



DACS.doc

A Computer & Technology Newsletter

September 2015

Volume 26, Issue 9

\$2.00

Next Event: Tuesday, September 1



Explore the Connected World of LinkedIn



President's File

Things don't just happen by themselves. It takes people like you to make it happen. There are many activities on the back-burner just waiting for someone like you to take ownership. We need you to add value and help shape the future of DACS. Here are



just a few areas where we need your help:

- **Recording secretary** to take minutes. We also want more of you to share your ideas at Board meetings.
- **SIG/Workshop coordinator** to coordinate workshop formation, venues, schedules, expedite meeting reviews.
- **Workshop leaders:** Windows 10, MS Office, Video production and distribution.
- **Membership committee members:** maintain the CiviCRM membership platform and ensure membership data is kept current. Implement ways to increase DACS membership.
 - Newsletter & Website **Editorial staff**, authors, meeting reviews.
 - **Marketing committee members** - If you like what we are doing, **please help to spread the word about DACS**, our excellent presentations each month, our new video productions, and the workshops we run and co-sponsor with other groups throughout the month. **Use social media** to spread the word. Help plan and participate in the Mad Hackers Technology & Innovation Fair on October 17th.
 - **Program committee chairperson:** Help arrange for new speakers, meeting reviewers, tell us what new presentations you would like to see or email us directly at

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programs@dacs.org.

Don't wait for me to contact you. Please tell me what you can do to help make DACS great.

Lisa Leifels has done an outstanding job heading up the Program Committee. She has lined up most of the great presentations this past year, coordinated with the presenters ahead of time, and arranged the meeting previews and reviews appearing in our newsletter and website, many times authored by herself. Unfortunately she needs to step down from this role.

Jim Scheef has been a major contributor to DACS for more than 20 years. He has served as DACS President, webmaster, SIG (workshop) leader, Membership committee, Board member, and other prominent roles. Though he will still be playing a major role in many DACS activities he has resigned from the Board of Directors. We look forward to his positive contributions to DACS into the foreseeable future.

We had a great turnout last month at our Windows 10 presentation by Jay Ferron. It was packed with nuggets of useful information that only a Microsoft insider and MVP could provide. We had a lot of interest expressed in starting a series of Windows 10 workshops. All we need now is someone to lead the workshop. Anyone interested? Please send email to Workshops@dacs.org.

Unleash your creative talent by creating a video production. Four recent General Meetings have been recorded with the hope that we can start broadcasting them via YouTube. I hope to produce a recording of our meetings on a regular basis but we need your participation! I encourage everyone who wants to learn to create, edit, produce and distribute good video, whether it's from your smart phone or using professional equipment, to participate in a new Video workshop. We will learn tips and techniques from each other. It will be hosted for DACS at Charter headquarters in Newtown, CT. To learn more just send me email at VideoWorkshop@dacs.org.

25th anniversary – We need your help! Let's make this yearlong celebration a success. We want to create a much broader awareness of DACS as we participate in new activities, and create collectables of interest to DACS members and the general public. Talk about your ideas with Cathy Quaranta at the check-in table at our next general meeting or let her know by email. We need to prepare now for the 2015 Mad Hackers Technology & Innovation Fair at the Danbury Library on October 17th.

From mobile to desktop, we inform, enlighten, and educate.
—Dick Gingras

Membership Information

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

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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 Workshop leaders or other DACS members. If none of the categories fit your question, just post it to the Ask DACS forum.

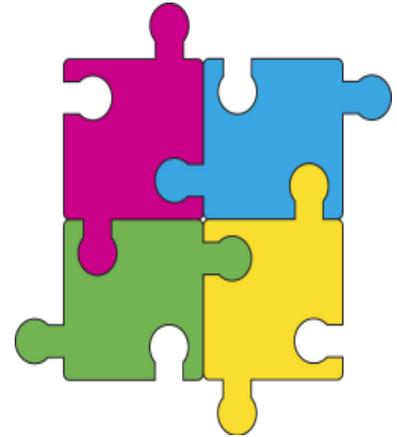
Topic

.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 Workshop
Digital Imaging Workshop
Drupal Workshop
Linux Workshop
Apple Workshop
PC Maintenance Workshop
Mobile Devices Workshop
Virtual Computing Workshop
Web Site Design Workshop
Windows Workshop

There are Many Ways to Join DACS



An easy way to join DACS is to attend one of the monthly general meetings. General meetings are normally held on the first Tuesday of each month at Danbury Hospital. Or join right on our Website via the PayPal link, where you may also pay by credit card without a PayPal account.

General meetings are always free to the public, but only members benefit fully from DACS' many other events, activities, and publications. As a member you become part of a dynamic computer group in the Greater Danbury Area.

You will receive a subscription to *dacs.doc*, our award-winning monthly newsletter, packed with news and information pertinent to computer users of all levels. In addition to interesting feature stories, the newsletter contains a monthly calendar of events and a recap of the the previous general meeting and last month's workshops. Members may also post questions to the DACS Community Forum.

Members may also attend the monthly workshops, where topics relating to computers, peripherals, software, and operating systems are discussed. Workshops meet throughout the month at our Resource Center in downtown Danbury unless mentioned otherwise in the calendar. Occasionally, special topic sessions are also offered to members.

Individual/Family Memberships

Annual membership dues are \$40.00 for individuals or for each family living at the same address. Annual memberships which include a printed newsletter are available for \$60.00 a year.

Meeting Review

Windows 10 – Jayson Ferron – August 4th, 2015

By Lisa Leifels

JAY STARTED OFF his presentation by glancing at his laptop and using the new facial recognition software called Windows Hello to log into his laptop. He told us that Windows 10 is the first operating system to support facial recognition software. Jay explained that a 3D infrared camera is required which makes this new feature more secure than if only a standard webcam is used. If you prefer, you can also sign into your computer with your fingerprints or using your irises. You still have the ability to login the old way with a password or a PIN and now you can even use a picture password where you draw gestures over a picture of your choosing.

Jay informed us that Windows 10 is free for anyone running Windows 7 or higher as long as the upgrade is done within one year of Windows 10's July 29 launch date. Once you've claimed your upgrade, it's permanent and Microsoft will keep you updated for the supported lifetime of the device. Windows 10 is aimed at not having new versions and it is expected to be around for the next ten years. There will be incremental upgrade cycles to Windows 10, and every couple of months a new update will be available. You can go to the Microsoft store at the Danbury Mall and they will install Windows 10 on your computer for free. Within its first day of release 14 million people downloaded Windows 10, taking advantage of the free upgrade.

Jay was excited to tell us that the familiar Start Menu used in Windows 7 is now back in Windows 10! The new Start Menu is a combination of the classic Windows 7 Start

Menu on the left and the tile-laden Windows 8 Start Menu on the right. The new Start Menu is much more customizable than it has ever been before. You have the ability to resize it, pin and unpin tiles and add the Control Panel and other special built-in shortcuts to the left side of the Start Menu. You can even remove all the live tiles and make it look just like Windows 7.

All of your software that runs on Windows 7 will run on Windows 10, except for antivirus software. Windows Defender is a real-time antivirus built into Windows 10. It will automatically scan programs you open, download new virus definitions from Windows Update and it can be used for in-depth scans. If you install another antivirus software package on Windows 10, Windows Defender will automatically be turned off because you can't have multiple antivirus software programs running simultaneously.

Jay had a lot of fun showing us how to use Cortana, the clever new personal assistant built into Windows 10. He asked, "Hey Cortana, will I need a raincoat tomorrow?" Cortana figured out Jay's current location and gave him the local weather report for the next day. In order for this feature to work your computer needs to have a microphone that works well and you also need to turn on the setting in your computer that lets Cortana respond when you say "Hey Cortana". You can get started with using Cortana by typing a question in the search box on the task bar or you can select the microphone icon to talk to Cortana. Jay showed us how Cortana can be used to open Excel, remind you of upcoming meetings, and it can even shut down your computer. In order for this feature to work you need to give Cortana permission to access your data.

The new control panel is almost the same as the Windows 8.1 version with a few exceptions to make it easier to use. The Action Center where you can check out all of your security and maintenance needs has been renamed appropriately "Security and Maintenance". If you prefer to continue to use the original control panel it is still available.

File Backup is not included in Windows 10, because Microsoft realized that people were not using Windows to backup their computers. Instead, you can use OneDrive to backup all of your files. The Command Prompt has been part of Windows since the very beginning and remains one of the least changed components of the Windows operating system. You can now cut and paste

from the command prompt. You also have the ability to change the font size.

Windows 10 includes Microsoft Edge, which replaces Internet Explorer as the default browser. The Edge interface has been rewritten from scratch and Microsoft claims it is the fastest browser available today. Edge gives you the ability to download articles from the internet and save it to your reading list, so that you can read the article later on an airplane when you aren't connected to the internet. Jay said that he loves this new feature and uses it often, since he spends a great deal of his time traveling on airplanes.

Jay suggested that if you want to upgrade a Windows 7 or Windows 8 machine to Windows 10, you should be sure to plug in all the devices that you plan on using with Windows 10. The first step is to do a test to see if Windows 10 is compatible with all of your attached hardware. This can be done by finding the 'Get Windows 10 app' icon in the notification tray at the bottom-right corner of your screen with the white Windows logo on it. You can right-click on this icon and select the option to 'Check your upgrade status'. On the next screen that appears, click on the icon with the three horizontal lines in the upper-left corner and select the 'Check your PC' option. This will let you know ahead of time if the upgrade process will be able to run smoothly for you.

Jay was peppered with numerous questions throughout his entire presentation and he did a terrific job of answering them without skipping a beat and then going back to his presentation. Thank you, Jay, for filling us in on some of the cool new features included in Windows 10. Now that we know what to expect, it just might be time to dive right in and begin using Windows 10. If you'd like to stay in touch with what Jay is currently up to, you can subscribe to his blog at blog.mir.net.



Hold the Date!

Celebrate DACS' 25th anniversary with us on October 17 at the 2015 Mad Hackers Technology & Innovation Fair at Danbury Library.

More than 40 technology, craft and fun exhibits will be on display. It will be great event for kids of all ages!! **Tickets are FREE.**

Meeting Preview

LinkedIn Tips, Tricks, and Strategy

By Lisa Leifels

Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 7:30 PM
Location: Danbury Hospital Creasy Auditorium
Presenter: Donald Wittman

LINKEDIN HAS EVOLVED tremendously since it was founded in 2002. The platform has been transformed from a simple online resume and networking site to a much more sophisticated system for managing all of your activities. New features have been added on a regular basis, giving you the



ability to use it to forge strong bonds and meaningful relationships with your connections. 90% of recruiters are using LinkedIn, and 64% of recruiters use LinkedIn exclusively. Come join us on Tuesday, September 1st at 7:30 pm to hear Don Wittman share the latest research on LinkedIn techniques that effectively generate results using his unique Pull Marketing Strategy.

There are three pillars to searching for a new job. The first is a push strategy, which is sending out resumes and using head hunters and search firms. The second is networking or working with a company to build a new position. Don will be explaining the third, which is a pull strategy using sites such as LinkedIn. Once you build your highly searchable LinkedIn profile for the job you want, recruiters will begin to come to you.

Don will begin his presentation with an overview of LinkedIn and then he will review the LinkedIn profile checklist. After that he will show us how to find the right keywords and identify the high value areas of LinkedIn. Don will teach us how to generate one to three new contacts a

week and how to leverage the power of job descriptions in your profile so that employers can easily find you. All of this information will help you to get more interviews, in person meetings, and referrals, and also to find new opportunities by discovering jobs in hidden job markets.

Don Wittman is the CEO of Wittman Technology, LLC where he teaches professional job seekers and executives how to use a Pull Marketing Strategy to get ahead in a competitive marketplace. Over the last 3 years, Don has researched and shared break-through LinkedIn strategies. Don has taught hundreds of professional job seekers and executives how to get results in today's competitive job market.

The Fall hiring season is right around the corner, which is why this is the perfect time to update your resume and learn how to use LinkedIn to network with your peers. This meeting is free and open to both DACS members and the general public, starting at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, September 1st, in the Creasy Auditorium at the Danbury Hospital. There is plenty of free parking in the guest parking garage adjacent to the auditorium. After the meeting, everyone is invited to the Danbury Hospital Praxair Café for additional networking.



2015 APCUG
International Computer
& Digital Technology
Conference
September 25-27, 2015
Las Vegas, Nevada

Whether you are a computer or mobile device user, your preference is for Windows, Mac or Linux, or your fingers do the walking on an Android or Apple mobile device, there will be something that will interest you.

Workshops include: Digital Photography, Microsoft's Windows Server, "iPad instead of a PC," Facebook, Instagram, Linux, Internet Security, Social media, "Traveling with your iPad," plus many more.

Look for more details on the DACS Website.

Voice For Joanie Annual Fundraiser



To Give ALS Victims a Voice
Saturday September 19, 2015. 5 10 p.m.
VFW Hall, New Milford

Adults \$20
Children 10- 17 \$10, Under 10 Free

Line Dancing with Jill
ALS Info Session
Magic with Danny Diamond
RNM Entertainment DJ Music

Pizza, Pasta, and Salad
Raffles and Silent Auction

RSVP to voiceforjoanie@gmail.com

Call 860-350-9034

Workshops

Workshop NOTES: September 2015

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

Contact: Richard Corzo (macsig@dacs.org).

Meets 2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m. at DACS Resource Center.

Next Meeting: Sep 8

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

[Note: SIG is suspended until further notice

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

Contact: Jim Scheef (jscheef@dacs.org).

Go to the DACS Community Forum - (<http://www.dacs.org/forum/>) within the Members only area.

Next meeting: Look for future announcements.

Jobs. Networking and jobs search

Contact: Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 (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

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

Next Meeting: Sept. 16

Mobile Devices/Windows 8. Smartphones, tablets, and e-readers of all makes and models.

Contact: Richard Corzo and Jim Scheef (Mobilesig@dacs.org)

Meets fourth Thursday 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center

Next Meeting: Workshop Suspended

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

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

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

Online Business Workshop. Informal gathering of members sharing ideas on creating an online source of income.

Contact: Sean Henderson and Steve Harkness (<http://forum.dacs.org/forum-38.html>).

Meets second Monday in nearby Brookfield, or by Webinar

Next Meeting: Sept. 14

Single Board Computers Workshop. Explores small cheap computers like Raspberry Pi, Arduino, Netduino, Beaglebone, and more. Meets 3rd Thursday at the DACS Resource Center.

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

Next Meeting: Sept. 17

Social Media: Master the basics of Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

Contact: Tom Zarecki 914-548-4948; email tomZshow@gmail.com.

Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm, usually at the DACS Resource Center, but check the monthly schedule.

Next Meeting: Sept 23

Web Design and DTP. Learn how to work with HTML, CSS, CMS Systems, WordPress, SEO and more.

Contact: Annette van Ommeren (avo@annagraphics.com).

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

Next Meeting: Sept. 15

Workshops News & Events

Online Business. The August 2015 Meeting of the Online Business workshop was attended by 4 other people besides the workshop co-leader, Sean. The meeting was held at Brookfield Town Hall. Three of those attending had not been to a recent Online Business workshop meeting.

The topic was the daily steps one could take to start a business in about a month. This list was printed and handed out to attendees and discussed. After, there was discussion on how to best market and setup an e-commerce site for an artisan w/ 50 different products, and discussion on how a distributor of auto-related product(s) might go about doing their own online marketing and growing their business.

The September meeting is planned for Monday 9/14/2015. Location TBA and will be announced on website.

—Sean Henderson and Steve Harkness

Social Media. There were no Social Media Workshops in June or July, so as a follow up to our very popular May meeting at the DACS Resource Center, we are now setting the stage for our fall social media meetings by making sure your technologies (and YOU) are in-sync with the other workshop members.

Here's how:

AGENDA: We'll be covering these areas at the August workshop:

1. DACS NETWORKING SESSION with DACS members via your Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn accounts. Sharing your experiences with each platform, if any, are most welcome.

Discussion will include:

TWITTER: what to listen for? Who to follow? Saying thanks to new followers. Asking quick questions. Blocking users you don't want.

FACEBOOK: Friending & unfriending. Photo albums. Who to tag...and not?

LINKEDIN: Profile streamlining. Basic connections. Reaching out for other connections.

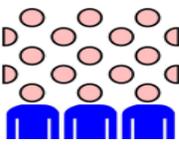
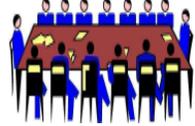
2. CREATING A TTT LIST (Topics, Trends & Timeline): Building a DACS database of interests, both individual and business. Your input welcome.

Active interaction while brainstorming from scratch, a DACS TTT list (Topic, Trends & Timeline) chart of contacts and companies. Your input is needed.

Workshops,, Cont. on page 9

September 2015

Danbury Area Computer Society

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
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6	7  Labor Day	8  Apple 7:00 PM Richard Corzo <i>macsig@dacs.org</i>	9	10  Membership Committee 7:00 PM Jim Scheef 860-355-0034	11	12																																																																																																								
13	14  Online Business Workshop 7:00 - 8:30 PM <i>onlinebizsig@dacs.org</i>	15  Web Design& DTP Annette van Ommeren 7:00 - 9:00 PM <i>avanommeren@dacs.org</i>	16  Linux 7:30 -9:30 PM Dave Mawdsley <i>linuxsig@dacs.org</i>	17  Single Board Computers Workshop 7:00 PM Jim Scheef 860-355-0034	18	19  DACS.DOC Deadline																																																																																																								
20	21	22	23  Social Media Tom Zarecki 6:30 - 8:00 PM <i>tomZshow@gmail.com</i>	24	25  2015 APCUG International Computer & Digital Technology Conference	26																																																																																																								
27	28  PR & Marketing Committee 6:30 - 8:30 PM	29	30	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Aug 2015</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Oct 2015</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Aug 2015							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						Oct 2015							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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Portability

Living with Windows 10

By Jim Scheef

Part 1 –

Windows Insider Preview

BACK IN THE MARCH, 2015, issue of DACS.doc, I wrote about two ways to install the technical (aka Windows Insider) preview of Windows 10. So from February until a few weeks ago I lived with Windows 10 as it morphed from the early public beta to the, shall we say, not quite ready for prime time early release to manufacturing version. There is a lot of innuendo in those two sentences so hang on as I relate my experiences.

As noted in the March article, I installed the Insider technical preview as a virtual machine (VM) on my primary laptop, an ASUS Q550L and directly on my ASUS Transformer T100AS, a tablet with a 10" screen and removable keyboard. The VM is like dipping in a toe to test the water. Side effects are minimal and it is easy to totally remove Win10 at any point. The tablet install was more of a commitment – like running full speed to the end of the pier and diving in head first.

Now that I'm writing this I wish I had kept notes of the build numbers. Every version of Windows has both a version and a build number. Moving through the various machines in my house, I find:

I was surprised to see the same build

WINDOWS VERSION	VERSION	BUILD
XP Pro SP3	5.1	2600
Server 2003 SP2	5.2	3790
Windows 7 Pro SP1	6.1	7601
Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1	6.1	7601
Windows 8.1 Pro	6.3	9600
Windows Server 2012 R2	6.3	9600
Windows 10 Insider beta	6.4	9860
Windows 10 release	10.0	10240

number on both workstation and server versions, except for XP. Note that the build number changed with the Win7/Server 2008 R2 service pack, but did not change over three service packs on XP. This would be more curious if it weren't Microsoft. For more fun information on build numbers you can check the Wikipedia article on build numbering and on relating version numbers to names. Of the many blogs, How-To-Geek has an interesting article on this. For an insider view, try Raymond Chen's blog.

For most of the insider program I was on the fast ring for new builds. If you selected

"slow" you received fewer new builds but there were more changes in each. On the fast track, builds came more often and some were less stable than others. I recall at least one build that left the tablet unusable. I had to find and download a new ISO image and reinstall to get things working again. As I noted in the March article, I used Windows 8 drivers from the ASUS website as these were all that were available. At the very end of the test, ASUS released two drivers specifically to "improve stability" after the Win10 upgrade. More on this later.

Something I haven't mentioned so far is that I was testing the Enterprise version of Win10. I do not know if the insider program differentiated between the general public and Microsoft partners, but the Microsoft account I used for the program is also my Microsoft Partner account. Windows XP introduced a "home" version that cost less and did not include "enterprise" features like the ability to join an Active Directory domain where a server handles user authentication. I do not know if there was a home version in the Insider Preview. I joined the tablet to the Active Directory domain that I run on the servers in the basement.

One of the reasons Microsoft did the public beta as they did, was to include the upgrade process in the testing and as you might imagine, some upgrades went better than others. The key is that the build upgrades were delivered via the same process as normal Windows Updates. Unlike installing a typical patch, when a new build comes down, it essentially replaces your entire Windows installation, so here is my totally unofficial description of what happens:

1. The preview offered no settings options for Windows Updates, so both updates and build upgrades automatically downloaded in the background and would be installed on a reboot.

2. When Windows is ready, it announces there are updates to install, just like Vista, Win7 and Win8. If you shut down or reboot the computer, the updates are installed, again just like previous Windows set for automatic updates. Since both updates and a build upgrade could be waiting at the same time, updates seemed to be installed first. I could be wrong on that because if you selected the build upgrade, any updates applied to the old build would be moot unless they were needed to fix bugs in the upgrade process.

3. As the build upgrade process starts, the computer reboots into a special "installation" mode where it does what it wants, including several reboots.

4. If all went well, you would eventually see the login screen.

During the Insider Preview beta program, whenever a new build was delivered I would immediately check the build number. If the increment from the previous build was large, I would hope for better performance and more new features. Such was not always the case.

On the tablet, two build upgrades did not – how should I put it? – result in total success. Midway through the test, one build resulted in an unusable machine. The tablet would boot but I could not login, or if the login worked, the machine would hang as soon as I opened the Mail app. The second failure was the final build at the end of the test. I blame the problems with the last build on device drivers specific to the ASUS tablet. Both times I had to find the ISO for the new build on the Microsoft website and reinstall from scratch.

The final build has been a different story. The automatic build upgrade failed miserably leaving the machine unbootable. At that point, the word on the blogs was that the final build ISO would not be released, so I downloaded the next to last ISO from the Insider website and tried to reinstall with the intention that the final build would upgrade automatically. None of this went well, which led me to install new BIOS on the tablet and call ASUS support. A helpful technician with a sense of humor (so rare) helped me find two new device drivers intended to "prevent problems after the Windows 10 upgrade."

By this time, the Win10 Enterprise release version was available through my Microsoft Partner Action Pack subscription so I downloaded that and installed it. In a process that has repeated several times, I tried installing the drivers in different sequences. The main problem seems to involve the video driver that is part of a package of drivers from Intel (maker of the chip set) that has been tweaked by ASUS. The initial few reboots after installing the drivers would seem to be OK. During these reboots I installed additional drivers – the ones specifically to prevent problems in Win10. Once these are installed, the machine goes into a loop after login while the desktop is initializing. The screen flashes with a typical Windows error message about unreadable memory. The error message reappears as soon as it is dismissed, so I force the machine to power down. After two or three repeats of this process, the machine settled down. Once I could reboot successfully several times, I headed for Windows Update to see what was available. The first

“patch Tuesday” update for Win10 installed along with an ASUS device driver. There were no details on the driver but naturally I was hopeful – what other choice do I have? With both installed, we are so far, so good. Win10 seems to be stable, at least for now.

Final note: I do not see how anyone could have done this on a true tablet, one without any keyboard. The Windows setup program does not know about touch screens so there would be no way to move through the few screens needed. A USB keyboard might work provided there are sufficient USB ports.

Part 2 – Life with 10

So what is it like to live with Windows 10? Over most of the last six months I used the Transformer daily to help manage email – to read a few, but mostly to delete the stuff I will never read. I did this using the “Mail” app that comes with Windows. By the end of the beta I had five or six email accounts set up in Mail; two of these were Office 365 accounts (Exchange server in the cloud) while the others include Yahoo and MSN plus “standard email” on Bluehost web hosting accounts. All of the latter use IMAP protocol to synchronize changes with other machines. Because of the limited space, each account is set to maintain only one or two weeks of email on the device. Other apps I used with regularity were People and Calendar. In actuality, these are treated as one app in the Windows Store. Both synchronize with Outlook and Office 365 so I could get along without Outlook.

About half way through the beta, a build installed that broke Mail, Calendar and People. The icons were there but did not display properly and they would no longer launch. The apps also disappeared from both the regular and beta Windows Stores – at least if you search from Win10. Without Mail, the tablet was useless! After a week of searching blogs for a solution, Microsoft acknowledged the faux pas. This state continued for another build and finally a build arrived with new Mail, Calendar and People apps. People is now Microsoft People and is separated from Mail and Calendar which are still just “Mail and Calendar”.

During the test I used Win10 in “desktop mode” on both machines. I now feel this was a mistake. Using the final release build in tablet mode makes the tablet easier to use. Who would have guessed? Tablet mode looks more like Win8 in that the Start Menu is full screen, like Win8, and most apps are launched full screen. On a small tablet screen this makes sense. In his talk at the August General Meeting, Jay Ferron said that if an application runs on Win7 or

Win8, then it will run on Win10. This includes “modern” or “metro” apps from the Windows Store, but with one difference – they no longer run full screen. This means they can mix on screen with your old regular apps. I never used many Win8 apps because at home I connect my main laptop to a 27” monitor and running anything full screen on a 27” monitor seems ludicrous. Under Win10, apps like Mail and People can be run at a size that makes sense. For a small screen, tablet mode gives an experience more like Win8. Once you have Win10 on a device, I believe most people will quickly settle on one or the other.

You may have noted some things I did not test. I did not test any application compatibility for two reasons. First, the Transformer has only 32GB of storage and that has to hold Windows, so there is not much left over. I made a big mistake buying this model, but I was seduced by the low price. Second, whenever I found problems I did not want to be wondering if it was a bug in Win10 or if I caused the problem with something I installed. The only exceptions to this rule were the Firefox and Chrome browsers plus RoboForm. I cannot live without RoboForm as I need passwords to access websites, etc. Win10 includes a new browser that Microsoft is now calling “Edge.” I installed the other browsers to compare them to Edge. I really have nothing to report on Edge because I hardly used it. My main problem being that it does not yet integrate with RoboForm. There were no problems using Firefox or Chrome beyond the problems of using desktop applications on a small touch screen. As soon as I have some time I plan to invent the Automatic Finger Sharpener™. It will be very popular with guys who have big hands and will come in two models: the regular model will work with all Windows, while the classier gold-plated Trump Finger Sharpener™ will make rude remarks when you point to loser websites.

The bottom line question: Is Windows 10 ready for prime time? My answer is a solid maybe. It depends on your device. Before you run the free upgrade, I recommend you visit the device manufacturer’s website and make sure your device will be supported with Windows 10. If there are any Win10-specific device drivers, download them before you run the upgrade and have the drivers ready on a thumb drive. Best to be prepared. For my own machines, I’ll continue to run Win10 on the tablet. It appears ASUS supports the combination. My “main machine”, the Q55 laptop continues to run Windows 8.1 with a great little tweak called Classic Start Menu or Classic Shell and I plan to keep it this way for some time to come.



DACS Community Forum

Ever wanted to ask a question and get an answer without waiting for the next general meeting? How about sharing news with other DACS members, or communicating with fellow participants in a SIG you attend?

The DACS Community Forum (<http://www.dacs.org/forum/>) is another benefit of being a DACS member, and it’s open 24/7. Once you register there you’ll be able to post questions, answers, and comments. You can even set up an RSS subscription to be notified of updates to the forums.

Try out the DACS forum today!

SIG Notes, Cont. from page 6

3. Plus: popular platforms to explore before the 9/23 meeting: INSTAGRAM, REDDIT, PINTEREST, YELP, YAMMER, FOURSQUARE, NUMEROUS. A brief overview of each will be presented tonight as well.

4. SPECIAL PROJECTS: Specific real-world assignments between and among workshop members. Small group combined projects are encouraged, based on your interests.

—Tom Zarecki

Personal Privacy

NoMoRobo - At last: A way to block telemarketers and robo calls that really works!

By Bruce Preston

DO ANY OF THESE RING a bell?
• “Hello, I’m Rachel from Card
Holder Services...” (Note 1)
• “Hello, I’m Kevin. ... May my
crew power wash your home? ... How about
sweeping your chimney? ... God Bless!”
(Note 2)

• **Caller ID shows your name and
phone number as the source of the incom-
ing call.** (Note 3)

• **The phone rings, you answer, and
there is no one on the line – just silence.**
(Note 4)

The “National Do Not Call Act” was set up in 2004 and has failed to make a dent in SPAM phone calls. In 10 years the FTC has imposed \$117 M in fines but taken only 101 offenders to court – that’s just a drop in the bucket. Part of the problem is that it is left to the consumer to file a complaint, using an awkward web site rather than an automated mechanism such as dialing, say, *99 during the call. It is estimated that less than 1% of consumers have filed a complaint.

If you saw the movie “*The Imitation Game*” about breaking the Enigma cipher during WW-II, you may remember that Alan Turing convinced Winston Churchill that it would take a machine to defeat a machine. The same holds true for defeating robo calls. Now there is such a mechanism, it has recently been adopted by many of the carriers and is easy to activate. Lastly, it is both free and effective.

In the 1960’s the telephone systems converted to electronic switching using computers rather than electro-mechanical switching gear. Along with Touch Tone there were additional services made available, such as Caller ID, Call Waiting, Call Return, Call Blocking etc. There is a little-known service “Simultaneous Ring” where you may associate additional telephone number(s) with a specific telephone number. For example you could associate a vacation home’s number with your primary residence. A call to the primary residence number will also ring at the vacation home number. Accepting the call at either location terminates the ringing at the other. The patent pending service developed by Telephone Science Corporation has been implemented by most of the carriers. You set up

a simultaneous ring which points to the service. They know the identities of the robo caller and telemarketer accounts – the real ‘switching’ phone number, not the Caller ID number - which may be different as explained in note 3. If the call is recognized as a robocall or telemarketer the service instantly answers it and instantly hangs up. Your phone never rings.

In addition it is reliable in that it will NOT interfere with legitimate mechanized calls such as school closings, reverse 911 calls as used by the town’s Emergency Operations Center during storms, notifications that your prescription drug order has been processed, medical appointment reminders etc.

To activate it, first you need to go to www.nomorobo.com. Once there,

1) Select the type of service you have from a list, such as Land line/VoIP or Wireless. (Actually, only VoIP appears to be implemented at the time of this writing, analog wired and wireless are in the works but not yet available. DSL as from Frontier is NOT analog so it IS supported.)

2) Select your carrier such as Comcast/Xfinity, Uverse, Frontier, MagicJack etc.

3) Enter your e-mail address. You do not create an account; you do not have to provide a password.

4) Click the Sign Up button.

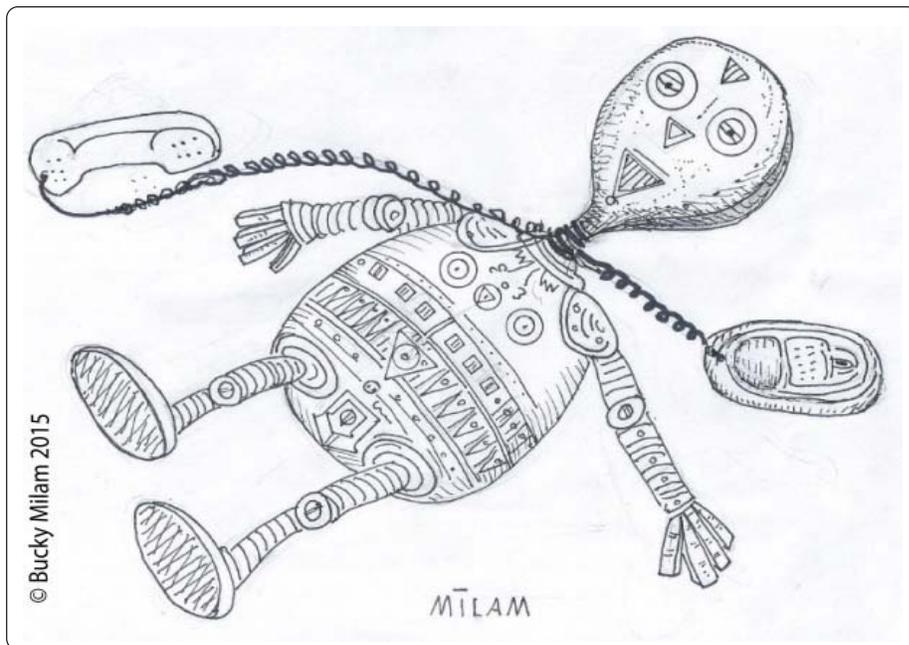
Note that at this time you do not specify your phone number. NoMoRobo.com doesn’t need or want to know it.

You will get an e-mail telling you if your type of service is supported by your carrier, and if so it will include a link to instructions specific to your service. For example, for Comcast/Xfinity, you need to use your web browser to log into your Comcast account, find the Account link in the menu bar, then click Preferences, and within that page click on Advanced Features. This takes you to the same place that you set up Voice Mail, number of rings before Voice Mail kicks in, etc. One of the advanced features will be *Simultaneous Ring*. Select or enter the number to be protected (i.e. your home number) and the 10-digit number NoMoRobo.com provided for intercepting the call. Ignore the number of rings entry field, it isn’t needed. Click SAVE and you are done. *If for some reason you decide to discontinue the free service just go back and delete the Simultaneous Ring entry.* Reminder: This is done at your service-provider’s site, not at NoMoRobo. Having provided the type of service you have so they can send instructions, they no longer need to know about you.

I’ve been using the service for some time, as have my relatives, and it really works.

Notes

1) Violations of the Do Not Call List can not be enforced if the call is not originated in the United States. So many of the robocalls comes from off-shore. A U.S. area code as the Caller ID does not mean that it is really originated in the U.S. Rachel is a robot/recording. [Robert, Bill, Tom, Susan



– pick one] from [Microsoft Support, Microsoft Technical Services, Microsoft Security Services, Microsoft Research - pick one] maybe human but they aren't employed by Microsoft or a company contracted by Microsoft. They are most definitely off-shore, the accent gives them away. Microsoft doesn't call you to tell you that there is a problem with your Windows computer. *If you are still running XP it is probably true.*

2) There are various exceptions to the National Do Not Call List – political vote or fund-raising campaigns – of

course, charity and religious organizations, etc. Perhaps Kevin is a Pastafarian? He does say “God Bless” at the end if you stay on the line that long.

3) Computer generated calls using a service hardware or software such as MagicJack. It can change the visible Caller ID phone number and display name on the fly. This hiding of the real value is legal; for example a corporation may have many fax machines, but only want to publish a single machine's number for inbound traffic. Thus the ability to change the Caller ID may be legiti-

mate, but the spamming is not. I may talk to myself but I never call myself.

4) The robocallers use a mechanism called “Predictive Dialer” (Do a Google search for details.) As an agent wraps up a call he/she presses a key and perhaps a dozen calls or more are made simultaneously. They all ring, he/she gets the first to answer, and the other numbers are just silent if answered. According to a Wikipedia entry, the U.K. has outlawed this practice but is having the same difficulty enforcing as we are with the National Do Not Call Act.

Secure Computing

Dashlane's Free Automatic Password Changer is a Game Changer

By Bob Rankin

THE “BEST PRACTICES” for password security are 1) make your passwords long and obscure; 2) never write them down where they can be stolen; and 3) change them every 30 days. Unfortunately, all of that is so difficult that it seldom gets done. The key to password security is to make it easy. Read on to learn how you can strengthen and change all your most important passwords in just a few seconds...

Software such as RoboForm and LastPass simplify password management by storing many passwords in an encrypted “vault” and filling them in automatically when they are requested on websites. They all will generate long, complex passwords on demand. You just have to remember one master password to unlock the vault and set a reminder to change passwords monthly.

Password managers have evolved additional features such as auto-filling forms, backing up data and passwords to the cloud, syncing passwords across devices, adding support for two-factor authentication, importing bookmarks and competitors' password file formats, and so on. Like other security software, password managers are locked in an ever-escalating features war.

Into this fray jumped Dashlane. It does all of the above, including two-factor authentication in version 2.0. If you enable two-factor authentication, Dashlane will text to your phone a code that you must enter manually before your master password will unlock Dashlane's vault.

Dashlane Automatic Password Changer

It also does a great job of minimizing

keystrokes, the second most important function of a password manager. For example, when you want to log in to Facebook you don't have to choose a profile from a drop-down list, as you do in some other programs. Dashlane recognizes the Facebook log-in screen, fills in your username and password, and even “clicks” the log-in button for you. The log-in screen flashes by so fast you may miss it if you blink.

Dashlane version 2.0 introduces a “security dashboard” where you can review all of your passwords. It highlights weak and outdated passwords, nudging you to strengthen your defenses.

Automated Password Changing

But the more interesting news in the latest version is the Password Changer, which lets you update your passwords with a single click. You select the sites on which you want to change your passwords (about 75 popular sites, including Facebook, Twitter, Google, Amazon and Dropbox are supported). Dashlane will generate new passwords, then automatically login and change your passwords on the selected sites in just seconds.

This is pretty awesome in light of the fact that security breaches like HeartBleed and ShellShock are occurring at an alarming pace, and the best course of action when these things happen is to change all your passwords. Doing it manually is a huge nuisance. Clicking a button to make it happen is (almost) fun.

LastPass, a Dashlane competitor, introduced a password changer feature just a day after Dashlane announced theirs. It

supports the Chrome, Safari, and Firefox browsers, but not Internet Explorer. It also lacks the automation offered by the Dashlane password changer. You'll need to select a site, do the password change, select the next site, and so on. But still, it's a time saver over logging into each site and navigating to the password change page. I'll admit that not having this feature in RoboForm has made me dread the task of updating some of my own passwords on a regular basis.

On the downside, cross-platform syncing with Dashlane now costs \$39.99 a year. That means passwords and form data that are stored on your PC are not available on your phone unless you pay. Earlier free versions feature syncing; users are urged to donate voluntarily.

Dashlane also acts as a digital wallet, storing your credit card and even PayPal data securely and filling in their details wherever needed. If you have multiple versions of a profile (e. g., different shipping addresses you've used on Newegg.com), Dashlane stores them all and lets you pick one from a drop-down menu.

Dashlane cannot work in the iOS Safari browser thanks to Apple's developer rules; neither can any other password manager. Dashlane gets around this with its own mini-browser, which you must open whenever you want to supply a password on an iPhone or iPad.

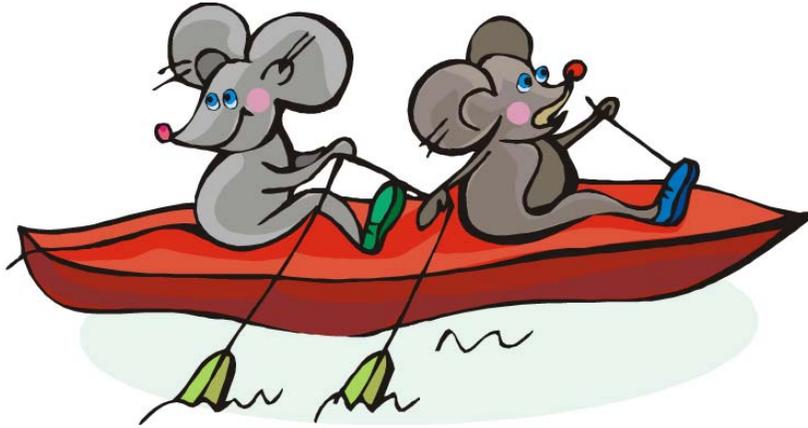
Aside from the premium syncing fee, Dashlane is a fine option for a password manager and digital wallet. I've been using the paid version of RoboForm for years, so I'll be considering a change when my next renewal comes due.

BOB RANKIN is a translator for the technology impaired -- a writer and computer programmer who enjoys exploring the Internet and explaining technology in plain English.

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When you come to the next DACS meeting,
why not bring a friend?



Voice
for
Joanie



Help give the
gift of speech
Call Frank Ruiz
at 203 770-6203
and become a
Voice for Joanie
volunteer

www.voiceforjoanie.org

Future Events:

September 1

Don Wittman
Linkedin Tips & Tricks

October 6

Mike Kaltschnee
Live demonstration on
building an Android
application

November 3

TBA

December 1

TBA