



RIGHT CLICK

LEFT CLICK

DIALOG BOX

MENU

TEXT BOX

URL WWW
HTTP DOT COM

TOOLBAR

COPY AND
PASTE

SCROLL

ICON

FLASH DRIVE

CRASH

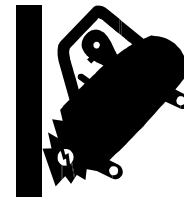
FREEZE

ABORT

HARD DISK
RAM



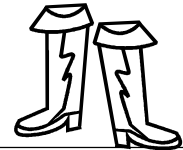
DESKTOP



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BOOTUP

CD DVD CDR
FLOPPY



- Are you a total novice with the computer?
- Do you need to be held by the hand?
- Do you *need* to know more about computers but are too afraid to ask?
- Would you *like* to know more about computers?
- Do you feel left out of the loop because of these new fangled things we call computers?
- Are you lonely and need something very useful to do besides the soaps and TV shows?
- Do you want to remain in contact with your kids, your friends or mistresses?
- Would you like to talk to people and friends all over the US and even the world for free?
- On the other hand do you already know how to use your computers but really *need* to learn more for the job?
- Are you pretty much an expert already?

Inside of this issue is all the information you need. You'll find the names of our officers. You can get a copy of our By Laws from them. This issue of our newsletter is special; we want to give you enough information to stir your interest in computers and ambition to learn much more about computers.

WOW! We sure can help you who need help and we sure need you who already are knowledgeable to help our teachers handle more students.

No dues. We meet twice a month here in Sun City. We make presentations. We get outsiders to make presentations. We have a free exchange of information. You are bound to learn all you need to know about computers. There are no dumb questions.

Our teachers are experts. Our students become experts.





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Web Page Address www.ccmv.net

Take a look .
There is a lot of
good information
on our Web Site.

Meeting

Time, Days 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

How Many Watts Do You Radiate?

By Frank Varano

OK, this is a bit facetious. I really want to talk about Volt-Amps vs. watts. I needed an analogy. Besides, it is a bit of a tutorial on an electrical specification, the Volt-Amp or VA. The quantity is really Voltage times Amps which you know as watts. But is it always watts? Sometimes but not always..

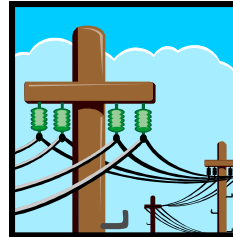


When an auditorium is full of people it gets heated up as if there are a roomful of 75 watt bulbs. With respect to the environment you are like an incandescent bulb. Not a fluorescent bulb. You radiate about 75 watts.

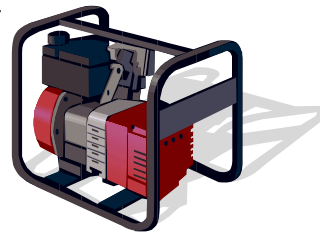


When you turn on your air conditioner, notice how the lights dim? In electrical engineering we would draw an 'equivalent circuit' of the system which would look like (almost) a short circuit in the first few milliseconds. That causes a drop in the line voltage. Hence, the dim lights.

Following the sudden apparent short circuit there is a rush of lots of amps into the system. That initial rush of amps is much bigger than the amps needed to run the system (after a few seconds.) But it is significant in establishing the size of switches, breakers, fuses, etc. needed to carry that current. It is also that rush of amps which helps to define the Volt-Amp specification. That voltage times that rush of amps is VA (or Volt-Amps). Not watts.



When the system is running, the voltage it takes to run it times the amps it is using constantly is the wattage. The two are different but they are used together to define a power factor. The power company will charge you a rate based on the Volt-Amp rating of the beer making machine you have operating in your garage. When you turn on your computer you also have a voltage drop (though small) and a subsequent rush of amps.



Your emergency power unit for the computer will also have Volt-Amp rating. When you buy a power back up for your own pc, the most you have to be concerned about is how long you want the computer to run when your wife runs into the pole knocking out the power to your area. The power unit specs will tell you that.

Emergency gas driven generators are rated with a Volt-Amp spec. You have to be concerned in reading those specs. The wattage capacity of the generator may be sufficient to run your equipment but the initial surge of current when turning on equipment may exceed the capacity (V A rating) of the generator. Do you know how to rewind a generator?

Class dismissed!

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Need Volunteer

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Teachers & Assistants

Various CCMV Members

Computer Classes: (Suspended)

Watch for
Announcements
In this newsletter
at the start of the
new year,
January, 2008



All You New Computer Users

By Dr Know-it-all

I am frequently asked "What computer should I buy?" I am usually at a loss to give *specific* answers. It is like a woman asking me "What bra shall I buy?" It forces me to delve into personal desires and wants.

Fortunately, there are lots of computers to choose from and unlike the bra, you use the computer for many tasks. (Hey, I hope you women don't take offense. I could have used a man's brief as an example but at least, a worn out brief is still usable as a rag, no?)

They are all pretty much the same. (I am talking about computers now.) Since I have worked on many computer types and models I feel that I can safely distill (my father used to use a still to make whiskey during the prohibition era) my answer to those queries into one important thing to get when buying a new computer.

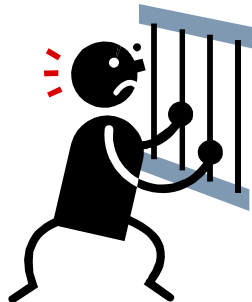
"Get all the RAM you can get for the computer you are buying."

This advice is for the novice who is buying his first or second computer and who uses his computer in a limited way (like many others), to handle email, to shop on line, to write letters and perhaps to do other trivial things.

In no way am I belittling the use of the computer in such a limited way. As a matter of fact I have a car in the garage which I don't use for days at a time but it sure is convenient when I have to drive to my 6th mistress' house to advise her what bra to buy.

(Sorry guys, I volunteered to be editor so, in me, you have to take the good, the bad and the hardly sane writing that I can generate.) (The above writing is pretty good since I am writing it off-the-cuff and some of it is even poetic—bard-like. However, in looking back there is some cause to suspect sanity.)

For the high end user of computers my advice would be a different story and since this issue is for the newcomer I'll exercise restraint. Besides I would not deign to advise the savvy user.



And When You Get Your New Computer...

By The Computer Nail Byter

Whether you buy mail order from Dell or wherever or if you take delivery from a store, you will have at home a big box or maybe a few boxes. That's when the fun starts. I am called upon often to "install" the new computer.



Sometimes the occasion is a first computer and sometimes a replacement. For each I wear a different hat to cover my bald head.

The novice user has a different set of problems. It is almost like a virgin..... Well, let's stay out of that. Suffice it to say that it is usually a long procedure covering days of training after the installation. In a perverse way I kinda enjoy that. I become a king, an angel, a professor, a life-line, (even a gigolo), you name it, all in one.

It is painful to see a user's first experience with a mouse. Double clicking becomes a bear when the user has no dexterity and can't type either. That's when I advise the user to not give up the pencil, paper, envelopes and stamps.

The new user wonders why you have to click on Start to shut down the computer. There is a whole new lexicon to use with terms that don't make sense. RAM? Isn't that a form of a goat? BYTE? My dentist says that mine is lousy. SCREEN? Do we have to worry about mosquitoes? MENU? I already have many cookbooks. BURN CDs? Hey, I don't want any fires in here! HARD DRIVE? Let's not go their either.



You've heard of the words "start from scratch?" Well, this is it. I am usually itching to get started to teach a greenhorn "from scratch" and what a pleasure it is to see someone send his/her first email and successfully start and shut down the computer. And the responses from the grand kids are amazing, the jokes, the PPSs, the Maxine cartoons, the horror warnings of a virus To me it is worth the exasperation and pain. Joy to the World! No, that is Christmas.



Monthly Income and Expenses

DEC. 1- 31, 2007
Chet Hartley, Treasurer

Income (\$)	
Contributions	58.00
Interest	2.17
Shareware/Freeware Sales	10.00
Textbook Sales	0.00
Total Training Income	0.00
Total Other Incomes	0.00
Total Income	70.17
Expenses (\$)	
Church Usage	100.00
Meeting expenses	0.00
Newsletter expenses	20.50
Online/Internet Service	0.00
Total Expenses	120.50
Income less expenses	\$- 50.33

Don't Despair

The Computer Preacher

So what is this computer club? I mean, why do you even exist? Do you make money? Why do you have meetings? Why don't you charge admission? Will I be sounding stupid asking my 'stupid questions'? Will the experienced computer users laugh at me?

If I have questions can I call someone? Do you have stuff I can use to teach myself? Do you have classes? I can't see very well. That computer stuff is too complicated for me. I am too old to learn anything new.

We're a bunch of people who use computers for a number of purposes. There is a lot of talent available to you in the club. There are always 'newbees' coming into the club eager to get started and learn how to use the computer.

There are specialists who use the computer for specialized purposes, like writing books, dealing with cameras and pictures. We call them Special Interest Groups.

Representatives from the computer industry make presentations to us. We have special presentations by members within the club. I can't cover all of your worries or concerns here.

You are in the computer age of instant communication with tools that have enormous capabilities available to you right in your own house. It is a fantastic age. The computer is all yours for just a few bucks. Join us!

The New Computer

Computer 101.

Here I would like to talk about some very basic things about computers aimed at the person who is afraid of them and who thinks he is too old to learn how to use computers and also knows nothing about them.

I assume that you have seen a computer so therefore, you have seen the monitor which is the thing you look at to see what the computer is doing and what's going on inside of the computer.

Oh, yes, the thing that stands like a tower on the desk is the computer itself. It's got the guts of the system. We call it the tower or the computer although the term 'computer' should apply to the whole system. The user sits at a desk and plays with a keyboard which looks like a typewriter of sorts. And beside him is a device cleverly called the mouse.

The computer does only what it is told to do and that is evidenced on the screen. If you make a mistake, the computer makes a mistake. It is stupid.

The computer has an operating system much like the engine wheels and drive train of an auto. Forgive me. Apologetically, I use analogies freely. The car goes no where unless you start it and drive it. If you drive the car into a wall, so be it. You're dead. Read no further.

In a computer you are not dead. Messages will pop up on the screen to guide you. You may not understand them, initially. That is where the computer club comes in handy.

Think of software as stuff you add to the car to make it do the things you want to do. The more you add to the car the heavier it gets and more sluggish it may become. Same with the computer.

You know that there is a lot more to the computer than this flimsy sketch. There is nothing more complicated than a woman; yet I married one. Only one though. .

