



# NEWSLETTER

## SAUK COMPUTER USER GROUP

### USER HELPING USER

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#### MINUTES: SCUG CLUB MEETING MARCH 14, 2009

The March 14, 2009 meeting began with the Question and Answer period. Neal and Terry demonstrated several things, including the new Google map for location individual addresses in Sterling. When a question was asked about recycling a used monitor, it was mentioned that Rock Falls has a location where you can drop them off but it was not known for sure if there was a fee for doing so.

After a short break, the business part of the meeting was held. Neal announced that the cookie-maker would be receiving an increase in remuneration. We had one guest, Mike Spain of Rock Falls.

Sorry, but this secretary was a little out of it and did not take a head count and also did not take the sign-in sheet, so I'm guessing there were at least 30 members present.

The minutes for the last meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter and the board minutes were also accepted with the correction that Terry McLennan was also present at the board meeting. This secretary is still learning her job!

Marion Braun treasurer's report for the month of February was accepted as read.

Neal then thanked John Miller for filling in for Art, thanked Bill Griswold for the program on filing taxes and that the April program will be given by Gary Campbell of Toner Tech. Some pictures were taken of the attendees to possibly be part of a brochure about the club and which will also be put on a disc.

President Neal also reiterated that the page included in the club newsletter will be published maybe quarterly and will contain any changes to members and their e-mail addresses. This way the newsletter can be part of the public access to the website but the e-mail addresses will only be accessible to members with a password.

Terry mentioned some of the changes in the computer lab at the Senior Center and again asked for volunteer helpers. He **will also make up a "wish list."**

Ken Hughes made the motion to close the meeting and Tom Cartwright seconded it.

The drawing for prizes then took place and Terry won the DVR burner! He then gave a presentation on using Excel spreadsheets, ably assisted by Neal, who also demonstrated a different use for spreadsheets.

Respectfully submitted by Angela V. Rester, club secretary.

#### Club Information

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Printing done by  
Joe Fornero

We are looking for a name for our newsletter. To generate interest and participation, the person who enters the winning name gets 5 free raffle tickets to both the July drawing and my Christmas give away. Please send any entries to Betty Beatty. She will give them to the board **without the person's name. If there are** identical entries it goes to the earliest email. The board will pick the 3-5 best and the entire membership will vote on the name at the June meeting.

Also the board is looking for input on any programs you would like to see demonstrated at our future meetings or is there a program that you would like to demonstrate; contact a board member or send me an email.

Joe Fornero - Asst. newsletter editor & publisher

## NEWSLETTER NAMES - IDEAS FOR NEWSLETTER TITLES

Your newsletter name has a big effect on your readership, so it's essential you choose a good name right from the start. Newsletter publishing solutions and email marketing, don't help much without an effective newsletter name.

You can include the name of your niche in your newsletter title to explain what the content is about. This is one of the most common naming techniques people use.

Your newsletter targets a certain audience, right? How about that you use their name in

your newsletter title to attract their attention? This will tell them you offer the information that **they** want.

Depending on your target market, a catchy newsletter name might work for you. The benefit to these kind of names is that they're catchy and easy to remember. They're just creative names out of nowhere.

However, their weakness is that your audience can't understand what your newsletter is about. So you need to provide them with a short description everywhere you introduce your newsletter.

## GOOGLE STREET VIEW

FROM WIKIPEDIA, THE FREE ENCYCLOPEDIA

Google Street View is a feature of [Google Maps](#) and [Google Earth](#) that provides 360° horizontal and 290° vertical [panoramic](#) street level views and allows users to view parts of some regions of the world at ground level. When it was launched on May 25, 2007, only five American cities were included. It has since expanded to thousands of locations in the United States, France, Italy, Spain, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, and includes a variety of urban and rural areas.

Google Street View displays photos taken from a fleet of [Chevrolet Cobalts](#) in [United States](#), [Opel](#)

[Astras](#) in [Europe](#) and Australia, and [Toyota Prius](#) cars in [Japan](#). For pedestrian areas, narrow streets or parks alleys that cannot be accessed by car, *Google Bikes* are used. They are mounted with spherical cameras and placed in 'image orbs' within Google's maps, displayed against the backdrop of images previously taken from satellite that make up Google's maps. These 'image orbs' can be navigated using either the arrow keys on the [keyboard](#) or by using a [mouse](#) to click on arrows displayed on the screen. Using these devices, the photos can be viewed in different sizes, from

any direction, and from a variety of angles. Lines that are displayed along the street that is shown indicate the direction followed by that street view camera car. On November 21, 2008, Street View was added to the Maps application installed on Apple's [iPhone](#). On December 10, 2008, Street View was added to the Maps application for [S60 3rd Edition](#).

# PRIORITIES

A hurricane came unexpectedly. The ship went down and was lost. The man found himself swept up on the shore of an island with no other people, no supplies, nothing. Only bananas and coconuts. Used to 5-star hotels, this guy had no idea what to do, so for the next four months he ate bananas, drank coconut juice and longed for his old life and fixed his gaze on the sea, hoping to spot a rescue ship.

One day, as he was lying on the beach, he spotted movement out of the corner of his eye. It was a rowboat, and in it was the most gorgeous woman he had ever seen. She rowed up to him.

In disbelief, he asked her: "Where did you come from? How did you get here?"

"I rowed from the other side of the island," she said. "I landed here when my cruise ship sank."

"Amazing," he said. "I didn't know anyone else had survived. How many are there? You were lucky to have a rowboat wash up with you."

"There's only me," she said, "and the rowboat didn't wash up; nothing did." He was confused.

"Then how did you get the rowboat?"

"Oh, simple," replied the woman. "I made the rowboat out of materials that I found on the island. The oars were whittled from Gum tree branches. I wove the bottom from palm branches and the sides and stern came from a Eucalyptus tree."

"B-B-But that's impossible," stuttered the man. "You had no tools or hardware. How did you manage?"

"Oh, that was no problem," replied the woman. "On the other side of the island there is a very unusual stratum of alluvial rock exposed. I found that if I fired it to a certain temperature in my kiln, it melted into forgeable ductile iron. I used that for tools, and used the tools to make the hardware. But enough of that," she said. "Where do you live?"

Sheepishly, he confessed that he had been sleeping on the beach the whole time.

"Well, let's row over to my place, then," she said.

After a few minutes of rowing she docked the boat at a small wharf. As the man looked to the shore he nearly fell out of the boat. Before him was a stone walk leading to an exquisite bungalow painted in blue and white.

While the woman tied up the rowboat with an expertly woven hemp rope, the man could only stare ahead, dumbstruck. As they walked into the house, she said casually, "It's not much, but I call it home. Sit down, please: would you like a drink?"

"No, no thank you," he said, still dazed. "I can't take any more coconut juice."

"It's not coconut juice," the woman replied. "I have a still. How about a Pina Colada?"

Trying to hide his amazement, the man accepted, and they sat down on her couch to talk. After they had exchanged their

stories, the woman announced, "I'm going to slip into something comfortable. Would you like to take a shower and shave? There is a razor upstairs in the cabinet in the bathroom."

No longer questioning anything, the man went into the bathroom. There in the cabinet was a razor made from a bone handle. Two shells honed to a hollow ground edge were fastened onto it's end inside a swivel mechanism.

"This woman is amazing," he mused. "What next?"

When he returned, she greeted him wearing nothing but vines - strategically positioned - and smelling faintly of gardenias. She beckoned for him to sit down next to her.

"Tell me," she began, suggestively, slithering closer to him, "we've been out here for a very long time. You've been lonely. There's something I'm sure you really feel like doing right now, something you've been longing for all these months. You know..." She stared into his eyes.

He couldn't believe what he was hearing. "You mean--?" he replied, "I can check my e-mail from here?"



**FIND IT ONLINE  
PASS THE TIME WITH A NEW GAME**

Compiled by Kris Glaser; Illustrated by Lori Garris



**Dailygames.com**

[www.dailygames.com](http://www.dailygames.com)

This Web site features hundreds of games that you can choose from and play in a few minutes each day. There are several categories of games, such as Action, Strategy, and Board Games, and new games are added daily. You can browse game titles by selecting a category, by entering the name of the game in the Search Games field, or by perusing the Top Games list found on the right sidebar. In order to enjoy the game, however, **you'll need to have** Adobe Flash Player, Adobe Shockwave Player, and Java installed on your computer. If you **don't have these, you can use the site's handy links directing you to each player's download page.**

**Orisinal**

[www.ferryhalim.com/orisinal](http://www.ferryhalim.com/orisinal)

Ferry Halim is the creator of the games you will find on this site. You can choose from 60 free games to play, and check **back regularly for Halim's** new games. Each game features a simple objective, such as clicking as many items as possible in a set amount of time or jumping and balancing on a number of different platforms. Although the

goals of each game are relatively simple, the games are addicting. One of our favorite games is Winterbells, in which you help a bunny jump on bells in the sky. Each time you jump on a bell, you acquire more points while being propelled higher and higher.

**FreeWebArcade**

[www.freewebarcade.com](http://www.freewebarcade.com)

This site features some of the most popular classic games, such as Tetris, Duck Hunt, and Donkey Kong. There are also hundreds of newer games, such as Line Rider and Alien Hominid. There are nearly 4,000 games that you can try. Simply choose a game by searching for a specific game with the Search Games tool or browsing the categories, such as Puzzle or Arcade Classics. On the right sidebar, you can see newly added games and Top Games, which are the games that are most frequently played.

**FunBrain.com**

[www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com)

Although many of the **game sites we've listed** are suitable for children, this site is made especially with kids in mind. Click the Arcade link at the top of the page to play a board game with several minigames, such as Penguin Drop, where players

must defend their iceberg from paratrooping penguins looking for a landing spot. This site also features other kid-friendly media, such as Web books and comics. There are also Funblogs for both girls and boys of different ages, which list news stories and facts that your kids will find interesting.

**Puzzlers' Cave**

[www.puzzlerscave.com](http://www.puzzlerscave.com)

This site is perfect for the puzzle-game enthusiast who likes to spend time completing crossword puzzles or sudoku charts. Each day, the site will have a new crossword puzzle or sudoku game to complete. The puzzles are **created by the site's members, and you can create puzzles to share with others using the Puzzlers' Cave Crossword Compiler.** The basic version can be downloaded free from the site by clicking the Software link at the top of the page. If you have trouble completing a crossword puzzle, you can click the Reveal Letter or Reveal Word clues located at the bottom of each puzzle.

**Dailywordsearch.com**

[www.dailywordsearch.com](http://www.dailywordsearch.com)

If you are addicted to word **searches, you'll spend** plenty of time at this site. Each day, there is a new word search puzzle to solve. When you find one

of the listed words, simply click the first letter and drag your mouse pointer over the rest of the word to highlight the discovered word. If you click Play It Now under Tournament and enter your name and age, your timed score will be recorded for others to see and compete against. You can even create your own word searches to **share with the site's members** by clicking Submit Your Own on the left sidebar.

**JigZone.com**

[www.jigzone.com](http://www.jigzone.com)

If you love assembling **jigsaw puzzles but don't** have the space to lay out all the pieces, check out this site. You can use your mouse pointer to drag, drop, and build hundreds of puzzles. Start a puzzle by choosing a category from the Puzzle Gallery, such as Animals, Flowers & Gardens, or Nature Scenes. You can specify the difficulty of the puzzle by choosing how many pieces the puzzle will be, from six pieces to 247 pieces. You can also upload your own photos to make puzzles that you can share with other JigZone members.

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# SCUG TO RECEIVE ANOTHER 1 FREE 1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO SMART COMPUTING!

Here are the highlights from the email SCUG received from *Smart Computing*:

Dear **Sauk Computer User Group**,

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Sauk Computer User Group** for taking part in the Smart Computing User Group Program. We appreciate your efforts to bring Smart Computing and our sister publications to your user group and would like to reward your group for its participation with our Buy 5 Get 1 FREE program!*

**Our records as of March 10th, 2009 reflect that the Sauk Computer User Group accumulated enough credits to earn 1 free 1-year subscription(s) to Smart Computing!**

*Just a quick reminder that all subscriptions can give your group credit including new subscriptions, renewals, and gift subscriptions....*

Regards,

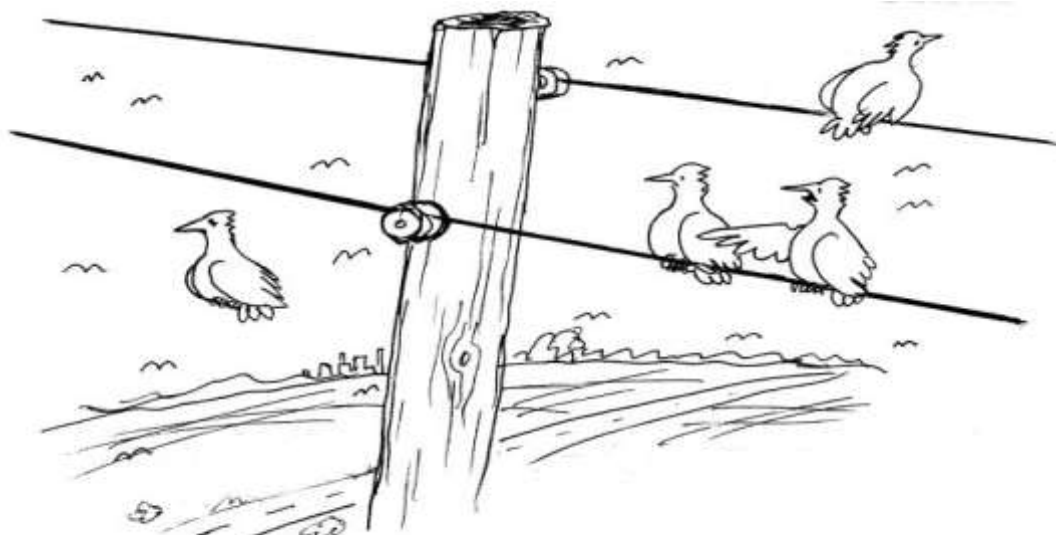
**Smart Computing User Group Team**  
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**[user-groups@smartcomputing.com](mailto:user-groups@smartcomputing.com)**  
**[www.smartcomputing.com/groups](http://www.smartcomputing.com/groups)**

These free subscriptions make a great giveaway at our monthly meetings. *Smart Computing* is such a good magazine. **Thanks to all our subscribers for making this possible!**

Also, if any other members decide to subscribe or renew, **please make sure you give our User Group credit.** You can do this by subscribing from the home

page of our Web site (<http://www.saukcomputerusergroup.org> - click on the *Smart Computing* logo on our home page). We also have mail-in forms you can use if you would rather subscribe by mail. You can download this form right from our home page too. This offer also applies to renewals and gift subscriptions. You can even tell your friends that want to subscribe to give our User Group credit; that works too. **Again, you can find all the details on our home page—just click on the *Smart Computing* logo for the details. THANKS AGAIN!**

Betty Beatty



*"Well look at that. Marv's gone wireless."*

By Myron Kliment

We are in need of a number of items for the Computer Lab and would like to enlist your aid in perhaps donating some tools and other items. Some of these items are really wishful thinking, of **course, but what the heck, doesn't** cost anything to ask.

**We also need a small, maybe 12"** wall shelf so that we can move the wireless box up and a bit out of harms way. Any volunteers to put the shelf up and cut a little shorter the PVC pipe through which the network cables run?

If we get more tools than we can use or duplicates, we will select the best and re-donate the rest to the WCSC sales store downtown. Please bring your donations to the next meeting.

We are always looking for volunteers to help within the lab itself. Assistant hours are from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Class instructors are also needed. Pick your own topic.

#### Computer Parts

128, 256 or 512 memory chips  
Usable hard drives – 20GB or larger  
DVD read/write drives  
Computer sized screws, etc.  
OEM XP O/S Software with keys  
Thumb drives for data transfer  
Speakers with volume control  
Optical Mice

#### Tools

Smaller size tool box  
Assorted blade screwdrivers (smaller)  
Assorted Phillips screwdrivers (smaller)  
Small adjustable wrench  
Regular Pliers  
Needle-nose pliers

Wire cutter  
Small Allen wrenches  
Precision head screwdriver set  
Multi-Meter (Told you this was a wish list)  
Small measuring tape  
Wire stripper  
LED Flashlight with batteries  
Anti-static wrist strap  
Crimper for network cable ends  
Network cable ends  
Cable ties  
Multi-Module Continuity Cable **Tester (We can dream can't we?)**  
Canned dusting air  
Small paint brush for cleaning  
Extension Cord  
Surge Protector Power Strip  
Tweezers  
Magnifying Glass  
Q-Tips  
Rubbing Alcohol or equivalent for cleaning  
Demonstration writing/drawing board (whiteboard with markers)

## SMART COMPUTING TIPS & FUN

**Give Your Computer Room To Breathe:** The new computer you received for Christmas is great. Now all you need is a computer desk so you can keep all your work materials in one convenient place. When looking at computer desks, hutches, armoires, and work centers, keep in mind that your computer needs room to breathe. Avoid purchasing a desk that forces you to place your computer tower into a cubby hole where the airflow is greatly reduced. Without the proper airflow, computer components can heat up and won't perform their best. Cubby holes with an opening in the front and back are generally OK.

**Make Time For Cable Management:** When you set up your computer, spend some time managing the cables. Route wires so that they have a little slack and make sure that they don't hang over one another and create a trip-hazard. Bundle wires together and tie them with a twist-tie or Velcro tie (which can be found at electronics and hardware stores). Wind up any excess wires so that they don't collect dust. Your computer area will not only look nicer, but also benefit your computer, as well-routed wires can help with proper airflow around your computer.

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by Terry MacLennan

Most of us run the program *Spybot – Search and Destroy* on a more or less regular basis, but very few know that it can do far more than just hunt for those pesky spyware programs and tracking cookies. One really nice option is checking the registry for bad links and wrong file paths. More about this great feature later in the article.

To get to the other options available in S&D, open up the program as usual then click the Mode tab at the upper left and select Advanced Mode. Read the warning, then go ahead and click Yes.

You will now find a box with three options – Settings, Tools and Info and License. Just for fun click on **Settings** and take a look at all the things you can change in there. Some like the color skin (appearance of S&D program) are not particularly dangerous but others can make some pretty substantial changes in how (S&D)

runs. **I don't recommend changing anything in here but if you wish to do so for some reason, the instructions are pretty much self-explanatory.**

Next, open the **Info & License** box **and take a look at what's in there.** You may find it interesting to see the long list of people who created S&D. I found the Statistics list interesting and a bit surprising as there was some stuff that had **been blocked that I hadn't known** about.

Lastly, open up the **Tools** box. In here, we can find some things to do. **System Startup** has a lot of registry keys and I have actually found it to work quite well in stopping some unwanted programs from running in the background. **Be careful though that you don't** shut off something that you want running. No need to click Save or anything like that. Once you check or uncheck a box to make

the change, it will be done the next time you reboot.

Want to get rid of a file for good? Try the **File Shredder and let it chop away.** You don't have to install a separate file shredding program as S&D already has a perfectly adequate one.

My favorite Tool though is **System Internals** as this is the one that searches through part of the registry as mentioned in the first paragraph. Just go ahead and click Check and let S&D do its thing for a few minutes. When completed, you may have a list of errors in your registry. Simply select Fix Selected Problems and delete all the errors. Your computer should start up a bit faster now that all that dead junk is gone.

#### MINUTES: CLUB BOARD MEETING MARCH 17, 2009

The board meeting was held at the home of Neal Shipley. Members present were Neal, Joe Schmitt, Don Haag, Joe Fornero, Dane Neiderman and Terry MacLennan.

The April meeting will feature Gary Campbell of Toner Tech Plus and the May meeting will feature Glenda MacLennan with a presentation on finding discount rates for travel and vacation.

Staples is offering a \$50 Visa Pre-Pay credit card with the purchase of a new printer regularly priced over \$179 and the turning in of an old printer. This deal is good to May 2, 2009.

Sauk College can print a display table sized vinyl banner for around \$40-50 but other options will be investigated. The brochure is basi-

cally ready except for the selection of two photographs to be used in it.

Neal showed the raffle items for **next month's meeting which include 2 2GB thumb drives.**

It was decided to purchase a **sufficient number of "forever" postage stamps** to meet club needs for approximately a year. This up-front spending will save the club a significant amount of money when postal rates go up again.

Cosmetic changes to the newsletter were discussed and it was decided that the newsletter needs a name rather than just **"Newsletter"**. **A name the newsletter contest** is to be held with the winner to receive 5 raffle tickets at an upcoming meeting. En-

tries are to be submitted to Joe who will present them to the board without the names of the submitters. The board will then vote on the top three which will then be submitted for a membership vote. More information will be forthcoming by Joe.

We are still looking for topics and presenters for a couple of months this year. We also need volunteers to give five to ten minute presentations prior to the Q&A session on favorite software, website or other subject that is computer related.

Motion to adjourn by Joe F., seconded by Joe S. and meeting was adjourned,

Respectfully submitted  
Terry MacLennan  
Acting Secretary

## NEVER PAY A MONTHLY PHONE BILL AGAIN MAGICJACK ENABLES AFFORDABLE CALLING

Given the current state of the economy and other factors, it seems that many of us are trying to cut back on our expenses. However, there are **still a number of things we're not willing to give up**, one of which is our telephone. Now, thanks to magicJack, you can trade in your high monthly landline telephone bills for a single bill of just \$20 per year. **That's not a typo, folks. It's really only twenty bucks per year for unlimited calling throughout the United States and Canada.**

■ **Too Good To Be True?**  
I'll admit that when magicJack contacted me, I was skeptical, to say the least. The product and concept of paying so little for phone service sounded too good to be true. Still, I was intrigued, so I agreed to **consider the product. I'm glad I did**—the magicJack is a PC accessory that is not only **affordable, but it's also very easy to use and works very well.** All you have to do is plug the magicJack into a USB port on your computer, plug a standard phone into the magicJack, and start talking. **There's a little bit of setup involved the first time you use the device, but it was pretty painless, as well.** Call quality during my tests was very good but not completely perfect. Still, I was satisfied with the quality, especially given the price of the service.

The magicJack costs \$39.95 plus shipping and handling. This includes one year of call-

ing to the United States **and Canada; really, it's like paying \$20 for the device and \$20 for the first year of service.** Subsequent one-year service contracts are available for \$19.95.

### ■ Features

For anyone who is considering switching to magicJack, you'll be glad to know that you won't have to give up any of the **phone features you've come to love**; magicJack comes with 911 emergency service, call waiting, call forwarding, conference calling, and voice-mail.

For users who travel internationally, you can take your magicJack overseas and call the United States and Canada, as well as other magicJack users in **the world free. If you're already in the United States and want to call internationally, you'll need to pay a small per minute fee.** magicJack makes its international billing rates available at [www.magicjack.com/international](http://www.magicjack.com/international).

### ■ What You Need

To use the magicJack, **you'll need a computer** running Windows XP or Vista, or an Intel-based Mac, along with a corded or cordless telephone and a broadband, high-speed Internet, cable Internet,

DSL, Wi-Fi, or WiMAX connection. **If you'd rather, you can use a headset or your computer's microphone and speakers instead of a standard telephone.**

magicJack offers a number of phone numbers in area codes throughout the United States.

**Though I wasn't able to get a number that is local to the city I live in (I've had this problem before with other Internet-phone providers), I was able to get a phone number with the same area code that is local to a larger city near where I live.** To see if a particular area code is available to suit your needs, check out [www.magicjack.com/areacodes](http://www.magicjack.com/areacodes). According to the **company's Web site, number portability, which would let you transfer your existing phone number to magicJack, is coming sometime this year for a nominal fee.**

I've been a happy VoIP (Voice over Internet Provider) subscriber for a few years now and have always been thrilled with the fact that I can have a home phone and pay less than my local telephone company would charge. However, **recently, I've been considering giving it up, simply because even \$30 per month adds up fast.** Doing the math for myself, I can save \$340 per year by switching to magicJack. That sounds pretty good to **me. How about you? I know I'll be one of many to make the leap to magicJack soon.**

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SEATTLE (AP) - Microsoft Corp. will release a new version of Internet Explorer Thursday, adding features meant to speed up common Web surfing tasks and bringing the browser's security measures in line with those of major competitors.

The number of browsers has grown to a dizzying array, from Internet Explorer and Mozilla's Firefox, the two most popular, to Apple Inc.'s Safari, Google Inc.'s Chrome, the Norwegian entrant Opera and others. Each is using speed, security enhancements and new features to fight for a share of Web surfers' growing time online. Microsoft remains the dominant player, but Firefox's influence is growing.

Dean Hachamovitch, the IE group's general manager, said in an interview Wednesday that the free browser is important to Microsoft because the company simply wants PC users to have a "great experience every day" when surfing the Web. For Microsoft, as for Apple and Google, the browser is one more way to build relationships that could sway other decisions, like whether to buy a Macintosh or a Windows computer, or whether to use Google's Gmail instead of Microsoft's Hotmail.

Google's entry into the market last year also shows the Web search leader believes owning the browser can help it better understand Web users' behavior and advertise to them more effectively - an area in which Microsoft is struggling to catch up.

Internet Explorer 8, which marks Microsoft's first major browser update since August 2006, takes a stab at fixing many of the small annoyances people encounter every day.

For one, IE8 aims to reduce the need to copy something from one Web page and paste it into another - mapping a restaurant ad-

dress, Googling a celebrity name, looking up an unknown word in Wikipedia or sharing a story by e-mail, Twitter or Facebook.

A list of those little actions, which Microsoft is calling Accelerators, can be called up by highlighting the text on a page and clicking on a small blue icon that appears. People can add new Accelerators to reflect their own search, e-mail and other habits.

The new version of IE also adds a twist to the built-in toolbar search box.

Firefox already lets people switch easily among search providers and sites like Amazon.com, eBay and Wikipedia using a drop-down menu. Microsoft takes this feature a step further. Type a word into the box and a preview of suggested searches or results appears in a drop-down list. Toggle between different search providers by clicking small icons in that window, and the list refreshes.

So, search for "Camper shoes," for example. Choosing Live Search calls up a list of suggested search terms. Switch to Amazon.com by simply clicking a small button to see a list of products for sale, complete with photos and prices.

Microsoft also has expanded on a feature present on some browsers today - a toolbar button that opens a menu of the most recent news headlines. IE 8 users can add a number of "Web slices" to keep track of eBay auctions, stock quotes, blog posts, weather forecasts and other information that is frequently updated.

Another useful feature - one that Firefox lacks but Google Inc.'s new Chrome browser employs - keeps related tabs together. If a user clicks on a link, thereby opening a new tab, Microsoft tucks that tab right next to the original. IE8 also gives the tabs a common color. And in IE 8, when a Web page in one tab crashes, it doesn't bring down the whole browser.

The Redmond, Wash.-based software maker added some new privacy features, including a mode for Web browsing that

doesn't remember what sites were visited nor stores small data files called cookies. IE 8 also lets people block ads from companies that track their Web surfing habits across a number of sites, a practice known as behavioral targeting.

Microsoft also made some much-needed security improvements in Internet Explorer 8, many of which are already employed by competing products.

It beefed up protection against malware and known phishing scam sites, and built in technology to protect against another kind of threat, "cross-site scripting," in which hackers insert code into legitimate Web pages that compromise peoples' computers without them knowing it. IE 8 disables the bad scripts but in most cases allows others needed for a Web page to run as usual.

Firefox already does something similar with an add-on program, but Microsoft argues that only the most sophisticated users know to seek it out and install it.

IE 8 also helps people who create Web sites prevent another kind of attack called "click-jacking," where a Web surfer might think they're clicking on a legitimate button when in fact they're activating an invisible, malicious action.

Microsoft has been notorious for building Web browsers that only partially follow Web standards, or agreed-upon ways of reading Web designers' code and displaying the page as described. With IE 8, Microsoft has promised to adhere to standards. But since many Web pages, including Microsoft's own corporate sites, were built to work best with IE, the new version may "break" some pages.

The fix? A button that reverts to the old, nonstandard way of operating.

Sauk Computer User Group  
User Helping User  
3406 E. 19th St.  
Sterling, IL 61081

There will be a Question & Answer Session  
starting at 1PM.

Bring any questions you have about your  
computer or problems you may be having.

It will be conducted by:  
**Neal Shipley & Art Bendick**



### Notice

The next meeting of the Sauk  
Computer User Group will be

**April 11, 2009**

Workshop: 1:00 P.M.

Business: 2:00 P.M.

Program: 3:00 P.M.

Place: **Whiteside Senior Center**

**1207 West 9th Street**

**Sterling, Illinois 61081**

**APRILS' MEETING THEME: PRINTER CARTRIDGES**

BY GARY CAMPBELL OF TONER-TECH