

Meeting Time and Place

2nd and 4th Tuesday
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Seventh-day Adventist
Church
29885 Bradley Road
Sun City, CA

A Revolutionary Item in Memory By Frank Varano

A company called Freescale Semiconductor a spin off from Motorola now has a magnetic memory (for RAM). It is not volatile. When you turn off its power it retains the information stored in it. But it is still a Random Access Memory much like you have in our computer now. It can read and write data in 35 nanoseconds. How fast is that?

"A nanosecond (ns or nsec) is one billionth (10^{-9}) of a second and is a common measurement of read or write access time to random access memory (RAM.)

For comparison, a millisecond (ms or msec) is one thousandth of a second and is commonly used in measuring the time to read to or write from a hard disk or a CD-ROM player or to measure packet travel time on the Internet.

A microsecond (us or Greek letter mu plus s) is one millionth (10^{-6}) of a second.

A picosecond is one trillionth (10^{-12}) of a second, or one millionth of a microsecond.

A femtosecond is one millionth of a nanosecond or 10^{-15} of a second and is a measurement sometimes used in laser technology.

An attosecond is one quintillionth (10^{-18}) of a second and is a term used in photon research." When you get to time intervals of attoseconds I get lost easily. I measure time by how fast I can get from the bed to the toilet in the middle of the night.

There was a race going on as to who would get the magnetic thing first. Freescale won. It is a Texas based company. The memory is called a MRAM (Magnetoresistive Random Access Memory.) It is the first one on the market. Putting all that aside, what is it good for? It can replace both flash memories used inside cell phones and cameras and the DRAM used inside computers to move data to the processor.

Now for you engineering types How does it work? You remember in college when you studied inductive reactance in magnetic circuits? It is measured in ohms (as in Ohm's Law, remember?). A tiny magnetic field is created inside of a 'memory cell' inside a chip. The computer sees an inductive resistance (really, inductive reactance) and interprets it as 1s or a 0s which are the binary blocks data. I am not going further than that because I'd have to dig out some books. After all, I forgot the stuff I learned over 50 years ago. Right now the 1s and 0s are generated by electrons in a cell. You could put oranges in these cells if they were small enough. Don't do this at home.

And the electronic cells take more power. That by itself is a boon to the computer industry.

And for you economists, these things are still expensive costing about 25 dollars for 4 megabytes. Retail. All these new things start off expensively.

Remember, you read it here first. Pass this issue of the CCMV newsletter on to your kids!

HOT ENOUGH FOR YOU?

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Shareware Distribution
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Need Volunteer

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thefriendlymouse@msn.com

Teachers & Assistants
Various CCMV Members

Sign Up for a Class TODAY!
at
Any Computer Club meeting
or the
Kay Cenicerros Center

Computer Club Class
Room Located at

Cherry Hills Country Club
At the West End of
Cherry Hills Blvd

Booting From a Flash Drive By Frank Varano

Before I start, I want to give you this website that describes booting from a flash drive:

http://ucsu.colorado.edu/%7Eshaher/Bootable_USB.html and also this Microsoft site::

<http://www.microsoft.com/whdc/device/storage/usb-boot.msp>. That talks about the technical aspects. I want you to know that Microsoft is getting in the act. Apparently there is a heavy request for such capability and MS wants to see that industry wide standards develop.

First your motherboard has to make it possible and I understand that new motherboards do have the capability. But if you don't know it then what? If your BIOS provides you with the option to select the booting sequence, it is easy to find out and it is sensible to do this first. Just look at the BIOS at the boot up. I didn't know that the option to boot from USB Drive even existed until now and I don't know when such capability began in the motherboards. That means you have to 'look inside' the booting process.

The author says that you can disable the hard drive that has the boot programs

Second, if you don't have that above option, you can disable the hard drive. How? There may be an ON/OFF option to disable it. That is new to me too. I'm beginning to realize that I don't know anything.

Third, you can unplug the hard drive. That is my level of knowledge. Just pull the plug. I know how to do that. I like to pull legs too.

Here is where the author describes using a bootable floppy or CD then going to the Command Prompt. Of course, the flash drive has to be plugged in when you are doing this. Presumably you can address the flash drive in the Command Prompt function.

Whatever method you use, you must have the flash drive as the first drive (or only drive) that the computer looks at in the booting process.

For the rest of the procedure go to the site. And good luck! I am willing to do this only if the motherboard allows the selection of a flash drive. I'm basically a coward who likes the idea but who is not capable of withstanding the excitement of successfully booting from a flash drive. Besides, I'll wait for Microsoft to develop standards first.

(continued from page 1, column 2)

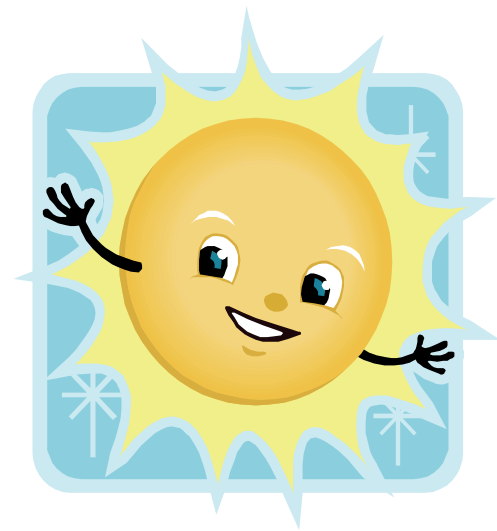
The Conference concluded about 2 pm Sunday when the winners of the club contests for digital photos and Newsletters were announced. We came home with T-shirts and four sacks with vendor brochures, CD's, software, door prizes, etc. We are planning to attend next year. I highly recommend club members, particularly board members and officers, attend the conference.

To All Who Own Computers:
By Frank Varano

I am not going to say anything important here. So at this point you can stop reading this. But in your heart, if you *really and honestly* care, read on. Microsoft's new Operating System Vista for your computer will have about 50,000,000 lines of programming code. That's '*lines*' of code'. (Vista is the new Microsoft operating system intended to replace XP, I guess.) That's a line of code for each family in the United States. At least! Lines of code? Here is an example of only three lines of code in C++ programming language used in OS:

```
if ( strchr( string, character1 ) != null )
    cout << ' / ' << character1 << " ' was found
in \ " "
    << string << " \ " .\ n";
```

(I took the liberty of inserting illegal spaces to make it more understandable. Oh, you still don't understand it?) Each *character* in the above lines of code can require from 1 to 5 bytes of digital data (or more). A line of code can easily have 100 characters. My senior brain can't work with numbers higher than 100. For your homework, think of a line of code as big as a kilobyte plus or minus something. One kilobyte is 1000 bytes. One megabyte is 1000 kilobytes. One gigabyte Oh, to hell with it! That 50,000,000 lines of code (trust me) can be gigabytes big! Let it go at that. By the way, (I just had to throw this in.) everything you see on the screen has to be defined by some lines of code. Lots of them. Lots and lots of them that MS software engineers wrote. Also, that term "cout" in the line of code means "send the stuff that follows out to the screen or somewhere to be seen or read." Vista is going to be one hell of a big operating system. Gigabytes big. And how big is your hard drive? If you didn't read this, see how much you would have missed. And if you did read it, does it worry you about your computer? And, further, if you did read it and understood it come on over to my place and explain it to me.



NEW MEMBERS IN AUGUST

Aug 8th	Aug 22
Jimmie Luna	Yvonne Bunting
Eucene Schmitt	Hope England
	Helene Paulson-Molvig
	Stan Molvig
	Jan Razee
	Mike Razee
	Shirley Van Allen
	Glorir Wombie

Treasurer's Report for August 2006
By Chet Hartley
Monthly Income and Expenses
8/1/2006 through 8/31/2006

INCOME:	
Contributions	\$77.35
Bank Interest	\$1.81
Shareware/Freeware Sales	<u>\$245.00</u>
(Includes Jim Richardson's CD)	
Total Income	\$69.12

EXPENSES:	
Church Usage	\$200.00
Newsletter Expenses	<u>\$14.01</u>
Total Expenses	\$214.01

Income less Expenses	\$110.15

Fall is Here