

NEXT MEETING,  
TUESDAY, MARCH 1:

ARE YOU FINALLY  
READY TO INSTALL  
THE NEW WINDOWS?



FIND OUT  
WHAT TO  
LOOK FOR AND  
LOOK OUT FOR IN  
THE WINDOWS 7  
OPERATING SYSTEM.

# Directors' Notes

A meeting of your board of directors was held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011. Board Members Attending: Richard Corzo (President, presiding), Richard DiFranco, Drew Kwashnak, Rob Limbaugh, Bruce Preston (Secretary), Jeff Setaro, Jim Scheef, Andrew Woodruff. Treasurer Dave Green arrived at about 9pm and was awestruck by the ongoing discussion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. Minutes of Last Meeting: (accepted with fix Geoff Fox)

## DACS Treasurer's Report for January, 2011

Balance on hand 1/1/11	\$6,085.19
<b>INCOME</b>	
Dues	\$ 560.49
Contribution	40.00
Bank Interest	.53
Total	601.02
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Insurance	780.90
Resource Center	231.12
Newsletter printing (Jan. & Feb.)	170.00
Postage	118.06
Total	1,300.08
Balance on hand 1/31/11	\$5,386.13

## Old Business

### 1. General meetings

- February: canceled due to weather (re-scheduled to May)
- March: Exploring Windows 7 - Richard Corzo, Preview: Jim, Review: Bruce
- April: John Patrick - state of the Internet, Preview: Rich D, Review: Rob L
- May: Jeff – Safe Computing (oriented

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towards keeping your computer clean - virus, malware, etc.)

- June? – Safe Internet Commerce – (oriented towards safe e-commerce activity etc.), representative from Fairfield County Bank Corp - Bruce to confirm with his contact.

Possible future topics:

- Cloud Computing – haven't heard from possible IBM presenter
- David Pogue—Patrick Libert will try to contact
- Proposed by Charlie: secure internet communications with family and friends;
- FBI presenter; how to avoid unwanted intrusions of your computer.
- Should we invite back Smart Computing? Bruce will look for UG liaison.

### 2. Open positions

- Bob Green, who filled in as editor last month, found new employment and will not continue as editor. Ahmad Asgharian, who previously volunteered, will step up.
- The membership chairperson position is still open.
- VP of Programs is also open.

### 3. DACS web site and functionality

issues – Due to the wide variation in capabilities, inter-connections, dependencies, etc. the next portion of the meeting swung back and forth between the pros and cons of various approaches and some 'new' topics logically worked their way into the discussion, and are reported here. Jim has attended a Drupal training session, and further progress has been made in learning to use the Drupal Content Management System. He will attempt to share this learning in the Drupal SIG. The lack of multi-user access to the master mailing list such that, say, a SIG leader could send a targeted e-mail to participants, is a disadvantage to using the MailChimp mailing list service. Right now only Charlie can send bulk e-mails, and his mechanism does not provide for "rich" content. The pros and cons of using MailChimp (a free service for small mailings – e.g. under 1000 recipients) were discussed and ultimately rejected. Jeff recommended using PHplist, a mail list server that we could host. PHplist is compliant with double opt-in requirements. The discussion then morphed into a "new business" topic - integrating into the site social media capabilities such as

*Directors' Notes, Cont. on page 3*

## Membership Information

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## Postmaster

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John Lansdale	Rob Limbaugh
Bruce Preston	Jim Scheef
Joseph Tobin	Annette van Ommeren

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The editors welcome submissions from DACS members. Contact Ahmad Asgharian ([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.



Patrick Libert  
APCUG Liaison  
[plibert@dacs.org](mailto:pplibert@dacs.org)



Apple User Group

## Officers

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**VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS:** Open  
**SECRETARY:** Bruce Preston • **TREASURER:** Dave Green

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## Committees

**NEWSLETTER:** Ahmad Asgharian: [dacseditor@dacs.org](mailto:dacseditor@dacs.org), (860) 567-9586

**PROGRAM:** Position Open

**WEB MASTERS:** Richard Corzo ([rkorzo@dacs.org](mailto:rkorzo@dacs.org)), (203) 797-1518

Annette van Ommeren ([avanommeren@dacs.org](mailto:avanommeren@dacs.org)), (914) 232-0149

**MARKETING AND PR:** Position open ([pr@dacs.org](mailto:pr@dacs.org))

**APCUG LIAISON:** Patrick Libert ([plibert@dacs.org](mailto:plibert@dacs.org))

**MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:** CHARLES BOVAIRD: [aam@mags.net](mailto:aam@mags.net)

## HelpLine

Volunteers have offered to field member questions by phone. Please limit calls to the hours indicated below. Days means 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; evening means 6 to 9:30 p.m. Please be considerate of the volunteer you are calling. HelpLine is a free service. If you are asked to pay for help or are solicited for sales, please contact the dacs.doc editor; the person requesting payment will be deleted from the listing. Can we add your name to the volunteer listing?

**d = day    e = evening**

Program	Name	Phone/E-mail	
APL	Charles Bovaird	(203) 792-7881	( e )
ASP.Net	Chuck Fizer		
C/Unix/ObjC	Kenneth Lerman	(203) 426-4430	( d e )
C#, VB	Chuck Fizer	<a href="mailto:cfizer@dacs.org">cfizer@dacs.org</a>	
Electronics	Andrew Woodruff	(203) 798-2000	( d e )
Interface-Instrumentation	Andrew Woodruff	(203) 798-2000	( d e )
Adobe Web & DTP	Annette van Ommeren	(914) 232-0149	( e )
SAS	Lewis Westfall	(203) 790-0229	( e )
Statistics/Data Analysis	Charles Bovaird	(203) 792-7881	( d e )
SQL	Lewis Westfall	(203) 790-0229	( e )
SQL Server, MySQL-5	Chuck Fizer		
Malware	Jeff Setaro	(203) 748-6748	( d )
VB.Net, Visual Basic	Chuck Fizer		

## SIG Notes, Cont. from page 2

LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter etc. We discussed an ultimate goal such that a forum post would automatically also appear on Facebook and/or Twitter. The current situation of having two Facebook exposures was discussed, and it was ultimately decided to close the ‘closed’ site and to publicize the “DACS Inc.” site as our Facebook presence. After much discussion, we agreed to convert the DACS LinkedIn group to “Open Group”, so as to be visible to general searches. The LinkedIn group already has the regular LinkedIn privacy safeguards such that a member’s contact list is not exposed.

### 4. DACS Resource Center communications infrastructure update:

a) Jim Scheef reports that the circuit provider has checked the line quality from their site into the RC as far as the modem interface and that it is deemed to be within specifications. That is as far as they can test. This implies that the outages we are experiencing are likely to be caused by equipment or processor(s) within the RC. Jeff has donated a combination modem/router/802.11n Wi-Fi Access point by Netgear. He will leave it in the RC and Jim will install it, connect-

*Directors' Notes, Cont. on page 4*



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.

# Meeting Preview:

## Working with Windows 7

by Jim Scheef

**W**INDOWS 7 WAS released to manufacturing on July 22, 2009.

Many of us skipped Windows Vista with its many well-publicized problems. While Windows 7 "fixes" many of those Vista problems, those fixes seem to have added to the challenges many of us felt when using Windows 7 for the first time. Whether Windows 7 is "better" or not is not

the issue. For better or worse, we need to learn how to make Windows 7 work in our environment, whether at work or at home. So how do we make Windows 7 more livable? That's what Richard Corzo, our own DACS President, will show us at our next General Meeting.

How does that weird Start Menu work, anyway? What if the text on my desktop is too small? Where is the email program? What does Windows 7 mean

when it asks you to choose a network type? And what about that question everyone asks: What is a Windows 7 Library and what can I do if I have one?

Learn the answers to these and more mysteries when Richard presents "Become a Power User with Windows 7".

DACS meetings are held at the Danbury Hospital auditorium. Activities begin at 6:30 p.m. with registration

and casual networking. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. with a question and answer period (Ask DACS), followed by announcements and a short break. The featured evening presentation begins at 8:00. 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.



### Director's Notes, Cont. from page 3

ing only a single computer downstream. This should get us closer to identifying the cause of the drop-outs.

- b) Charlie Bovaird donated a replacement used telephone with speaker capabilities. It needs to be installed. It does not have integrated voice mail, which would need to be provided by some other mechanism (see next item.)
- c) Rob and Andy Woodruff will meet to put together an implementation plan for using Google Voice. This could permit automatic forwarding of messages to voice mailboxes of designated recipients. They will report next month.

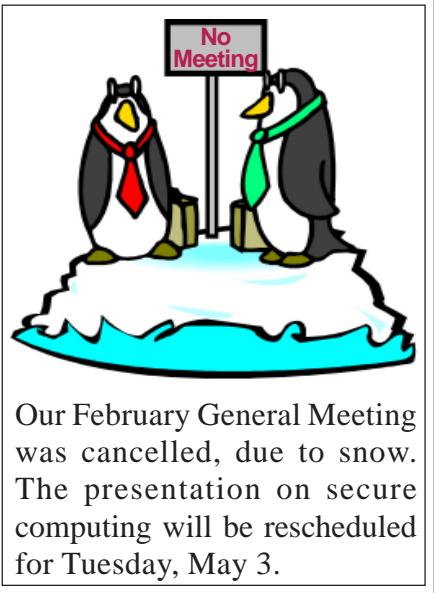
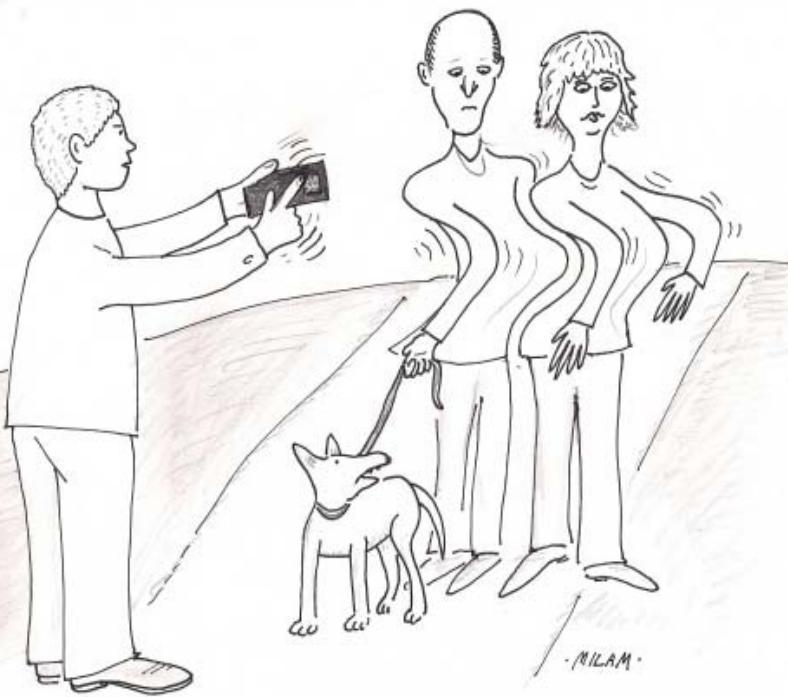
### New Business

1. We'll be putting together a display on DACS at the Danbury Library for September. Richard and Rob have several ideas as to what the exhibit should contain. Richard is going to load a 'starter set' of ideas on the forum.
2. Discussion of DACS social media presence – this topic became part of the ongoing DACS web site topic discussed above. The net is that we should take all means possible to make ourselves visible.
3. We have received a renewal of our insurance policy. President, Treasurer and Charlie (because he is familiar with previous policy) will review to see what changes are involved. The premium increased slightly, however there may be components that are irrelevant to our operations and thus could be deleted.

Adjourned at 9:35

—Bruce Preston

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Our February General Meeting was cancelled, due to snow. The presentation on secure computing will be rescheduled for Tuesday, May 3.

# Web security

## Tips for Ensuring Your Privacy on the Internet

By Dick Maybach

**W**HEN POSTING information to the Internet, keep three things in mind:

1. you can't restrict where it will go;
2. you can't restrict who will see it; and
3. it will stay there forever.

If you want to keep something private, don't post it.

In the old (pre-Internet) days, if something you told a friend in confidence became public, it was his word against yours. It's much harder to deny a picture of you or an e-mail with your return address. Information about you is most commonly posted on your personal Web site, on social networks, such as Facebook, and on photo sharing sites, such as Flickr. Very few people would post their social security numbers or bank passwords, but you must also be careful with other data.

Be careful about disclosing information that could be used by an identity thief; this includes your birthday, address, and phone number. Although much of this is readily available, you don't want to make a thief's job easy. Your strategy here is like that of locking your car and house; it's not difficult to break into these, but if your neighbor doesn't lock up, he provides an easier, more attractive target.

### Keep personal data private

Don't forget that many banks make available hint questions to "help" you if you forget your password, so you should not disseminate personal data used in the hint questions, such as your mother's maiden name, your high school, your pet names, etc. You should avoid taking the quizzes offered by some social websites, as they often ask the same questions about your personal life that are used in password hints.

Don't advertise when you will be away, even for a short time. The time to talk about your cruise or a concert is after you return

home. You wouldn't put a note on your door saying that you will be out for several hours or days, and you certainly don't want to do this on the Internet, where the information is available to many more people.

Protect your children. Don't disclose their names, ages, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, or where they attend school, especially if you show their pictures. Small children should not have a computer in their bedroom; instead it should be in a public area of the house where you can check on their on-line activities. If your children have a social Web site, insist that you be a "friend" and check it often. This has to be done carefully, especially with teens, lest you appear to be meddling. However, since they already think you are a fossil, you probably won't damage your reputation much.

Although it isn't a privacy issue, don't publicly criticize your company or boss. While we would like to think that our employers are tolerant, some aren't, and an intemperate outburst could damage your career. This is especially true if your remarks could be interpreted as racial, religious, or sexual bias, as these could expose you to legal prosecution. Indeed, you will most likely regret any public tirade. At the least, it will make your friends think less of you. This also applies to e-mail. If you are really steamed, don't mail it immediately but let it sit as a draft for a day; then read it carefully after you have calmed down.

### Don't disclose risky behavior

Don't disclose any risky behavior in which you indulge. If you like to smoke, drink, rock climb, race cars, explore caves, or hang glide, your insurance company could decide they won't pay a future claim, because you failed to disclose the extra risks associated with such activities. As far as I know, they aren't yet doing this, but why take the chance they might begin, say 20 years from now.



Be very careful about posting pictures of you or your friends in compromising situations. Young people are especially likely to be trapped by this. In the recent election campaign, some candidates had to live down pictures taken at parties when they were in their teens and twenties. This is a difficult problem, since cell phone cameras are now ubiquitous and such pictures are often published by "friends." You can contact the Web site and demand that the offending material be removed, but a better strategy is to be careful in public.

Even though you never publish anything, information about you is splattered all over the Internet. For example, a search for "Dick Maybach" produces almost 600 hits, and because my name is unusual, most of them are about me. If you have a common name, you can to some extent hide in the haystack; for example, "John Doe" produces almost 3,000,000 hits. However, even with a common name, adding a few details, such as your city (for example "John Doe" and "Middletown NJ"), will greatly improve the relevance of the results. If you find something to which you really object, you can contact the site and ask that it be removed, but success here is doubtful.

Finally, use the maximum privacy settings that your social networking site provides. In particular, limit access to your page to designated friends. Remember, that these sites make their money by disclosing your information to others. While it may be more convenient to use such sites than to send e-mails to friends, it adds substantial risk.

**DICK MAYBACH** is a Member of the Brookdale Computer User Group, New Jersey (<http://www.bcuug.com/>; N2nd(at)att.net. Obtained by permission of the author for publication by user groups.

When dining at the  
DACS Resource  
Center, please  
carry your  
leftovers  
out with  
you.

Thanks!  
The  
Management

# Special Interest Groups

## SIG NOTES: March 2011

**Access.** Designs and implements solutions using Microsoft Access database management software.

**Contact:** Bruce Preston, 203 431-2920 ([bpreston@dacs.org](mailto:bpreston@dacs.org)).

Meets on 2nd Tuesday, 7p.m., by virtual connection.

**Next meeting:** March 8 (check Website for technical details)

**ASP.Net.** Focuses on Web site/server application development using Microsoft Visual Studio, C#, VB, Javascript and SQL Server programming tools. Starts with Random Access, followed by a programming discussion with examples.

**Contact:** Chuck Fizer ([cfizer@dacs.org](mailto:cfizer@dacs.org)).

Meets 1st Wednesday, 4-6 :p.m. and 6-8 p.m. in a virtual session. (Note change below)

**Next Meeting:** March 2 at DACS Resource Center

**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:** March 10

**Digital Imaging.** Digital cameras, retouching and printing.

**Contact:** Ken Graff at 203 775-6667 ([graffic@bigfoot.com](mailto:graffic@bigfoot.com)). Meets last Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

**Next Meeting:** Recessed until Spring

**Jobs.** Networking and jobs search

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

Meets by e-mail.

**Next meeting:** TBA

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

**Contact:** Jim Ritterbush, [linuxsig@dacs.org](mailto:linuxsig@dacs.org)

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

**Next Meeting:** March 16

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

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

Meets 1st Thursday, 7 p.m. at DACS Resource Center.

**Next Meeting:** March 3

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

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

Meets irregularly, announced by e-mail.

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

**VB.Net.** Focuses on Smart Client Windows application development using Visual Studio, VB, C# and SQL Server programming tools.

**Contact:** Chuck Fizer ([cfizer@dacs.org](mailto:cfizer@dacs.org)) or Greg Austin, 845 494-5095 ([greg.austin@ryebrookpba.org](mailto:greg.austin@ryebrookpba.org)).

**Next Meeting:** March 2

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

**Next Meeting:** March 15

## SIG News & Events

**Mac.** February saw the return of our SIG since my MacBook Pro is now repaired. Among other parts the hard drive was replaced and I successfully restored my machine using Time Machine.

In the meeting we explored the new features of iPhoto '11. One is a new full screen interface that is available to allow more room for viewing photos and editing them.

I also tried sending an e-mail with a couple of photos from iPhoto. I filled in one of the design templates with e-mail text and photo captions, and then chose another template. However sometimes the text elements didn't show up depending on which template we chose, so it seems like it's safest to choose your design first. I sent the e-mail without leaving iPhoto or having to start my e-mail program.

You can also post photos on Facebook directly from iPhoto, although we didn't try that since I'm not on Facebook.

We finally took a peek at the updated photo book creation feature, which now has a bookshelf of your past book, calendar, and card projects.

The next topic, Apple's Mac App Store, was inspired by the App Store for the iPhone. It came out last month with the 10.6.6 Snow Leopard release. Browsing the store we could see that my Apple iLife and iWork applications showed up as installed. Depending on how a developer wrote an existing application before making it available in the Mac App Store; it may or may not appear as installed. I had also "purchased" a couple of free apps through the store which show up in the Purchases section. Going forward any updates to purchased applications will be available in the Updates section.

Since the store uses your iTunes account, it's easier to buy an application with just a click, compared to the old way of purchasing from a Web site, entering your credit card information, downloading the software, and probably having to enter a license key that you received via e-mail. When you purchase an app from the Mac App Store, it is available right in your dock. You can install the app on another machine you own without paying for the app again.

*SIG Notes, Cont. on page 9*

# March 2011

## Danbury Area Computer Society

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<p><b>Feb 2011</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	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						<p><b>1</b></p> <p>6:30 P.M. GENERAL MTG</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>4 PM ASP.Net 7 PM C# VB.Net Chuck Fizer 203 798-9996</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Macintosh 7:00 PM Richard Corzo macsig@dacs.org</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	
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<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>MS ACCESS 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. Bruce Preston bpreston@dacs.org</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Board of Directors</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>7-9 PM Drupal Jim Scheef 860 355-0034</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>																																										
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Web Design Annette van Ommeren 914 232-0149</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>7:30 PM Linux Jim Ritterbusch linuxsig@dacs.org</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>DACS.DOC Deadline</p>																																										
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# Data Resourcing

# Life in the Clouds

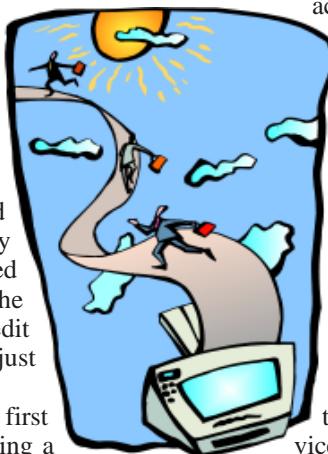
*By Drew Kwashnak*

**W**HAT CAN BE BETTER than to have access to all of your emails, calendar, files and programs virtually anywhere? Where the accessibility of smart phones, cellular modems and Wi-Fi means you don't have to be separated from the Internet, even while on vacation?

That's the goal of Cloud computing, where not only are your precious files stored on Internet servers, but the programs used to create, edit and save these files are all just a browser window away.

Webmail is possibly the first real Cloud service, providing a means for you to read, compose and send emails right through your browser. So when you aren't near your computer and email program, you just have to hop onto a browser to see if that Nigerian Prince has finally accepted your offer yet!

More closely resembling what Cloud computing will be, are the office suites available from **Zoho**, **Google Docs** and **Microsoft**. All free of charge, these suites provide the functionality of a word processor, spreadsheet and presentation programs, as well as the ability to store the files, download to your local system, upload existing files and share with others.



either as much or as little as you want.

I take full advantage of being able to view a received attachment in my Gmail account right in Google Docs with the click of one link. No need to download or save the file to view its contents.

Google and Microsoft, as much as they would like to be, are not all there is to Cloud computing.



Instant Messengers, the original social media, are available in a browser from the sites of such services as **AIM** and **Yahoo**. For those that prefer to have all their services running in one application, sites like **IMO**, **IM+**, **eBuddy**, **LiveGo** and **Trillian** provide one-stop shopping for many of your services; **Yahoo!**, **AIM**, **Facebook Chat**, **Google Talk**, **ICQ**, **MSN** and possibly even **Skype**!

Years ago I heard the big complaint against Apple was it didn't run games. Today I hear Linux doesn't run games. I guess it is only a matter of time before I hear the Cloud doesn't play games.

It's true that 3D and shoot 'em up games are usually graphic intensive, but that does not mean there aren't sites to challenge that notion. **FreeMMOGamer** provides a number of games including shooter, rac-

ing, fighting, strategy and sports. Sites such as **Kongregate**, **AddictingGames**, provide a wide range of online games alternatives to mindless zombie-killing games. Just don't blame me for lost productivity if you check these out!

While not as graphically intensive as 3D games, image editing is one category that is seeing growth in the Cloud based solutions! So whether you want to fix an embarrassing photo, or doctor somebody else's and you don't have access to your Photoshop, Gimp or Paint Shop Pro, have no fear, the Cloud is here.

Online web albums **Flickr** and **Picasa** have been around for a long time and easily allow you to share your photos with as many or as few members of your family and friends as you would like. The difference is now you can edit those photos right in your album. Picasa provides an easy way to edit your photos in **Picnik** right from the album, and save the modified picture back in your albums as well.

Meanwhile, **Aviary** provides photo editing, advanced image editing, vector graphics and even music creating applications all in the cloud. Except for the use of the browser, the URL in the address bar or the integration with online sites, you'll be hard-pressed to tell a Cloud application from an installed one!

Of course, you cannot talk about image editing without bringing up the industry standard, Photoshop. Even Adobe has gotten into the Cloud with [Photoshop.com](http://Photoshop.com).

The **Pixlr Editor** allows you to pull in your pictures in Facebook, Flickr and Picasa, as well as the images saved in your Pixlr Library, and edit them right in your browser.

Microsoft Word Web App **DACS-LifeintheClouds** on SkyDrive Andrew Kwashnak ?

File Home Insert View Small Business Conferencing from InterCall Unlimited for \$30

Cut Paste Copy Clipboard Arial 11 AaBbCc AaBbCc AaBbCc AaBbCc AaBbCc AaBbCc ABC Spelling Open in Word

Font Paragraph Styles

Normal Heading 1 Heading 2

Caption No Spacing

Life in the Clouds

What can be better than to have access to all of your emails, calendar, files and programs virtually anywhere? Where the accessibility of smart phones, cellular modems and ~~wifi~~ means you don't have to be separated from the Internet, even while on vacation?

That's the goal of Cloud computing, where not only are your precious files stored on Internet servers, but the programs used to create, edit and save these files are all just a browser windows away.

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More closely resembling what Cloud computing will be, are the office suites available from **Zoho**, **Google Docs** and **Microsoft**. All free of charge, these suites provide the functionality of a word processor, spreadsheet and presentation programs, as well as the ability to store the files, download



**Picnik**

Lately some nice products have come around that don't play nice with Flash, Java and/or Silverlight. Thankfully with HTML5 there are sites available that require no downloads, yet are amazingly capable. The **Cloud Canvas** is an image editing Cloud application using HTML5, CSS, JavaScript and PHP, and a few other technologies, to do what the others have to

resort to Flash to perform.

Of course there are times when you just need to get something done!

Project Managers may live and die by Microsoft Project, and **Multitask** is a cloud-based project management application which can upload and download MS Projects 2000 through 2010. Currently they are working at integrating this with Google Docs, making it even easier to use!

If you don't mind paying a small fee, **SmartSheet** provides more capabilities for Project Managers including online collaboration,

goals and objectives tracking, marketing, crowdsourcing and much more. That you can do this online and collaborate with whom you need may be enough to warrant the costs.

Sometimes, though, you just need to code. While not a replacement for Visual Studio or Eclipse, there are some IDEs (in-

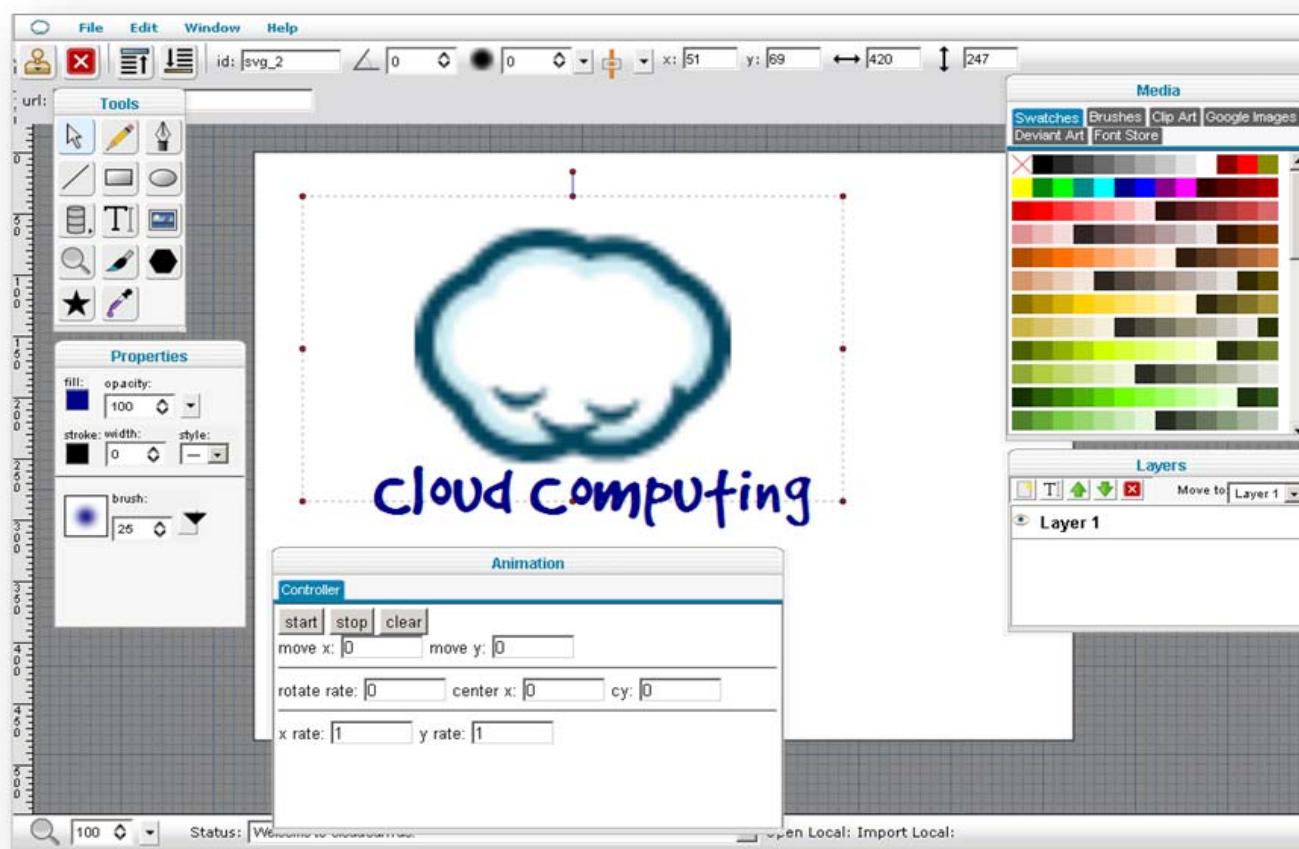
tegrated development environment) available online. Usually for HTML, JavaScript and PHP, there are ones for other languages as well.

In most cases the IDE site FTPs into your existing server and provides a list of files. You can open and edit the files and when it comes time to save, the IDE FTPs it back up to your site. These IDEs usually don't store your code which should make the security-minded developers happy.

I heard a lot of good things about **PHPAnywhere**, though I myself have not had luck with it.

I have gotten good results from **ShiftEdit** which is based on Mozilla Lab's **Bespin** project. It has been straight forward and stable, plus my code has not been mangled. A neat feature is the split view, where you can see the code and the WYSIWYG side-by-side. It even provides a live view of the rendered page.

.NET programmers will have difficulty finding a Cloud-based IDE, though I did find **CodeRun**, which provides an IDE for C# ASP.NET, ASP.NET MVC, Silverlight, PHP and AJAX. It includes database support, compilation and debugging features. If you decide to use their CodeCloud servers for hosting, you get the additional abilities to collaborate on your code with selected developers, and one-step publishing.



**Cloud Canvas**

One of the great features of Cloud computing is that anybody can start using it. People probably are already using it and not realizing it!

To use the Cloud requires two things, a working system that includes a browser, and a different mindset. In return you get applications and files accessible from anywhere, access to updated applications without needing to purchase, download and install anything and the thrill of exploring this growing technology.

These applications are a tiny portion of the exploding number of Cloud computing services available today online. Try them out today! Get your head in the clouds!



**DREW KWASNAK's migration to the Cloud was accelerated once he received a Chrome OS notebook, but he has been utilizing it for some time now between work and home. This article was naturally written online in Google Docs on 3 different computers.**

## REFERENCES

### Office Suites

Zoho <http://www.zoho.com/>  
Microsoft Office Live <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/web-apps/>  
Google Docs <https://docs.google.com>

### Instant Messengers

AIM <http://www.aim.com>  
Yahoo! <http://messenger.yahoo.com/>  
IMO <https://imo.im/>  
IM+ <https://plus.im/>  
eBuddy <http://www.ebuddy.com>  
LiveGo <http://www.livego.com>  
Trillian [http://www.trillian.im/](http://www.trillian.im)

### Photo Albums

Flickr [http://www.flickr.com/](http://www.flickr.com)  
Picasa <http://picasaweb.google.com>

### Image Editors

Photoshop.com <http://www.photoshop.com>  
Aviary [http://www.aviary.com/](http://www.aviary.com)  
Cloud Canvas <http://www.cloud-canvas.com/cloudcanvas.php>  
Pixlr Editor <http://pixlr.com/editor/>  
Picnik <http://www.picnik.com/app/>

### Online Games

Kongregate [http://www.kongregate.com/](http://www.kongregate.com)  
FreeMMOGamer <http://www.freemmo gamer.com>  
AddictingGames [http://www.addictinggames.com/](http://www.addictinggames.com)

### Project Management

MultiTask [http://multitask.gochromium.com/](http://multitask.gochromium.com)  
SmartSheet [http://www.smartsheet.com/](http://www.smartsheet.com)

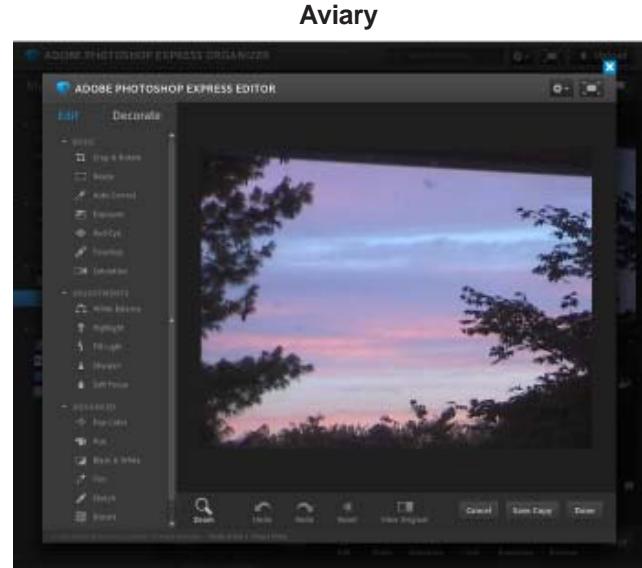
### Integrated Development Environment

PHPAnywhere [http://phpanywhere.net/](http://phpanywhere.net)  
ShiftEdit <http://shiftedit.net/>  
CodeRun [http://coderun.com/](http://coderun.com)  
Mozilla Bespin [https://bespin.mozilla labs.com/](https://bespin.mozilla labs.com)

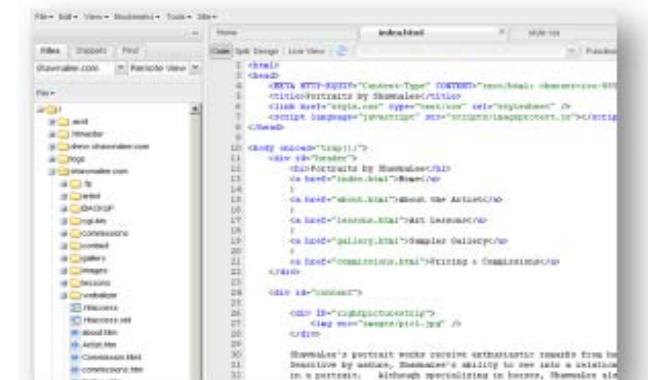
**Aviary is a free suite of |**

Photo-editing, logos, web templates, filters, color palettes, screen capture & more at Aviary.com

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- Music Creator** Learn more
- Screen Capture** Install firefox extension
- Audio Editor** See a video and learn more
- Vector Editor** See a video and learn more
- Image Markup** See a video and learn more
- Effects Editor** See a video and learn more
- Color Editor** See a video and learn more



Photoshop Editor



ShiftEdit

# Palm Tech

SmartPhone = PDA + Phone

By Phil Sorrentino

**S**MARTPHONES CAN BE seen all around. Notice the phone being used on your favorite TV show; next time, odds are that it'll be a smartphone. A year or two ago it was a flip phone (do you remember Jack Bauer on 24 using his?), but no more. Now the phone of choice seems to be the smartphone. Apple, and more recently, Google, have really changed the mobile phone landscape. The iPhone, with its iOS Operating System available only on the iPhone, released in 2009, really started the whole movement. Google, with its Android Operating System (provided for free to hardware phone manufacturers), has come on very strong in the past few months so that iPhones and Android phones now have about the same market share - about 35% each, which only leaves 30% to be shared by Blackberry, Nokia, and Microsoft.

The Smartphone equality, as stated in the title, suggests that the smartphone is equal, in functionality anyway, to a Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) and a standard mobile phone. PDAs have been a popular way of allowing one to have many of the computer files, pictures, videos and music, available on the go - remember the Palm Pilot. A phone was another necessity for someone who was always on the go. So for someone who had to be mobile and needed access to their computer files, a phone and a PDA became a good combination. I carried a PDA for many years and more recently, a PDA and a flip phone. Now I can carry only one device, a smartphone. And, as a welcome side effect, now I only have to make sure one device is charged nightly.

The smartphone is made possible by a number of technologies. Among them are: Capacitive touch-screens; 3G (soon to be 4G) wireless telephone networks; Wi-Fi; GPS; Micro-miniature processors, memory and components; Digital Cameras; and Phone oriented Operating Systems. Some of these technologies are used in phones - like touch screens, networks, small com-

ponents, Digital cameras, and operating systems. And some are used in PDAs - like touch screens, Wi-Fi, small components, and operating systems. As you can see there

is a good bit of overlap, so putting it all together was just a natural. But it took the genius of Apple to put it all together and make it work and make it practical and make it cool. And now with the help of Google it has become more practical and popular.

All of the technology for replacing the mobile phone

and the PDA is included in the smartphone, and then some. (I didn't have a good camera in my mobile phone, before.) But, it does take some planning and forethought to make the smartphone do everything. Some of the things to be concerned with are: Contacts, (which are phone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses, and related notes); Calendar events; E-mail; Memos, (which are lists of important things); Documents; Spreadsheets; Pictures, Videos, Music; and Browsers. Before you can consider using any of these things there has to be an "App" (Application) installed on your smartphone. (I am using a Motorola Droid2 as an example, but most of what I am referring to will be very similar on another Android smartphone, and even similar for an Apple iPhone.) There are Apps for all of these tasks. In fact there are over 100,000 Apps for Android phones and over 240,000 Apps for iPhones.

So, the first thing to do is to identify an App to handle each task you want accomplished. Your smartphone probably came with a basic collection of Apps. Basic things like Contacts, Pictures, Videos, Music, and Camera will probably be covered by these Apps that were installed at the factory. If not, you can go to the "Market" for Android Apps, or the Apple Store for iPhone Apps, and find one that fits your needs. Many of the Apps at these stores (websites) are free or have a nominal cost, most under \$10. Things like Word or PDF Documents, or Excel spreadsheets may have to be handled by an App from one of

these stores. Once you get to the App store, you will find a myriad of App titles. You can typically search for "All Apps", or limit your search to only free ones. You can even search for Games that will run on your smartphone. When you find an App that you want, you will pay for it (via a credit card account that was previously set up) if it is not free, and then it will be downloaded right onto your smartphone. The download is completely controlled from the Market and there is no further action on your part needed. After the App is downloaded and installed, you will receive a message that it is complete. It couldn't be any easier.

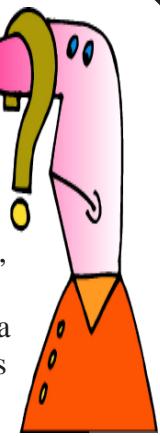
Once an App has been downloaded, it can be placed on the home screen. Actually, one of the home screens. The Droid2 has 7 home screens. Multiple home screens make it easy for you to organize your Apps. Apps that you think work together can be collected on a particular home screen. You could have a home screen for entertainment, one for work, one for family, another for sports. Any organization of Apps that makes sense to you would be appropriate.

Once you've organized your home screens and downloaded the Apps needed, I'm sure you'll see that the smartphone is a very useful device for someone on the go. Future articles will concentrate on some of the new ways of interacting with the touch sensitive screen and some of the smartphone's more interesting features, but I think you will now agree that: Smartphone = PDA + (not so smart) phone.

**PHIL SORRENTINO** is president of the Sarasota Personal Computer Users Group, Inc., FL ([www.spcug.org](http://www.spcug.org); [president@spcug.org](mailto:president@spcug.org)).

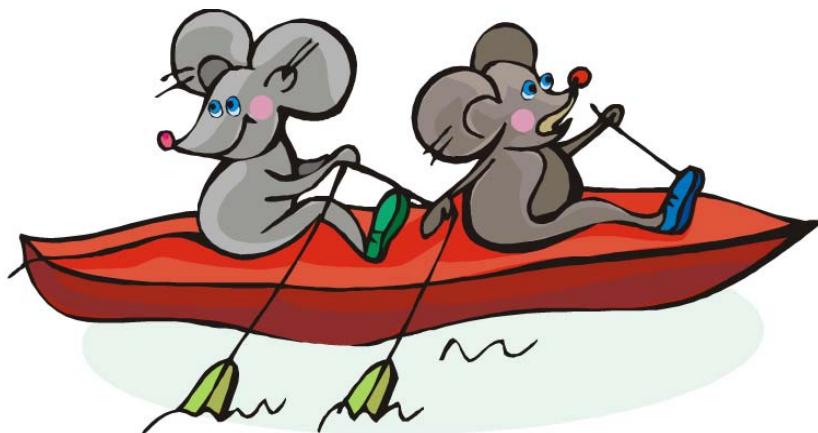
This article appeared in the January 2011 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor. It was obtained by permission of the author for publication by user groups.

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## Future Events:

### March

Exploring Windows 7  
Richard Corzo

### April

John Patrick  
On the Internet

### May

Secure Computing  
Jeff Setaro

### June

TBA