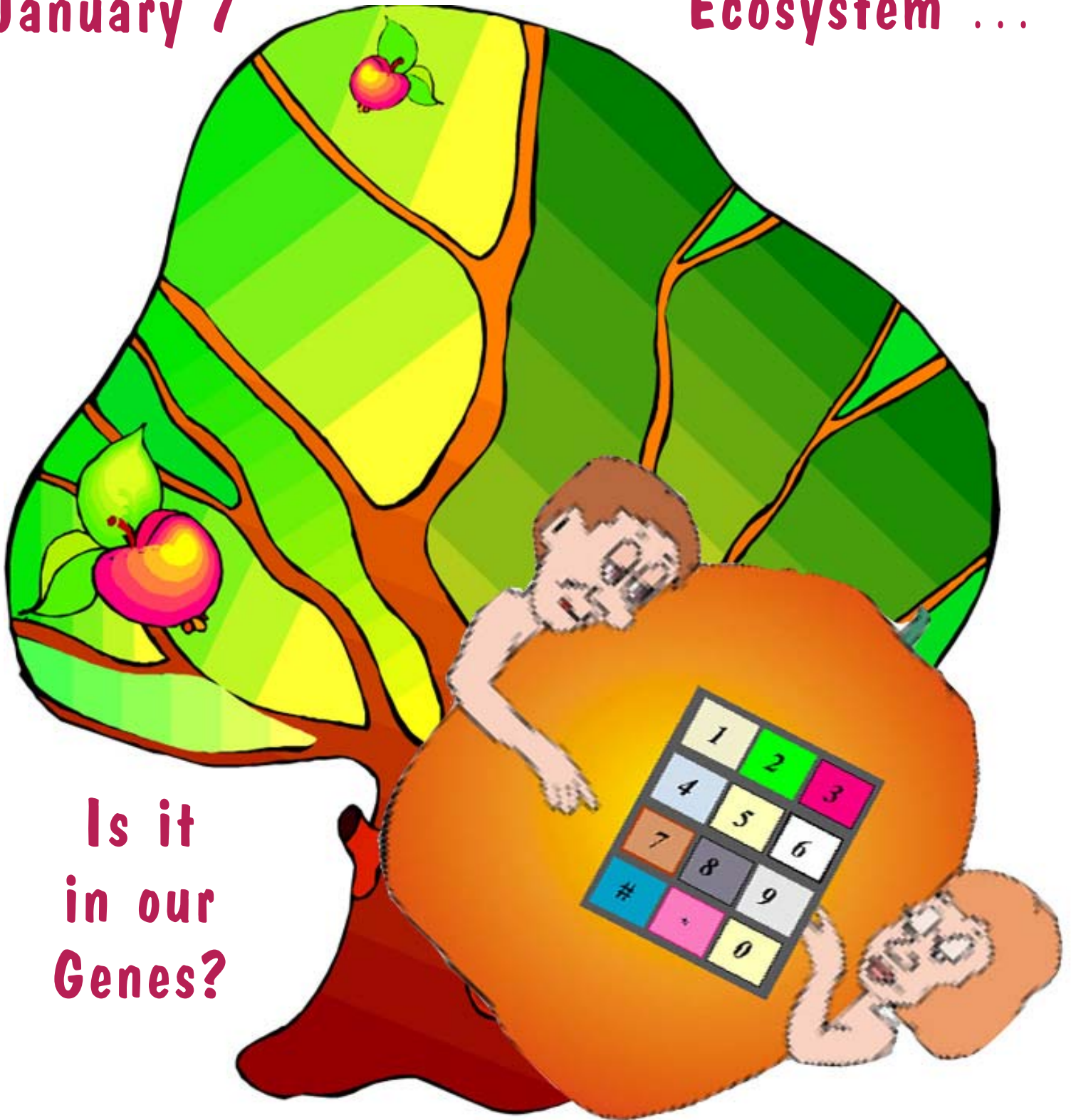


**Next Meeting:  
January 7**

**The Apple  
Ecosystem ...**



**Is it  
in our  
Genes?**

## Directors' Notes

A meeting of your board of directors was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

Attending were Richard Corzo, Jim Scheef, Lisa Leifels, Andy Woodruff, Bruce Preston, Dick Gingras, Dave Green, Bert Goff. Guests: Charlie Bovaird, Annette van Ommeren.

The minutes of last meeting were accepted.

### Treasurer's Report November 2013

Balance on hand 11/1/13	\$4,497.22
<b>INCOME</b>	
Dues	\$312.22
Total:	\$312.22
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Resource Center Phone & Internet	\$83.08
Resource Center Security (3 months)	\$79.60
Renewal Letter Postage	\$8.91
Newsletter Postage	\$40.26
Newsletter printing (2 months)	\$176.00
Total:	\$387.85
Balance on hand 11/30/13	\$4,421.59

### Membership Report

Oct 1 - Virtual Machines - Bruce Preston  
Nov 5 - Hackerspace - Mike Kaltschnee  
Dec 3 - Facebook & Pinterest - Bill DeRosa

	OCT	NOV	DEC
seat count	33	40	32
members signed in	29	28	27
visitors signed in	4	12	5
Paying members	115	115	116
w/ email address	109	109	111
new members	1	0	1

### IN THIS ISSUE

DIRECTORS' NOTES	2
HELP LINE	3
REVIEW: FACEBOOK & PINTEREST	4
PREVIEW: THE APPLE ECOSYSTEM	5
BUCKY MILAM CARTOON	5
SIG NEWS & NOTES	6
JANUARY CALENDAR	7
ASK DACS	8
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING	11
WINDOWS 8 HACKS - REVIEW	11
FUTURE EVENTS	12

DACSDOC			
printed	75	75	75
number of pages	12	12	12
mailed	61	61	61
mailed-members	41	42	42
mailed-other	5	5	5
mailed-free lib	14	14	14

### Old Business

#### 1. General meetings

- December 3: Bill DeRosa-Facebook and Pinterest. Preview: Lisa Leifels, Review: Richard Teasdale

- January 7, 2014: Richard Corzo-Apple Ecosystem. Preview: Jeff Smith, Review: TBD, Andy Woodruff (backup)

- February 4: Jay Ferron-Windows 8.1. Preview: Bruce Preston, Review: Richard Corzo

#### Possible future topics:

- ° We've started to do a "Meet the SIG" segment between the Ask DACS session and the featured presentation. We did the Linux SIG in November. The January presentation on Apple products can include a plug for the Apple SIG. What SIG should we do in February? Mobile Devices. Others available for future months: Drupal, Web Design.

- ° "LifeStream" monitoring. Mike Kaltschnee mentioned FitBit (currently available at BestBuy) or other 'wearable electronics.' Andy will speak with Jeff Schlicht, professor of Health Promotion & Exercise at WestConn, about a possible presentation at DACS re wearable electronic devices that monitor exercise and/or body functions. Bill may have access to someone who has Google Glass, and perhaps other health-related wearable devices.

- ° Sean and Bruce have agreed to put together a Saturday session, perhaps in January, more likely in February, on building virtual machines. Participants would have to bring their own operating system. Sean has his music seminar in November and a certification exam in December so we don't anticipate any action on this until after these two events.

- ° Andy suggested a session on creating a web site of various types: blog, brochure, e-commerce site, etc.) - making use of such as products/services as site builder (online or on PC), turn-key sites, etc. Andy suggested that as a computer group we should do some sort of session that would answer the question: "I think I need a web site, what are my options?" This might involve a "high level"

*Directors' Notes, Cont. on page 3*

## Membership Information

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Rob Limbaugh	Bruce Preston
Jim Scheef	Annette van Ommeren

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The editors welcome submissions from DACS members. Contact Richard Teasdale ([dacseditor@dacs.org](mailto:dacseditor@dacs.org)). Advertisers, contact Charles Bovaird at (203) 792-7881 ([aam@mags.net](mailto:aam@mags.net))

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**Applications & Hardware to enhance *dacs.doc* are welcome.**



Bill Saturno APCUG Liaison  
[wsaturno@dacs.org](mailto:wsaturno@dacs.org)



**Apple User Group**

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**RESOURCE CENTER:** (203) 748-4330 • **WEB SITE:** <http://www.dacs.org>

## HelpLine

Our former telephone HelpLine has been replaced by our web-based DACS Community Forum at <http://forum.dacs.org>. We have topic-specific forums where DACS members can post questions. Questions may be answered by SIG leaders or other DACS members. If none of the categories fit your question, just post it to the Ask DACS forum.

### Topic

.NET Programming  
Digital cameras/scanners/image processing  
Content Management Systems  
Linux  
Mac and iPhone/iPad/iPod touch  
PC maintenance  
Smartphones & Tablets  
Virtual machine software  
Desktop publishing and website design  
Windows

### Forum

ASP.Net and C#VB.Net SIG  
Digital Imaging SIG  
Drupal SIG  
Linux SIG  
Apple SIG  
PC Maintenance SIG  
Mobile Devices SIG  
Virtual Computing SIG  
Web Site Design SIG  
Windows SIG

## Directors' Notes, Cont. from page 2

overview of the various approaches. Andy (and to some extent Bruce) wanted to talk about the entry level 'turn-key' systems where you must live within the constraints of the design, where Annette is more concerned about "What happens if it doesn't do what you want it to do?" Annette and Andy will discuss creating an outline that describes at a high-level what components might be a part of a web site and the repercussions they have upon the construction of the site. No activity to report.

° Lisa suggested a "decision tree" presentation - "What should I get?" - Windows or Mac, Desktop, All-in-One, Notebook, Tablet, or even SmartPhone - Android or iOS, etc. Lots of decisions - how to decide what meets your needs. We think this would be a 'tough' presentation to pull off but a lively session. Bruce, Richard C., Jim and Charlie will work on defining the metrics.

° Video production - putting something up on YouTube. Vine, Instagram, etc. Approach WestConn or Naugatuck to see if a student might do it. Perhaps for a Senior project? Andy is currently working on a project, he says he might be able to do it in 6 months or so. Also "personal videos" that might be put on Twitter or Flickr.

° Google products? Android operating system, Chromebook, Plus, etc. Our previous Google speaker Millicent Branca has a new position at Google and did not volunteer to help us find an Android presenter. Try to find her replacement, or Mike K. if he has a contact.

° Home theater systems. Jim is in process of assembling one, might put together a program based upon his experiences. Richard also mentioned watching YouTube on TV, but it might be more suitable as an article.

° Digital cameras - higher end digital cameras. Explanation of what they have that you don't get in a phone etc. What is RAW mode, HDR, etc., sensor size, what causes noise, etc.

° John Patrick-we should request him for a presentation in May.

° 3D Printing. A demo of creating a 3D model in software and then printing it. Because printing is slow, it would probably be a demo of the software, start the printer, and then show the finished product that had previously been printed.

*Directors' Notes, Cont. on page 10*



# Meeting Review

## Facebook and Pinterest

by Richard Teasdale

AT OUR DECEMBER 3 general meeting, Bill deRosa gave DACS a well-presented overview of the online social networks, Facebook and Pinterest. His company, Talking Finger, is an award-winning marketing agency whose mission is to help businesses leverage social media. Bill has expert knowledge of Facebook and Pinterest, and of other social media services.

The presentation addressed two important aspects of Facebook: business pages, and Security and Privacy.

To begin the discussion of business pages, Bill warned the audience that anyone who today is using a personal profile on Facebook for their business will soon be forced to stop doing so. This is because of

government pressure on Facebook to protect the privacy and security of personal users. But he pointed out that there are several very good reasons to make the switch - pages provide many more options and opportunities to market a business than do personal profiles.

Note: some of the features of Facebook that Bill demonstrated will not be available to general users until the next version of Facebook is released - currently expected by about mid-January 2014. As a Facebook developer, he has early access to new versions of the software.

Business pages in Facebook are built on a website-like platform, whereas personal pages are not. This allows a business page to function in many ways like a conventional website and provides a low-cost way for a business user of Facebook to build a website.

Facebook is putting much effort into providing search engine capabilities so that business pages can be found easily. The Facebook Graph Search is being enhanced: whereas currently a user searching for a business must know the name of its page to find it, Facebook will soon allow searching for terms, e.g. product names, as Google does for conventional websites.

Facebook is already a search engine and its use as such is expected to grow rapidly.

With search engine capabilities will come the desire by business page owners to use SEO techniques to improve their rankings in search results. Business pages include an "About" section which will be indexed heavily by Facebook. It will be very important for About to contain relevant

keywords. As with conventional SEO, inward and outward links will help to improve page rankings. The About section should contain outbound links to other online resources important to the business, e.g. conventional websites, pages on other social media systems, other Facebook business pages, etc. A "landing page" should be used for inbound links in-

stead of just directing visitors to the Facebook wall.

Facebook supports applications that can be embedded into pages, to provide features such as Pay-per-click advertising and other types of social media marketing. Applications require custom coding. Although the basic infrastructure of Facebook is free, there is a cost associated with creating applications since someone has to provide the code that runs them. Bill mentioned \$60 as a typical price for basic Facebook applications.

Bill stressed the importance of Call to Action. Encourage visitors to Like your page so that in the future, they will routinely see the content that you add.

Bill's second topic was Security and Privacy while using Facebook. He described and demonstrated the use of several measures that can enhance a Facebook user's security and privacy.

The first technique is the use of lists for controlling who can see the posts a user makes on Facebook. As an example, Bill mentioned that he wants only family members and close friends to see photos of his kids. By setting up a list of family members and a list of close friends, he can limit who sees specific

personal posts to the approximately 10% of his Facebook friends who are in one of those groups. When the post is created, the user chooses which lists of friends will be able to see it; all others are blocked from seeing the post. The control can be even more granular - specific list members can be excluded from a particular post.

One drawback to the current implementation of lists is that the particular set of lists and exclusions that are chosen for a post can not be saved. So if you want to make a second post, visible to the exact same set of friends as the first, you have to again select the lists and specify any exclusions from them. However, a nice feature of Facebook posts is that the list selection can be changed after a post has been published. If the user makes a mistake in selecting who will see the post, it can be corrected after the fact.

Various other security and privacy techniques are available in Facebook. Bill demonstrated the **Activity Log**, the **View As** feature, the **Who can see my stuff?** feature, and the **Who can contact me?** feature. Most of these are self-explanatory.

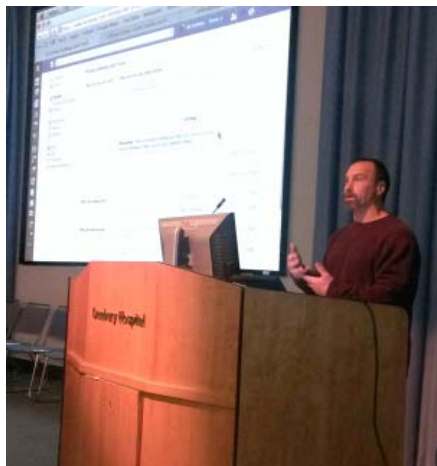
Bill mentioned that all online social networks enable users to find out who their followers are (although Facebook limits it to the most recent 50).

The final part of the session was devoted to an overview of Pinterest. Pinterest is a very visually-oriented social network: a post can not be made without an image of some kind, usually a photograph with a subtext. It is best thought of as a bulletin board for posting images.

Pinterest users can create any number of pinboards to organize their images or **pins**. Although Pinterest is free and open to anyone, up to 3 secret pinboards per user can be created, which are visible to others by invitation only.

Pins can be image files or they can be links. Pins that are actual images are created by upload from the user's computer or from a website. Pins that are links can be to images, or to videos, e.g. on YouTube. Links can be used to lead traffic to another website, e.g. to a site where a shopping cart allows users to buy things. The titles and text associated with pins are searchable.

The most common use of Pinterest is for creating personal links and bookmarks. Bill showed us examples of using Pinterest for planning home decorations, listing books worth reading, pursuing hobbies, recipes, summer activities, etc. Although Pinterest is not very profitable today, the site is working to monetize itself through the development of paid advertising.



In response to an audience question, Bill was unaware of any Pinterest user groups in the area. However he mentioned the Greater Valley chamber of commerce, in Shelton, CT, which runs user groups and a Technology Council whose monthly meetings focus on specific topics like Facebook and Pinterest.

For people interested in learning the details of how to use social networks, Bill recommended searching YouTube and SlideShare for how-to information about specific tasks. Audience members added

that the Danbury library and SCORE regularly run seminars about technology-related topics, including online social networks, and that the New Milford library recently ran Facebook presentations.

Bill invited the audience to call him if they need help with the details of implementing any of his recommendations. He will not charge for 10-15 minute conversations for that purpose.

The presentation concluded with the following piece of advice about using online social media for business: Know

which networks your target audiences are on. For example, Facebook is now used the most by people in their 30's and older, whereas younger people are on other networks, e.g. Instagram, Vine, Pheed, Twitter. A business which aims to market to 18-25 year olds is likely to fail if it tries to do so only through Facebook. There are today approximately 60 working online social networks, many of which have only small numbers of users, so it's important to be aware of the demographics and interest groups which are attracted to each one.

## Meeting Preview

### Richard Corzo - Apple Ecosystem

By Jeff Smith

HAVE YOU EVER wondered why Apple users seem a little happier than users of other OSes, or perhaps they simply seem a little less stressed? The ecosystem of high-quality products supported by a system of cloud services, which Apple has steadily rolled out over the years, allows for a very simple model, support-wise, and for a very desirable motto of "it just works!"

Richard will be covering this Apple ecosystem at the next general meeting, in January. He will be going over four devices: the Mac, iPhone, iPad, and Apple TV.

The latest version of Mac OS X 10.9, known as **Mavericks**, which runs on the iMac, Mac Pro, Mac Mini, collectively known as **Macs**, will be discussed first. Richard will present the new features this latest update brings to the table in terms of functionality and user-friendliness, such as file tagging, Time Machine, etc.

Next, Richard will discuss the incredibly popular iPhone & iPad mobile devices, running iOS 7, and how their connection to iCloud keeps them up-to-date with changes on all of a user's other devices. Also, why more developers prefer to develop for the iOS platform than Android, bringing incredible apps to these devices sooner than on other platforms. With a small set of device sizes to support, and most users on the latest iOS version, it's easier for developers to write good apps for Apple devices than for Android.

Lastly, Richard will talk about the increasingly popular Apple TV, which has seen its lineup of content apps continually being added to. One of the "killer"

features which this device provides is AirPlay, which allows for wireless streaming of content from any Apple device (iPad, iPhone, Macbook Pro).

Richard is a long-time DACS member (since 1992) and is currently its president. He is a computer programmer and an author of many articles for the DACS newsletter.

He started with his first Mac in 2001, and has continually added

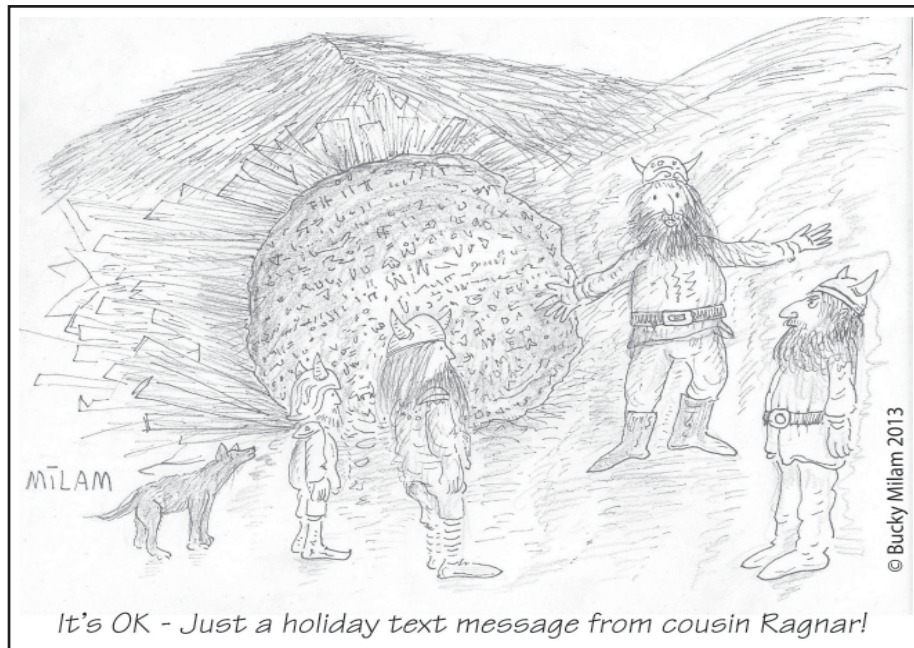
iDevices over the years, up to his latest acquisition, the iPad Air. His interest in Macs prompted him to resurrect the Apple SIG in 2004 (then called the **Macintosh SIG**).

Be prepared for an interesting presentation; and for those who might be on the edge about this OS and if it's a good fit for you, maybe this will provide the right amount of motivation to take the leap over to the Mac-side.

See you there!

DACS meetings are held at Danbury Hospital auditorium. (Go to [www.dacs.org](http://www.dacs.org) to find directions and parking info). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for registration and casual networking. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. with a Q&A period (Ask DACS), followed by announcements and a short break. The featured presentation begins at 8:00 p.m. The meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

DACS General Meetings are free and open to the public. Members and prior attendees are encouraged to extend invitations to anyone interested in this topic.





# Special Interest Groups

## SIG NOTES: January 2013

**Apple.** Focuses on all aspects of the Mac and iPhone operating systems.

**Contact:** Richard Corzo ([macsig@dacs.org](mailto:macsig@dacs.org)).

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7 p.m. at DACS Resource Center.

**Next Meeting:** Jan 13

**Digital Imaging.** All about digital cameras, retouching, and printing using various programs.

**Contact:** Ken Graff at 203 648-9747 ([thedigitalwiz@gmail.com](mailto:thedigitalwiz@gmail.com)).  
Meets last Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

**Next Meeting:** Spring 2014

**Drupal.** Covers all things on Drupal, the open source content management system (CMS).

**Contact:** Jim Scheef ([jscheef@dacs.org](mailto:jscheef@dacs.org)).

Meets on the second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center, or go to the DACS Community Forum (<http://www.dacs.org/forum/>) within the Members only area.

**Next meeting:** Jan 9

**Jobs.** Networking and jobs search

**Contact:** Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 ([aam@mags.net](mailto:aam@mags.net)).

Go to DACS Community Forum (<http://forum.dacs.org>) for job listings.

**Linux.** Helps in installing and maintaining the Linux operating system. Also of interest to Apple owners using OS X.

**Contact:** Dave Mawdsley, [linuxsig@dacs.org](mailto:linuxsig@dacs.org)

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

**Next Meeting:** Jan 15

**Mobile Devices.** Focuses on smartphones, tablets, and e-readers of all makes and models.

**Contact:** Richard Corzo and Jim Scheef ([Mobilesig@dacs.org](mailto:Mobilesig@dacs.org))

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center

**Next Meeting:** Jan 27

**PC Maintenance.** Review of PC hardware and OpSys maintenance and use.

**Contact:** Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 ([aam@mags.net](mailto:aam@mags.net)).

Go to DACS Community Forum (<http://forum.dacs.org>).

**Server.** Explores Back Office server and client applications, including Win NT Servers and MS Outlook. SIG is on hiatus and presently merged into the Drupal SIG.

**Contact:** Jim Scheef ([jscheef@telemarrsys.com](mailto:jscheef@telemarrsys.com)), or go to the DACS Community Forum: <http://www.dacs.org/forum/>, within the Members-only area

**Web Design and DTP.** Learn about Adobe software for web, graphics and desktop publishing.

**Contact:** Annette van Ommeren ([avo@annagraphics.com](mailto:avo@annagraphics.com)).

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

**Next Meeting:** Feb 17

## SIG News & Events

**Apple.** In December we shared our early experiences with OS X Mavericks (10.9).

I noticed the right click on my Apple Magic Mouse was no longer working. Initially I thought it was something wrong with the mouse but when I booted into Windows using Boot Camp, the right click worked just fine. I had originally installed Mavericks as an upgrade to Mountain Lion (10.8). I decided to perform a clean install and that resolved the right-click problem.

The trade-off was that I had to reinstall some things like my printers and scanner. Apple Software Update will automatically install necessary drivers when you add the

printer or scanner. However my Canon scanner was old enough that the driver was not available from Apple. Canon also did not have a current driver, but I was able to copy some files from my backup of the Mountain Lion installation and partially restore the scanner drivers. With the aid of VueScan software (<http://www.hamrick.com>), I can now scan again.

We also took a look at the updated iPhoto. I connected my iPhone and imported some new photos. The only difference we could see from the old iPhoto is that the location feature now uses the new Apple Maps included with OS X Mavericks.


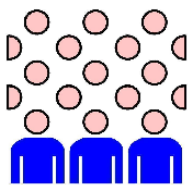








Do you have a special technology interest you would like to share or learn more about? Join a DACS SIG or start one. You don't have to be a nerd or a guru—just have a curiosity for what's out there and an interest in sharing or



discovering with others like you. Send an e-mail to [dacsprez@dacs.org](mailto:dacsprez@dacs.org), or talk to one of our officers at the next meeting, and say something like "I want to start a SIG!" or "Wouldn't it be nice if we had a SIG on . . .?"

# January 2014

## Danbury Area Computer Society

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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12	13  Apple 7:00 PM Richard Corzo macsig@dacs.org	14	15  Linux 7:30 - 9:30 PM Dave Mawdsley linuxsig@dacs.org	16	17	18  DACS.DOC Deadline																																																																																				
19	20 	21  Web Design & DTP Annette van Ommeren 7:00 - 9:00 PM avanommeren@dacs.org	22	23	24	25																																																																																				
26	27  Mobile Devices 7:00 PM Jim Scheef & Richard Corzo mobilesig@dacs.org	28	29	30	31																																																																																					

December 2013

*Moderated and reported by Jim Scheef*

**W**E WELCOME QUESTIONS FROM the floor at the start of our General Meetings. The role of moderator is to try to guide the discussion to a likely solution to the problem. In addition, members who are not able to attend the General meeting may submit questions to [askdacs@dacs.org](mailto:askdacs@dacs.org). We will ask the question for you and post the reply in [dacs.doc](#) and on [dacs.org](#). Please provide as much information as possible, since we can't probe during the session.

**Q – I received a call the other night from a man with a deep Indian accent who claimed to be a technician from Microsoft. He said that my computer was “virus stricken” and was offering to help me fix it. He asked that I go to a website and once there, a window popped up asking permission to install software on my computer. At this point I stopped. I Googled this and found many references including a warning Microsoft has about this scam on their website.**

**A –** Our DACS community is indebted to this member for bringing this up at the meeting. Fortunately he stopped the “support technician” before any immediate financial harm was done. The Microsoft warning about this scam is on the Safety & Security Center at <http://www.microsoft.com/security/online-privacy/avoid-phone-scams.aspx>. I had not heard of this scam before the meeting and my reaction was that the scammer installed and left malware on the member's computer. From what I have seen on YouTube and various blogs, it appears that the GoToMeeting site used by the scammers is legitimate, although different scammers may use different sites. The scammer continues to prompt the victim through the process of installing GoToMeeting. He (or she) gives the victim a code to start a remote control session. If the victim does this he is pwned ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pwn](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pwn)). The scammer now has complete control, and if the victim is using an “administrator” account (the Windows default for the first account on a machine), you have given the scammer everything he needs to install his malware right before your eyes! There are several YouTube videos of these calls and of people trying to see how long they could keep the “technician” on the phone. You may find these amusing. One series of videos

starts at [bit.ly/1kxYMDx](http://bit.ly/1kxYMDx). Look for the one where the victim tells the technician that he is on a Macintosh and then insists the technician help him anyway.

If my initial reaction at the meeting was correct, and malware was installed, it is likely to be too new to be detected by even a current anti-virus or malware scanner like Malwarebytes.

I have two questions about this scam: (1) How long will LogMeIn (a publicly traded company) allow the scammers to continue to create accounts and operate the scam? (2) No one has a satisfactory explanation for how the scammers get the phone numbers, but you can bet it's not legitimate. My theory would be that they hacked the registration records of some web sites that include phone numbers. When I register at such sites, I tend to give my number as 860-555-0000. On most sites, this passes the field edit but is obviously wrong to anyone who actually looks at it.

The discussion turned to ways of detecting malware that hides from scanners. My suggestion is to boot in safe mode and run full scans using both your anti-virus and something like Malwarebytes. A member suggested a rootkit detector from Malwarebytes. I've used rootkit detectors from both Microsoft and Sophos. In researching this question, I learned that the System Restore function in Windows ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/System\\_Restore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/System_Restore)) was vastly improved in Vista and later. System Restore can actually help in this situation if the attempt is made soon enough after the problem has occurred. System Restore in Vista and later uses Shadow Copy to save files and registry settings modified during an installation. The dates in System Restore are all “restore points” created during a Windows Update or other well-

behaved software installation (note that malware is seldom well-behaved). The disk space provided for the “before” files is limited and these files will be overwritten in time. This would actually be another good reason to stop using XP!

**Q – Along the lines of the first question, Bruce Preston offered a warning about malware called CryptoLocker. A common means of delivery is a spam email with the subject “Your order confirmation”**

**A –** From Wikipedia ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CryptoLocker](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CryptoLocker)):

**CryptoLocker** is Trojan horse malware which surfaced in late 2013. A form of ransomware targeting computers running Windows, a CryptoLocker attack may come from various sources; one such is disguised as a legitimate email attachment. When activated, the malware encrypts certain types of files stored on local and mounted network drives using RSA public-key cryptography, with the private key stored only on the malware's control servers. The malware then displays a message which offers to decrypt the data if a payment (through either Bitcoin or a pre-paid voucher) is made by a stated deadline, and says that the private key will be deleted and unavailable for recovery if the deadline passes. If the deadline is not met, the malware offers to decrypt data via an online service provided by the malware's operators, for a significantly higher price in Bitcoin.

Although CryptoLocker itself is readily removed, files remain encrypted in a way which researchers have considered infeasible to break. Many say that the ransom should not be paid, but do not offer any way to recover files; others say that paying the ransom is the only way to recover files that had not been backed up.

Our discussion covered many things. First, the malware will find and search mapped (network) drives as well as local drives, so it will find and encrypt your files, pictures, music, etc., stored on a file server or network attached storage. Files that are mirrored on cloud storage like SkyDrive, Box, Google Drive, etc. are also vulnerable as the good files will be overwritten with the encrypted version. The same thing will happen



with “automatic continuous” off-site backups like Carbonite. The only true defense is a traditional off-line backup, the kind that take time to complete and we all hate to make. You should always have at least two versions of such an off-line backup in case it runs on schedule and copies the encrypted files.

Of course, the best defense is to not install the malware in the first place! So far this attack requires the victim to open the email, open the attachment and allow the malware to install and run. At any point in this process, all you need to do is NOT click on the next step! These attacks will become more automated over time so extreme caution will become paramount. The Ars Technica article ([bit.ly/19wvX94](http://bit.ly/19wvX94)) has more information.

***Q – Is there a free version of Skype?***

A – The Skype service ([skype.com](http://skype.com)) is free for “calls” between personal computers. Skype calls that include any “real” phone number incur a per-minute charge and thus require a paid Skype account with a positive balance in the account. It does not matter if the phone number is a traditional land line, a cell phone or a VoIP account. Within the U.S. “Skype-out” calls are 2.3¢/minute or \$2.99/month for “unlimited” time. As mentioned last month ([dacs.org/archive/2013-12/ranotes.htm](http://dacs.org/archive/2013-12/ranotes.htm)), Skype became a service of Microsoft last year. Discussion turned to various “hacks” such as installing a Skype app on an out-of-service smartphone and using the phone over Wi-Fi to “call” another Skype account. This would constitute a free call.

***Q – When sending a text message on my Android phone, occasionally the message gets “stuck” where the app shows that it is “sending...” for an extended period of time. Is there a way to clear this condition and resend the message? All I can do now is delete the message and start over.***

A – A member suggested waiting until the texting app times out and there is an option to resend (or retry) the message. This is very rare. The questioner said this happens in areas of poor reception. Text messages are sent over the “control band” or “signaling channel” part of the cell phone signal. This channel uses much less bandwidth than the voice

channel required for an actual phone call. The signal to make a cell phone ring comes over this same channel which explains why a cell phone can ring just fine in an area of marginal signal and then the actual call is totally unintelligible.

***Q – Is it possible to determine the location from which an email message was sent based on the headers in the message? Can I look at my emails and determine where I was when I sent a particular message?***

A – There was some discussion on this at the meeting. For the first question, in theory it is possible to trace the transit history of a message as each server adds its stamp to a message as it arrives and passes on to the final destination. In reality, this history can be obliterated totally or in part at any step. A full description of the email delivery process is beyond our scope. The Wikipedia article on SMTP (simple mail transfer protocol) gives an excellent overview ([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SMTP](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SMTP)). Discussion at the meeting assumed that the email was received and viewed using an email client program like Microsoft Outlook, Thunderbird, Macintosh Mail, etc. running on your PC, rather than web-based email like Yahoo Mail or Hotmail that is viewed using a browser. Yahoo preserves and can display the “full header”; other services may or may not. Within the headers is the IP address or fully-qualified domain name of each computer that touched the message starting with the sender, then each relay point, and finally the receiving server.

Determining where these servers are located is another matter entirely. Assuming you have the IP address of a machine, you can find the owner of that IP address using a “whois” lookup tool like that at Domain Tools ([whois.domaintools.com](http://whois.domaintools.com)) or DNS Stuff ([dnsstuff.com](http://dnsstuff.com)). The results are likely to disappoint. For example, I have a static IP address in New Milford, yet if you do a basic whois on my IP address, the result is Charter Communications in St. Louis, Missouri. However if you do a reverse IP lookup, the result is [telemarksys.com](http://telemarksys.com), because I (normally) have a web server on that address. The reverse IP lookup searches for domains that are hosted on an IP address.

However, once again this does not tell you where the server is located. A “whois” lookup on the domain will tell you where the domain is registered provided that information is not hidden by the domain registrar, and the domain’s registered address is probably not where the server is located. Another example might be a message sent over Wi-Fi at a Holiday Inn located somewhere fun. The lookup is most likely to reveal the connection is owned by Holiday Inn. That Motel 6 along the interstate is likely to show the AT&T DSL used by the motel rather than the hotel’s name and location. Certainly, the ISP providing the connection to the site knows where that connection is located. Such information is available to law enforcement at a merest whim; however the tools to find detail location information are not readily available to the public simply because of how IP address blocks are administered. Such things as Google Location Services can pinpoint the location of a cell phone based on the phone’s GPS (very accurate) or cell signal (accuracy depends on distance to nearest cell towers) and can often provide fairly accurate location of a home connection using DSL or cable. The limitation is that this information is real time and is only available to that location. [The extreme irony inherent in this statement relative to news stories of, well, say for the past eleven years is hereby noted.] In other words, the location of your cellphone or computer is only available on that device, at that moment in time, so this does not apply to the question at hand.

Finally, on the question about determining where you were when you sent a message: If you are using an email client on a laptop that you carry with you when travelling, the email messages in your “sent” folder, never leave your computer and thus have no headers at all beyond the date and time. If the messages were sent from your phone over a 3G connection to your cellphone provider, the IP address of the phone might be in the headers, however even if it is, at that point you are in the same situation as for received messages above. So in the final analysis, this entire answer can be summarized into two words: “Sorry, no”.

***Q – What is the best way to transfer a photo from an iPhone 4s to a desktop PC?***

A – The best (and the official) way to transfer anything to or from any Apple mobile device (iPod, iPhone or iPad) is thru the iTunes program. iTunes is a free download from Apple ([apple.com/itunes](http://apple.com/itunes)). When you connect your iDevice to your computer (PC or Mac), iTunes will “pair” itself to the device and offer to synchronize everything that can be synced. This includes music, video, books and movies in addition to your pictures. While you could email the picture to yourself (as pointed out at the meeting); iTunes will sync all of your pictures at full resolution, while the email will try to compress it into nothingness. As a bonus, your iPhone will charge its battery while all this takes place.

***Q – Is there a SIG meeting where I can learn about all the various social media services like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, all the things my granddaughters use that I know nothing about?***

A – My first suggestion would be to sit down and let your granddaughters explain how they use whichever ones they use. The meeting tonight is on Facebook and Pinterest (see review on page 4 and on our website at <http://www.dacs.org/meetings/review.htm>). The meeting in June was on Twitter ([dacs.org/archive/2013-07/review.htm](http://dacs.org/archive/2013-07/review.htm)), and back in September, 2012, we had a speaker on Google+. Social Media would be a good topic for a special interest group (SIG) but ten minutes is not enough time to even define the basics of each service. Many tutorials can be found by searching for “how to use twitter.” Another member mentioned that YouTube has video tutorials on just about any topic and Slide Share ([slideshare.com](http://slideshare.com)) has PowerPoint presentations that people have posted on many topics. All of these resources are just waiting to be discovered in your search.

**[Disclaimer:** Ask DACS questions come from members by email or from the audience attending the general meeting. Answers are suggestions offered by meeting attendees and represent a consensus of those responding. DACS offers no warranty as to the correctness of the answers, and anyone following these suggestions or answers does so at their own risk. In other words, we could be totally wrong!]

***Directors’ Notes, Cont. from page 3***

**2. Opening/filled positions**

- Dave Green has submitted his resignation as Treasurer effective 12/31/2013. Bert Goff has agreed to assume the position of Treasurer effective 01/01/2014. Motion made and approved by the board that the board accept Dave's resignation and appointed Bert Goff as Treasurer. Dave will remain in a consulting role during transition until March 31st.

- Dick Gingras will take over the President position from Richard Corzo at the end of his term, March 31st...

- Replacements for retiring "odd-year class" board members Drew Kwashnak and Annette van Ommeren in December. Bert Goff was elected at the December annual meeting to fill one of the vacated board positions. The remaining position is open in case a good candidate arises. Otherwise we will begin to downsize the board from 11 to 9 directors.

3. Jim had been looking into the feasibility of implementing a 'split domain' where DACS e-mails may be serviced by either Microsoft Office 365 or our current mail server on Bluehost. It was decided to not pursue this functionality.

**New Business**

1. Bob Green has become very frustrated with trying to use CiviCRM to maintain our membership data and then generating his sign-in sheets for members and visitors to the general meeting. He is near the point where he wants to quit, so we need to focus on issues he has reported and make this a turnkey operation for him that does not require him to debug the system. There are data entry questions (handling family memberships, membership start dates, etc.), sometimes extreme slowness when trying to use CiviCRM, and the need to manually fix up his sign-in sheet.

2. The board approved the renewal of our APCUG membership this month.

3. Dave Green has received a letter from our insurance carrier Zurich North America notifying us that the company providing us with small business insurance, Maryland Casualty Company will be replaced with a new one, Foremost Insurance Company. Bert offered to look into options. Jim reported that he had investigated with an agency where

he has a contact, and our carrier at that time was the only one offering coverage appropriate to our needs.

4. Our Bluehost web hosting subscription expires in February. Do we want to form a committee to look at other options, or shall we plan on renewing our subscription? After discussion we decided to stay with Bluehost.

5. Bill DeRosa gave us some feedback on our Facebook page. Do we want to make any changes in how we use it? We decided that while his suggestions may be valid they are impractical, there isn't enough 'return n investment'. Jim suggested that instead of posting articles on Facebook that we at least post links to the DACS site. We should look for a volunteer who enjoys working with Facebook. Annette puts up meetings, but we need to find someone who is more involved with Facebook. We decided to focus upon Meetup instead. It was suggested that we establish a Social Networking SIG, with our publicity as a component of the SIG's charter.

6. To get more board members attending the BOD meetings, the day of the BOD meeting will be the Wednesday immediately after the General Meeting. This will go into effect with the January 2014 BOD meeting.

7. RC Phone circuit - Dick will look into alternatives for the phone line, which also supports the buzz in, DSL, and the security system.

8. Richard will ask for the auditorium for the 2014 general meetings.

Adjourned: 9:15

—Bruce Preston



Do you have a burning computer question, but can't make it to the meeting, or just never seem to get your hand up in time? Email your inquiry to Jim Scheef, the answer guy, at [askdacs@dacs.org](mailto:askdacs@dacs.org), and your question will be taken up at Ask DACS at the next meeting.

# Danbury Area Computer Society, Inc. Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting

*Jim Scheef, Moderator*

The annual meeting of the members of the Danbury Area Computer Society, Inc. was called to order by the moderator at 7:55 pm, December 3, 2013.

The moderator announced the order of business to be the election of directors. He then noted that there are no minutes available from the last annual meeting and there is no Treasurer's report. These will be corrected for next year. A member moved that the meeting accept the Treasurer's report as published in the December issue of DACS.doc. Another member seconded. The discussion showed that the report covers only one month and not the entire year. Bruce Preston moved that we waive the minutes and treasurer's report. Another member seconded. In the discussion, it was suggested to table the reports to the January meeting,

but waiving the reports with a pledge to do better next year, seemed to be a better idea. The moderator called for a voice vote which passed the motion unanimously.

DACS is a corporation and thus the members elect directors who manage the club by appointing officers. There are eleven seats on the board. Five seats are up for election this year. Directors serve a two-year term and are elected in two classes so half of the directors are elected each year. This helps ensure continuity for the club.

The moderator read the list of nominees.

## Nominee

Bert Goff

Lisa Leifels

Bruce Preston

Jim Scheef

Open

Incumbent

Incumbent

Incumbent

He announced that there is an open director's seat that can be filled by a nomination from the floor. The nominee must be present and agree to stand for election. There were no nominations from the floor.

The moderator then asked for a motion to accept the entire slate as presented. Andy Woodruff moved that all nominees be accepted by a unanimous vote. Bruce Preston seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The moderator called for a voice vote by those who are current DACS members. The aye vote was loud. There were no nay votes. The moderator declared the motion to have passed and congratulated the directors. The moderator asked if there was additional business for the annual meeting. There being none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Dick Gingras made the motion which was seconded by Bruce Preston. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Minutes submitted by Jim Scheef, based on a recording of the meeting.

## Book Review

### Windows 8 Hacks

*Reviewed by Iris Yoffa*

**Windows 8 Hacks: Tips & Tools for Unlocking the Power of Tablets and Desktops**, by Preston Gralla. O'Reilly Media; <http://shop.oreilly.com/product/0636920024958.do> (ISBN-13:9781449325756). Price: \$24.99, \$14.45 @ Amazon

**W**INDOWS 8 HACKS IS a nifty little task-oriented volume. It is not an overview or introductory text to Microsoft's latest Operating System. And granted, much of what is contained within these

pages can be found online. However, I fall into the category of not knowing enough about Windows 8 and its underpinnings to know what to ask the Great Google to fetch for me. So I looked through this book and thought it would be a great instructional guide

to learning the ins and outs of customizing this OS. As I continued to browse, I noticed some of the hacks I was interested in require Windows 8 Pro or Enterprise to be installed on my machine.

Microsoft has eliminated many of the command-line utilities we all love to use to get "under the hood" in a new computer's edition of the OS that's installed by default. Sadly, even the first hack, Disable Windows 8's Lock Screen, just won't work for me because gpedit.msc is not accessible on my new laptop. I feel as if I just bought a crippleware computer! But enough whining.

This book contains an abundance of useful step-by-steps for making Windows 8 more efficient for you. Even more important, there are great explanations of how the particular subject of the hack works. For example, Hack 70: Hack DNS to Speed up Web browsing (a way to speed up your web browsing using any type of connection). This hack has a succinct explanation of the Domain Name System and how to implement the free OpenDNS service on your computer and/or entire network. It's simply a matter of changing the DNS addresses in Internet Protocols on your PC or router. Windows 8 Keyboard Shortcuts are listed nicely in a table in Hack 38.

This is really handy for us non-touchscreen users. Using the keyboard for direct access to features is so much more efficient than pointing at corners of the screen and then click-click-click.

Hack 39 is a table of Windows 8 Gestures. Hack 44 is all about SkyDrive, what it is, how to use it, and why you should download SkyDrive for Windows (not the one preinstalled) to gain full functionality.

I surely miss the Start Menu. I hear I am far from alone in this complaint. Hack 8 explains how to create a folder that contains a complete listing of all your installed applications, including the system apps and Win8 apps.

Pin it to the start menu and drag it into an accessible spot. Double-click the folder to see the complete list and use the new File Explorer search bar to find anything quickly. Hack 85 contains instructions for accessing the Win8 secret administrator account. This account is not subject to the UAC controls. Think super-user or root on Linux systems.

So once you figure out how to get past your start screen, you'll find Preston Gralla's book a great asset in modifying or optimizing everything Windows 8. From startup and desktop to networking and security to e-mail, hardware and the registry, every aspect of the OS is touched upon.

While the title uses the term Hacks, I consider them 121 gems of hidden keys to opening up the potential of Win 8.

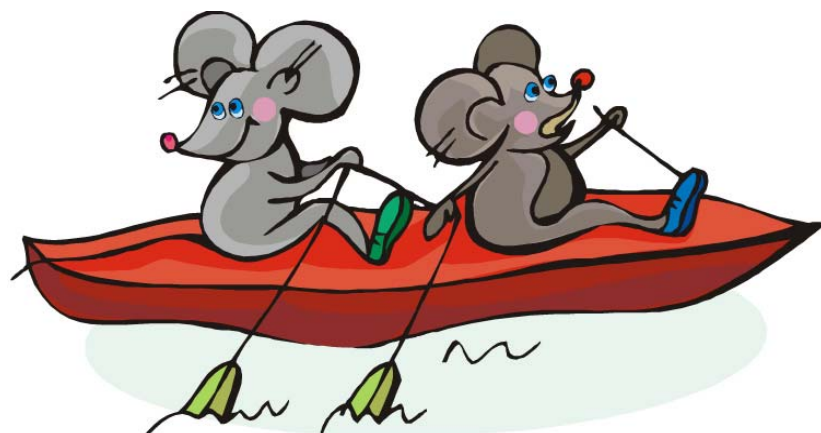
*Iris Yoffa is a member of the Tucson Computer Society, AZ ([www.aztcs.org](http://www.aztcs.org)). Iris can be found at [Irisonthego \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:Irisonthego@gmail.com)*

*This article was published in the May 2013 issue, eJournal, and is distributed for reprint by other user groups.*



dacs.doc

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# Future Events:

## January

Richard Corzo  
The Apple Ecosystem

## February

Jay Ferron-  
Windows 8.1

## March

TBA

## April

TBA