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Next Meeting

Wednesday 2nd June 2010

7.30 PM Workshop



Newstream Articles

Deadline : 10 Days before Meeting

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Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen

Auditor: Ron Baker

"VICTOR" Liason: Robert Tierney

*General Committee Judy Hall, Ivan Turmine, Glenn Gilpin,
Reinhard von Samorzewski,*

OPEN Committee 2010-2011

Chairperson OPEN: Judy Hall *Chair all meetings of OPEN and ensure that they run smoothly*

Vice Chairperson OPEN: June Hazzlewood. *Chair meeting when the Chairperson is unavailable.*

Secretary: Margaret Carrington *Handles all incoming and outgoing communications Responsible for the documentation and distribution of all meeting minutes*

Assistant Secretary: - open - *Help the Secretary where necessary*

Treasurer: Iris Meek *Responsible for all monies and banking*

Assistant Treasurer: .Karia Wicks *Help the Treasurer where necessary.*

Publicity Officer: Iris Meek. *Responsible for all advertising*

OPEN Co-ordinator: Robert Tierney. *Responsible for the smooth running of Centre on a daily basis*

Membership Co-coordinator: Karia Wicks.:

Keep Membership database up to date.

Beginners Project Co-ordinator: Eleanor Horder.

Tutor Co-ordinator: Eleanor Horder.. *Keep regular contact with Tutors to bring ideas and concerns to meetings*

Assistant Tutor Co-ordinators: David Renton.

Newsletter Editors Assistant: Iris Meek. *Collates and produces the OPEN Newsletter for inclusion in LCG monthly 'Newstream'*

Maintenance Coordinator Judy Hall *Responsible for the maintenance and repairs to all computer equipment*

Co-ordinator of "VICTOR": Robert Tierney.

Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen.

OPEN Committee: Marie Cleaver, David Renton, Jenny Napier, Lorraine Rist, Janet Headlam

OPEN NEWSLETTER – May-June 2010

Coordinators Corner

Internet providers and your rights.

Like everything from cereal to mobile phones and internet providers there is so much choice out there it can be very overwhelming.

Once you have found your isp what rights do you have if you are not happy with your internet provider.

The following information will hopefully give you some help.

DO NOT be afraid to be upfront with your isp provider you are paying them money you need to let them know if the service you are supposed to be getting is not happening.

1. Call your ISP's customer service hotline. Do not let them treat you like you are an idiot, if you are unsure what to say you can always have someone with you to talk to the isp on your behalf. I have done this on numerous occasions for students and basically what happens is you tell the operator that there is someone helping you and you would like them to talk to the operator on your behalf because they may be

able to explain things easier. Your isp will verify who you are through your account name etc.

In 95 percent of phone calls you will get your question, query, problem solved. If unfortunately you are not happy with the outcome you can do one of two things firstly, write a letter to your ISP's complaints area explaining your concerns and suggest your preferred means of resolution.

Second thing that you can do if you are not satisfied with the resolution or explanation given to you by the ISP, contact the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO).

The TIO is a free and independent alternative dispute resolution scheme for small business and residential consumers in Australia with unresolved complaints about their telephone or internet services. You must have tried to resolve the dispute with your provider before the ombudsman can consider your complaint.

www.accc.gov.au

is the website which gives you information on this subject and others.

Seniors Week is not far away it is the first week in October, for those who were not around last year we had an open week where people came in to see what OPEN had to offer in way of classes we applied for a grant to help with seniors week last year and we were not successful.

We applied for the same grant late last year and this time we were successful. So for this years seniors week we have two thousand dollars to help towards making seniors week bigger and better.

So we are asking for people both students and tutors who would be willing to help out whether it be folding pamphlets closer to the week or helping out showing visitors around the centre.

By the time this comes out there would have been the first of three meetings held for those who are wanting to help, there will be two more one in July and one in September if anyone would like to help please see myself and let me know that you are interested .

Also Friday the 18th of June we will be holding from 10am-12pm Australia's Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for the cancer council it will be a gold coin donation and if you are able to bring a plate with something on it to share it would be much appreciated.

Until next time

Happy Computing

Rob Tierney

VENUE TELEPHONE NUMBER

The club telephone is available during class hours. **6343 4928**



OPEN NEWSLETTER – June 2010

Notice to all members.

ASCCA is again running the annual Competitions for Digital Photography, Creative Writing and Photo Story Video.

The entry forms are tabled near the front of the club rooms and may be copied by any member who wishes to enter one of the categories.

Please read the conditions carefully as ASCCA limits the amount of words, pictures or slides.

Winners are announced at the ASCCA AGM.

All entries must be in by 4 pm Monday 30 August 2010.



All members of LCG and OPEN are welcome to attend Workshops and evenings with Guest Speakers



BASIC GRAPHICS CLASSES

Judy and her crew can show students how to take an old photograph and make it look almost new. Learn how to fix torn corners, remove specks and spots and lighten or darken your precious family photos.

TUTORS MEETING
June 16

An excellent opportunity to meet fellow tutors and exchange ideas and information

We are still on the look-out for competent people to help out as tutors. If you have someone in mind, please mention our club and perhaps show them around. It may be what they want.

FAMILY HISTORY ON-LINE

May 26 — 10 am to noon
June 9 - 1 pm—3 pm
June 23 - 10 am—noon

Judy Hall and the team will guide you through the processes used to research your ancestry. Contact the club for more information. Classes are limited to 8 people.

Basic AND Graphics Work shops

Put name on Registration Sheet on cork board as numbers are limited.

The dates for the next classes are :

Graphics Workshop June 2 10 am to 12 .

LEVEL 2 & 3 GRAPHICS
With Paint Shop Pro 7 and 8

Wednesday 16 June— 1:00 pm to 3.00 pm

For students who have already completed Basic Graphics classes. It involves more advanced features of the Paint Shop Pro graphics programs.

OPEN Session Times

At Studioworks, 1 Pipeworks Rd, L'ton

CStandard Sessions \$5.00

Monday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm – 3 pm	Beginners & PC Support
Tuesday	10 am –12	P C Support & Beginners + Mac
	1 pm – 3 pm	As above
	7 pm–9 pm	PC Support (Night Class)
Wednesday	10 am—noon	Special sessions or Meetings
	1.pm—3 pm	As for mornings (see rosters)
	3.30—5.30	P C Support
Thursday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm – 3 pm	General & Beginners
	3.30—5.30	Absolute Beginners
Friday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm—3 pm	Beginners

OPEN NEWSLETTER – June 2010

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

Please register on the sheets – numbers may be limited

Date	Time	Topic	Details
June 2	10 am—12 noon	Graphics Workshop	Reviewing Basic Graphics.
	1 pm—	OPEN Monthly Meeting	Help keep the club meaningful to all.
June 9	10 am—12 noon	Basic Graphics	A popular session to help understand Graphics
	1:00—3 pm	Family History	Study Family History On line or disk.
June 16	10 am—noon	TUTORS MEETING	Meet other Tutors and talk.
	1 pm— 3.00	Level 2 and 3 Graphics	Advanced graphics techniques using the Paint Shop Pro 7 and 8 programs.
June 23	10 am –noon	Family History	Use our library of resources to trace your
	1 pm—3.00	PSP X1	Advanced Graphics
June 30	10 am –noon	On Line Shopping	Use the Internet to shop
	1 pm—3.pm	Photo Books	Bring your own photo

Some graphics classes require Tutorials which incur extra costs for printing.

Scanned photos are suitable for the Photo Book class

OPEN NEWSLETTER – June 2010

Choice Computer

Did I read that sign right?

Did I read that sign right?

TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW

In a Laundromat:

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

In a London department store:

BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS

In an office:

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

In an office:

AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

Outside a second hand shop:

WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window:

CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

Australia's Biggest

Morning Tea

Once again Rob is inviting all students and tutors to the Biggest Morning Tea at OPEN.

A donation of a Gold Coin and perhaps a cake to share. All Welcome.

June 18

Remember the club tries to keep on hand some storage devices such as USB drives, C D's and DV D's for copying and backing up your lessons. These can be purchased at very good prices.



Some Game C D's are also available, as are Family History Programs at excellent prices..

Recently tested nine programs to help trace and catalogue your family history.

Rather than trips to the record offices, archive centres and graveyards, the internet now helps people trace their roots using genealogy websites such as www.genesreunited.com.au and www.ancestry.com.au and records such as UK's 1911 census (www.1911census.co.uk)

That are posted on line. These are some of the sites Judy uses when helping students trace their families.

Choice also tested some packages, such as Reunion 9, Family Tree Maker2010 and Personal Ancestry File (PAF).

All you need to start is to bring in a family tree chart starting with the family member you want as base and the club will try to help you add details.

Reunion 9 was recommended for Mac users.

Brothers Keeper has proved popular with the club and some wonderful charts can be made. Personalise charts with notes and photos to make them even more interesting.

Source: CC Mar-Apr 2010.

"VICTOR PHONE NUMBER 0408 174 235

**CLUB NUMBER 6343 4928
(MONDAY TO FRIDAY—10 am to 3 pm**

OPEN NEWSLETTER – June 2010

We have received a box of new, but outdated Printer Cartridges from one of our friendly computer stores.

There is nothing wrong with these because they are sealed packs.

Members can purchase for just \$10, but must not open them if they are not sure of the make or manufacturers number on the box, otherwise they have to keep and pay for them.

We will be returning the box after a couple of weeks with all unsold cartridges, to the store.

Just check on the details of your home printer, then check the box and perhaps you'll find a great bargain.

Cheers
Iris

Graphics Workshops

2 June 10 – noon

7 July 10 – noon

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

Do you ever experience the frustration of having to repeatedly click the Minimize button in several open 'windows' before you can get back to your desktop?

There are **two keyboard shortcuts** that will make life easier:

Holding down the Windows key and tapping 'D' will take you directly to the desktop, so you can do whatever you need to. Repeat the shortcut (Windows key plus 'D') and you will be returned to the original window.

To Minimize all the windows you have open hold down the Windows key and press 'M'.

Although busy with work commitments, Dennis has been spending his spare hours moving computers around and generally



cleaning up those around the club. His work, as always, is much appreciated, particularly as Judy has been tied down with health issues for quite a while.

We are trying also to take into account suggestions from members on ways to improve the club.

Communication is top priority if we are to continue to flourish as a computer club.

Thanks to all who are putting in so many hours helping students and each other.

Perhaps attending the Tutors Meeting June 16 could be a start.



Meeting Held at 1/1 Pipeworks Road
LAUNCESTON COMPUTER GROUP Inc

Meeting Minutes:

Date: Wednesday 5th May 2010

Meeting:

The President, Barry Symons welcomed all present and opened the meeting at 7:35pm

Present:

B. Symons, R. von Samorzewski, H. Tavener, T. Bramich, I. Meek, E. Horder, L. Horder, I. Turmine, G. Gilpin, D. Murray, L. Rist.

Apologies:

J. Hall, J. Hjort, T. Olsen, J. Hazzelwood, B. Hazzelwood

Minutes:

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th April were read and confirmed: I. Meek

Sec-

onded: G. Gilpin

Correspondence:

A remittance from the Premiers Department.

Examiner – re a competition for subscribers

Business Arising From the Minutes:

Sunday Market – there were very few people through the Market on this Sunday. A stallholder suggested that we could make our presence known by holding more fre-

quent stalls. There was 1 person interested in attending classes.

The question of whether the 64 bit tower should be converted to 34 bit was discussed at length. It was concluded that for future requirements the 64 bit will be required in the future. Eleanor watched the process of opening the Virtual Computer to use for other programs such as Print Artist.

Financial Report:

Accounts paid up to May 4th 2010

Carbil Computers Quad Core computer	\$980.00
Tom Olsen reg Domain name	36.00
Petty Cash top-up	138.56
Tas Printer Cartridges refills	21.00
Corporate Express stationery	185.08
Another Computer Store rent March	1.000.00
Robert Ferguson new urn	89.00
LCG Petty Cash	194.05
Dept Corp Affairs via Public Officer	53.20
Carbil Computers new monitors	580.00
Telstra Bigpond A/C for April	123.83
Total	\$3400.72
Accounts to be paid	
Rent April	\$1.000.00
Tas Printer Cartridges	49.50

Carbil Computers disks and cases	96.00
Tas Fire Service Inspection	8.80
Glenn Gilpin Market stall	19.00
	Total \$1.145.30
Bank Balance	\$25.303.00
	Includes Victor 5.570.09

General Business:

Friday 28th May – Seniors Week

18th June – Australia's Biggest morning tea

John Hofford – future speaker

- Interrupts classes by speaking in a loud voice, and sings.
- Has attended with 2 lap tops, expecting more than basic help.
- Our expectation is that phone calls be taken outside the building and that the volume be kept to a minimum.
- All of our Tutors are volunteers and unfortunately she has unrealistic expectations.
- We are losing Tutors due to her attitude.
- She disregards most of the advice given. Is reluctant to pay her \$5.00 fee for lessons.

In conclusion, it was decided that LCG send another letter to her as well as the Migrant Centre.

It was suggested that we purchase a 3 user licence of Office 2007 and a single copy of Publisher 2007

The MAC Group requested a copy each of Adobe Suite and Photo Shop for the use of their students. Moved Iris that Ivan query prices of these programmes.

It was suggested that a bookcase be erected to replace the existing shelves, drawers and desk next to the store room. Barry has offered to build such when it has been designed.

Future Speakers: Rod Oliver – Digital Camera demonstration
John Hofford

Meeting closed: 8.30pm and was reportedly followed by an entertaining, as always demonstration of taking digital photos from Powerpoint to DVD. Many thanks again Dennis.

Next meeting June 2.

Signed..... Date.....



The 120-day Microsoft security suite test drive

By Fred Langa

Frustration with most commercial antivirus suites launched a long-term, real-life test of Microsoft Security Essentials, Microsoft's free anti-malware application.

In one of the rare extended tests outside a lab, Microsoft's software has quietly kept two Windows 7 PCs free of infections, even in dangerous public environments.

I've tried many commercial security suites over the years and eventually grown unhappy with each of them. An anti-malware publisher would layer new features on top of old, and each new version would require more disk space and system resources – eventually making the software too big, too slow, or too hard to customize. Moving on to another publisher's suite only restarted the same pattern.

So four months ago, I decided to look into a new option: the recently released Microsoft Security Essentials (MSE) – the company's first antivirus and anti-malware application. (MSE is available as a free download from the product's info page.)

So far, my real-life test drive indicates that Microsoft may have finally got basic security right.

Three critical elements for basic security I generally rely on three interlocking kinds of security protection: First, a firewall to protect against direct hack attacks. Next, various built-in filters and prescreens provided by online apps (browsers and e-mail, for example) to block malware downloads and prevent open doors to bad sites. Finally, an active anti-malware tool that monitors all file activity. The software screens out known or likely worms, viruses, Trojans, and other malicious code – either by identifying them directly or by watching their behavior.

For the first time, in Fall 2009 Microsoft provided all three pieces of the online security puzzle – and offered them free.

It's been a long time coming. Microsoft's first serious foray into online security was Internet Protocol Security (IPsec) – a primitive kind of firewall – bundled with Windows 2000. Improved and extended a bit in XP, IPsec became a fully functional firewall in Vista and was further refined in Windows 7.

Today, Win7's built-in firewall can protect as well as many third-party products can. (A WindowsSecurity.com article details what's in the Win7 firewall.)

Microsoft's anti-malware efforts began in earnest in 2005 when Microsoft bought out the modestly respected Giant AntiSpyware. Revamped and eventually renamed Windows Defender, Microsoft hoped this free antispyware application would bolster XP's aging and massively attacked infrastructure. Indeed, XP users can still download it from its product page. Later, Windows Defender was bundled into Vista and Windows 7.

But Windows Defender didn't specifically target viruses – a glaring omission. Microsoft Security Essentials finally corrects that.

MSE is a general anti-malware tool, protecting against viruses as well as the kinds of threats that Defender handled. In fact, MSE automatically disables any versions of Defender it finds on a PC. That's important because duplicated security services will often cause trouble. The rule of thumb is never to have different security tools performing the same job at the same time. MSE is smart enough not to compete with a sibling tool.

Running all-Microsoft protection – in the wild With Microsoft now providing all the major pieces of a comprehensive security setup for free, the question arises: Do you really need any third-party security software?

To find out, I uninstalled all third-party security apps from two Windows 7 systems – one a portable, one a desktop – and created a basic security setup using only Windows' built-in firewall and Microsoft Security Essentials in their default state (no customizations).

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(Continued from page 10)

Both machines included Mozilla's Thunderbird for e-mail and Firefox and IE8 for browsing (all fully updated and set to their default security states).

After four months of running those setups not just in my home office, but at public hotspots that are a potential gold mine for hackers – WiFi in coffee shops, hotels, and airport lounges – I have yet to see a successful attack on either system. (Later, I'll explain how I tested the systems to make sure the security tools were doing their job.)

One other note about testing MSE: Most of the lab tests of this security suite's AV capabilities are extremely dated – typically, completed when the product originally launched.

In my search of the Web, I could find only one recent lab test of MSE. A brief April 14 report by MaximumPC stated that the suite passed its synthetic testing "without so much as flinching and fared equally well at thwarting our attempts to inflict damage with genuine payloads."

Although that report backs up my findings, this review – as far as I can determine – is the only extended in-the-wild test published.

Security working quietly behind the curtains In operation, Microsoft Security Essentials is nearly invisible – there's almost no user interaction needed. (Windows' firewall, likewise, has never needed much interaction.) MSE automatically scans files when they're created or accessed, and it monitors system activity for suspicious malware-like behavior. MSE also performs unattended scans of your entire system at a time you designate. MSE even updates itself silently in the background.

MSE calls for attention only when it finds trouble, as shown in Figure 1. But you can skip even this minor level of interaction if you direct MSE to automatically run recovery actions such as remove, clean, or quarantine.

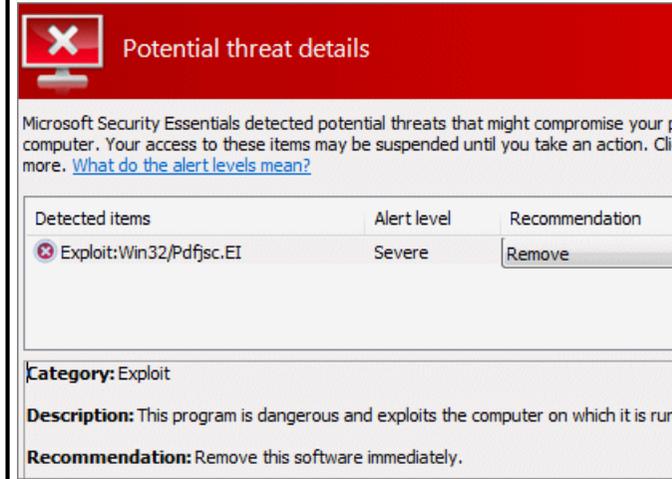


Figure 1. Microsoft Security Essentials works quietly in the background until it discovers a potential attack. In this case, it intercepted malware in Firefox's cach

You can't, however, ignore MSE's full scans – they can grind on for hours, as Figure 2 illustrates. The first few times I ran it, each full scan of my 1.5TB laptop took about a full day to complete. (See Figure 2.) Even running the scan mostly at night didn't let it finish in a reasonable time. Other MSE reviewers also noted long scan times.

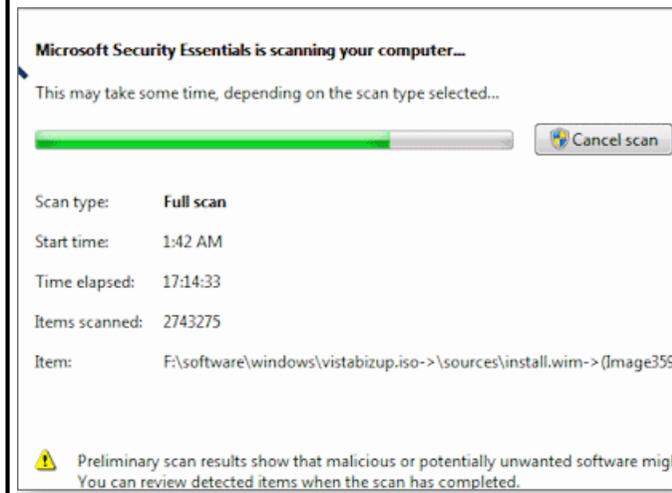


Figure 2. Though thorough, MSE's full, file-by-file scan is exceedingly slow. This dialog window displays the progress after 17 hours — in what turned out to be a 24-hour process.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Fortunately, once a system is completely checked, you reduce the need for full scans. After confirming that all of my files were clean, I reset MSE to focus only on the most-frequently used partitions. Now scans complete in a couple hours, at night, when the PC is otherwise idle.

Trust is good, but verification is better. Before giving MSE a thumbs-up, I had to know for sure that it was working. As Figure 2 shows, it did catch attempts to download malware onto my machines. But did it miss any?

To check, I periodically scanned my Win7 systems with standalone security tools that would not interfere with MSE. That way, I continually ensured that no new infections had taken up residence in my machines.

Typically, I ran a different scanner each night: Microsoft's Windows Live Safety Scanner, then ESET's Online Scanner, then either McAfee's FreeScan or Symantec's Security Check. (See Figure 3.)

verification scan Figure 3. Using several standalone, third-party online AV scanners, I verify that my PCs remain uninfected. The one "infected" file detected in this scan was a known false positive.

These scanners do pick up dubious bits from time to time. For example, I have several password-recovery tools that all the scanners tag as malware (when obviously they're not.) So-called tracking cookies routinely show up in browser caches and are often tagged by the scanners as malicious. (These cookies are almost always harmless. I rarely bother to block them.)

MSE gets a thumbs-up, but with caveats. Four months in, and no malware has infected my Win7 systems. I've experienced no malware-like misbehavior on my machines, and to the best of my knowledge, my systems remain clean and unhacked.

So I'm comfortable saying that the combination of the Win7 firewall, Microsoft Security Essentials, and fully current browsers and e-mail clients is proving to be a wholly acceptable security solution for routine use.

However, I'm not ready to recommend this combination to advanced users – especially those with demanding needs or who require the ability to easily customize their setup.

For example, MSE is harder to customize than competing software. Built to run mostly in full-automatic (for maximum ease of use), MSE lacks an advanced mode – where you can dig into the app and modify how it works. Maybe I have spent too many years tinkering with Windows, but I feel uneasy with a black box solution.

Other (mostly early) reviews of MSE echo my sentiments. Examples include:

- * Ars Technica's September 29, 2009, article, "First Look: Microsoft Security Essentials Impresses"
- * PC World's Oct. 2, 2009, security blog, "Microsoft's Free AV Looks Good in New Test Results"
- * PC Mag.com's March 3, 2010, review, "Microsoft Security Essentials Probably Not for You"
- * Washington Post's Sept. 30, 2009, report on AV-Test's MSE performance results.

MSE's poorest reviews come from synthetic lab tests that exercised MSE in isolation. While that's interesting information – it makes me go, "Hmrrrrrrrr" – security tools don't work in isolation in the real world.

As I've already stated, in combination with the Win7 firewall and up-to-date browsers and e-mail apps, MSE kept my PCs clean. Weigh the evidence for yourself.

I'll continue my tests – probably for another three months – and let you know what I find.

Editors Note: I have been using the Microsoft Security Essentials on both my XP & Windows 7 systems without problems and the deep scan on a TB Hard disk went through in a relatively short time nowhere near 17 hours

Ron Baker

New findings update WS Security Baseline

By Robert Vamosi

Our monthly update of the Windows Secrets Security Baseline focuses on anti-malware suites — all-in-one commercial packages that fight viruses, spam, spyware, and malware that's still unknown — plus suites

Regardless of your skill level — beginner, intermediate, or advanced user — you should be able to find security protection that's right for your needs.

In the past, security suites have been roundly criticized for their deleterious effects on PC performance and because they were often difficult to uninstall. From the e-mails we receive, the dislike for paid AV suites runs deep among long-time PC users.

But over the last decade, I've probably reviewed almost any antivirus product you could name, and I'm here to tell you that today's Internet security suites use fewer resources than their predecessors and most are much easier to remove. That's an achievement, given the ever-more sophisticated threats these applications face. Though they started out combating simple viruses, they must now include tools to fight spam, spyware, and malware that's still unknown.

Most of today's top-rated suites charge \$30 to \$70 a year to protect up to three PCs. The suites discussed in this article all support Windows XP, Vista, and Win7.

The primary benefit of one-package security suites is a unified interface, so the various components are easier to access and configure. Do-it-yourself suites are more difficult to maintain but let you pick the best-of-breed software for different types of malware threats.

I've broken down the choices for suites into three groups: basic, intermediate, and advanced.

Suites that quietly work in the background For PC users seeking a security suite that delivers good protection with minimal fuss, the three commercial suites listed below are best. These packages are for average PC users who do not feel comfortable delving into a suite's sometimes-complex controls. Everything you need to know is displayed in a simple window, including

whether or not you've received the latest product update. If that simplicity does not appeal to you, skip down to the intermediate or advanced lists below.

Our top three — Norton, Kaspersky, and Microsoft — each showed the most innovation in their 2010 offerings, with the first two sandboxing Web applications. All three scan only those files that have changed since the previous scan (as opposed to scanning the entire hard drive every time).

* Symantec's Norton Internet Security 2010: Symantec's suite, probably more so than any other AV software, has taken hard knocks for slowing down PCs. This time around, however, CNET, PCWorld, and PCMag.com all noted that the suite's impact on PC performance is much improved. That and the software's ability to block new threats earned it top scores from all three publications.

Using test data from AV-test.org, PCWorld's review noted Norton's superior virus behavior analysis, which helps stop new malware not yet catalogued by the AV vendors.

* Kaspersky Internet Security 2010: PCMag and PCWorld both thought Kaspersky's strength was its easy-to-use interface. A new "Safe Run" feature also lets you test new software by installing and running it in an isolated sandbox environment prior to installing it for real. However, both PCWorld and PCMag reported middling overall performance results.

* Microsoft Security Essentials: Given Microsoft's tepid efforts at anti-malware software in the past, its free MSE security suite has received surprisingly good reviews. Windows Secrets Patch Watch columnist Susan Bradley recommends MSE for average PC users, and senior editor Fred Langa wrote a lengthy and generally positive review in his May 6 Top Story.

There is little in the way of recent independent lab testing of MSE. One of the most recent is AV-Comparatives.org's February 2010 PDF-based report, in which MSE was given high marks for malware detection and scan times. In particular, MSE scored very few false positives compared with Trend Micro, Panda, and McAfee.

What about the other household-name AV products? This year McAfee got tepid reviews and took a huge hit when it inadvertently sent out a bad virus update. CA, Panda, and Trend Micro also received mediocre scores. Intermediate suites provide more customization. The intermediate products listed below have a large and dedicated following among experienced PC users, mostly because these suites offer more user controls. They don't have the marketing clout of the brands in the basic group, and their interface and integration are not as polished. It's best to combine these suites with one or more of the standalone security products listed in the advanced section.

* **Alwil Avast Internet Security 5.0:** This suite is worth a look, even though the suite is a brand-new offering. Its signature-based protection is solid, its interface is intuitive, but it offers just the basics — according to a PCMag.com review. PCWorld's review stated that its behavioral detection could use more refinement. Still, there's considerable positive buzz around this late entry to an already-crowded security market.

* **Sunbelt Vipre Antivirus Premium:** Although this suite has been around for a few years, when Sunbelt combined its antivirus with its anti-spyware engines, it started from scratch — producing a leaner and meaner anti-malware engine that has earned the VirusBulletin VB100 designation for good antivirus performance. Vipre includes a firewall and anti-rootkit protection but lacks sophisticated browser protection.

Although other middle-tier products — BitDefender, Zonealarm, PCTools, Webroot, and F-Secure, for example — have their fans, each product has its own strengths and weaknesses you'll need to take into consideration.

Advanced security — build it yourself Ask a dozen security experts what they'd put into their suite of anti-malware tools, and you'll get a dozen different answers. But the following products are considered top-tier by advanced PC users. Many are also free.

Anti-malware detection and removal

* **G Data Antivirus 2010:** In a February antivirus test report by AV-Comparatives, G Data earned the best score for virus detection, and it had a

low rate of false positives. At \$25, it's also modestly priced.

* **Immunet Protect:** This free, cloud-based antivirus product was created by some former Symantec engineers. Cloud-based antivirus apps take up little room on your hard drive, and their defenses against new malware outbreaks can be pushed out faster than with the conventional signature-based method. Unfortunately, this new technology has not been tested as thoroughly as more-traditional methods. You can download Immunet Protection directly from the vendor.

* **Malwarebytes Anti-Malware:** One of the gold standards of standalone antivirus apps, it is favored by Windows Secrets contributing editor Ryan Russell. It has not been evaluated alongside Norton, Kaspersky, or any other leading AV apps — though most advanced users consider it an important tool in their AV arsenal. It's a free download at the Malwarebytes site.

Firewalls

* **Comodo Firewall:** A free combination firewall and antivirus app, Comodo's product is recommended by several sources, including Windows Secrets senior editor Ian "Gizmo" Richards. In recent tests by matousec.com, the firewall's performance was rated perfect.

Comodo is also offering its new, free Comodo Internet Security suite that includes an antivirus component. A PCWorld review recommended a pass on the suite's AV tools, stating poor malware detection and a high rate of false positives.

* **Online-Armor Personal Firewall:** Gizmo rated Online-Armor's product equal to Comodo, and it's earned accolades from many other reviewers as well. The software, available as a download at online-armor.com, comes in both free and paid versions — the latter \$40-product adds a Web shield feature, anti-phishing filter, and online banking protection.

* **Windows 7 firewall:** If you have Windows 7 installed, you should not need a third-party firewall, according to WS contributing editor Susan

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(Continued from page 14)

Bradley. She believes that Win7's built-in protection is best.

Other Browser protection:

- Linkscanner is a free browser-security product from AVG that scans Web pages and content for malicious links. Unlike most other browser-security products, Linkscanner blocks only malicious elements on a Web page — not the whole page.

CONFESSIO!!!

An Irishman goes into the confessional box after years of being away from the Church.

There's a fully equipped bar with Guinness on tap. On the other wall is a dazzling array of the finest cigars and chocolates.

Then the priest comes in. "Father, forgive me, for it's been a very long time since I've been to confession, but I must first admit that the confessional box is much more inviting than it used to be."

The priest replies: "Get out. You're on my side."

In her radio show, Dr. Laura Schlesinger said that, as an observant Orthodox Jew, homosexuality is an abomination according to Leviticus 18:22, and cannot be condoned under any circumstance.

The following response is an open letter to Dr. Laura, penned by a U.S. resident, which was posted on the Internet. It's funny, as well as informative:

Dear Dr. Laura:

Thank you for doing so much to educate people regarding God's Law.

I have learned a great deal from your show, and try to share that knowledge with as many people as I can. When someone tries to defend the homosexual lifestyle, for example, I simply remind them that Leviticus 18:22 clearly states it to be an abomination ... End of debate.

I do need some advice from you, however, regarding some other elements of God's Laws and how to follow them.

1. Leviticus 25:44 states that I may possess slaves, both male and female, provided they are purchased from neighboring nations. A friend of mine claims that this applies to Mexicans, but not Canadians. Can you clarify? Why can't I own Canadians?
2. I would like to sell my daughter into slavery, as sanctioned in Exodus 21:7. In this day and age, what do you think would be a fair price for her?
3. I know that I am allowed no contact with a woman while she is in her period of Menstrual uncleanness - Lev.15: 19-24. The problem is how do I tell? I have tried asking, but most women take offense.

(Continued on page 16)

4. When I burn a bull on the altar as a sacrifice, I know it creates a pleasing odor for the Lord - Lev.1:9. The problem is my neighbors. They claim the odor is not pleasing to them. Should I smite them?

5. I have a neighbor who insists on working on the Sabbath. Exodus 35:2 clearly states he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself, or should I ask the police to do it?

6. A friend of mine feels that even though eating shellfish is an abomination, Lev. 11:10, it is a lesser abomination than homosexuality. I don't agree. Can you settle this? Are there 'degrees' of abomination?

7. Lev. 21:20 states that I may not approach the altar of God if I have a defect in my sight. I have to admit that I wear reading glasses. Does my vision have to be 20/20, or is there some wiggle-room here?

8. Most of my male friends get their hair trimmed, including the hair around their temples, even though this is expressly forbidden by Lev. 19:27. How should they die?

9. I know from Lev. 11:6-8 that touching the skin of a dead pig makes me unclean, but may I still play football if I wear gloves?

10. My uncle has a farm. He violates Lev.19:19 by planting two different crops in the same field, as does his wife by wearing garments made of two different kinds of thread (cotton/polyester blend). He also tends to curse and blaspheme a lot. Is it really necessary that we go to all the trouble of getting the whole town together to stone them? Lev.24:10-16. Couldn't we just burn them to death at a private family affair, like we do with people

who sleep with their in-laws? (Lev. 20:14)

I know you have studied these things extensively and thus enjoy considerable expertise in such matters, so I'm confident you can help.

Thank you again for reminding us that God's word is eternal and unchanging.

Your adoring fan.

James M. Kauffman, Ed.D. Professor Emeritus, Dept. Of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education University of Virginia

(It would be a damn shame if we couldn't own a Canadian :)

Answers to the Newbie Club Quiz

A - 2 Microsoft Windows XP was released on October 25, 2001.

B - 4 A system board is another name for a computer motherboard.

C - 4 With the three Microsoft Windows keys, function keys, and the keys found on the number pad the standard Windows US keyboard has 104 keys.

D - 2 Microwave Printer E - 3 USB 2.0 or Hi-speed USB is capable of transferring up to 480Mbps of data, which is a lot faster than the previous USB 1.1 12Mbps.

F - 3 In 1982 Time magazine named the personal computer as the machine of the year, the first non-human to be nominated.

OPEN COMPUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

5th May 2010

Meeting Opened at 1.10pm

PRESENT;

Judy Hall (Chair) Rob Tierney, Margaret Carrington, June and Bert Hazzlewood, Eleanor Horder, Marie Cleaver, Tom Olsen, Harvey Tavener, Karia Wicks, Iris Meek

APOLOGIES;

Kay Dawson, Lorraine Rist, Sandra Viney, Jenny Napier

Harvey Tavener moved the minutes of the April Meeting be accepted, seconded by June Hazzlewood

BUSINESS ARISING;

- ✓ Eleanor is to ask Lou to inspect our messy, untidy, possible accident causing cables with the view of constructing or suggesting a satisfactory structure in which the cables could lie in an unrestricted manner which would remove the possibility of a member tripping on this hazard and injuring themselves and would facilitate easy movement of cables from one part of the desk to another in order that members may have easy access to a power board (if they have a laptop and we are seeing more lap tops now which means we have to be able to cater for their needs,) and/or the blue internet cable if it is their wish to partake of inter-

net usage/instruction for that particular lesson.

- ✓ Rob explained that Volunteer Tasmania said it is not compulsory for all tutors to have a police check. However it was agreed that all new tutors from now on should have a check done and any existing tutors could also arrange for one to be done if they wished. .
- ✓ Outlook Express; Due to complications that can occur (as stated in minutes last month,) members are reminded again that Outlook Express is not be used in class. Also, no private accounts may be set up, with the exception of Lap tops. Eleanor has copies of tutorial on using Outlook Express which members may purchase. Rob moved that Outlook Express not be used in class. Seconded by Judy Hall.
- ✓ Regarding new Windows 7 computer. Dennis has set up virtual machine so that Print Artist can be used on it. It was agreed that the computer should be returned to Bill Carbill so that he can roll it back to 32 bit.
- ✓ Regarding the Distribution of Petrol Vouches for Tutors; Margaret Carrington suggested that a possible method of distribution could be as follows;
This is how the \$2,000 for petrol vouches could be distributed fairly.
Example:
4 people who travel 50km or more per week - \$100 each \$400.00
26 " who travel less than 50 km- \$50 each

\$1,300.00 \$1,700 00

The \$300 left over could be distributed between the big mileage people.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

✓ CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT:

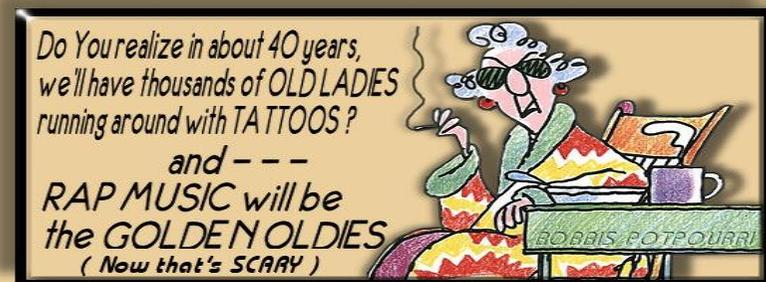
- A. Rob presented information on events at OPEN:
 - B. Friday 28th May at 1pm -First of three Seniors Week Organizational meetings.
 - C. Friday 18th June Australia's Biggest Morning Tea 10am-12pm sponsored by VICTOR
 - D. Rob also spoke about a anti-bullying seminar he attended in April . Siobahn Reid from Volunteer Tasmania came to speak to volunteers on volunteering and national standards in April also
 - E. OPEN is being registered on Volunteer Connect website to attract more volunteers Rob is working with Eleanor on this.
- ✓ **June**; suggested quote "That Management Committee Members or Tutors who are required by OPEN to attend meetings which incur costs as its representatives, be reimbursed for the meeting cost up to \$50 per person. However the limit of two representatives may be increased in special circumstances, if passed at a General Meeting." June moved, Rob seconded
- ✓ **Karia** is to investigate the possibility of purchasing a memory stick that has a microphone; this could be useful for recording meetings.
- ✓ **Tom** asked if we are members of Volunteers Tasmania and are bound by National Standards. Rob explained our position. Tom also asked what our position is regarding the possibility of having an accident in the car park whilst either coming to or leaving our club

rooms. Iris explained that our insurance cover does not extend to accidents outside our premises. After some discussion it was agreed that there is no need to take this matter any further.

- ✓ **Next Tutors Meeting** is to be Wednesday June 16th at 10am.
- ✓ **Judy** wants to see Volunteer Standards details.
- ✓ **Iris**; asked if 4 signatories were sufficient for the signing of cheques.
- ✓ **Tom**; queried the use of the debit card and Rob explained that the process at the bank was almost finalized.
- ✓ **Judy**; explained why some of the computers have been moved
- ✓ **Iris**; said there is a student in Tuesday LCG evening class that is proving to be a big problem. She was offered a refund of her subscription but refused it. After some discussion is was agreed to contact her case worker at the Migrant Resource Centre for guidance. This is an LCG matter and we all hope it can be resolved without too much angst.

Meeting closed at 2.35pm

Next Meeting to be held June 2nd 2010



Newbie Club Tutorial

Geek-Speak Busters ...

Add-on:

A tool that adds new functions to a program such as a web browser.

Broadband:

A fast internet connection, such as ADSL.

Spyware:

Software installed to monitor a computers use.

Virus:

A malicious program designed to cause damage to a computer.

AVI:

Audio video interleave. A type of video file usually played using Windows Media Player.

Encrypt:

To scramble data so that it can only be read by the sender and authorised recipient.

GB:

Gigabyte. A measurement of storage, usually for hard disks. 1GB is equal to 1,024MB (megabytes)

Hard disk:

A high capacity disk fitted in almost all PC's to store data.

JPEG:

A common format for image files.

MB:

Megabytes, A measurement of storage capacity **Megapixel:**

A measure of detail recorded by digital cameras.

Memory:

The computers temporary storage area, in megabytes.

MP3:

A standard for compressing digital audio.

Operating System:

Governs the way hardware and software in a computer work together

NEW FEATURE

COUNTING UNIQUE VALUES

When working with a Microsoft Excel worksheet, you sometimes need to know the number of unique values in a range of cells. For instance, suppose that an instructor was teaching the following classes:

```
104-120
104-101
104-119
104-120
```

In this case there are three unique values. There is no intuitive worksheet function that will return a count of unique values, which makes one think that a user-defined function (a macro) would be the logical approach. However, you can use an array formula to very easily derive the desired information. Follow these steps:

1. Define a name that represents the range that contains your list. (This example assumes the name you define is MyRange.)
2. In the cell where you want the number of unique values to appear type the following formula, but don't press **ENTER** yet:

```
=SUM(1/COUNTIF(MyRange,MyRange))
```

3. Instead of pressing **ENTER**, press **CTRL+SHIFT+ENTER**. This informs Excel that you are entering an array formula. The formula shown in the formula bar should now appear as follows (notice the addition of the surrounding braces, indicative of array formulas):

```
{=SUM(1/COUNTIF(MyRange,MyRange))}
```

That's it! The cell now contains the number of unique name values in the specified range. This approach is not case-sensitive, so if you have two values that differ only in their capitalization (ThisName vs. THISNAME), they are both counted as a single unique value. In addition, there can be no blank cells in the range. (Having a blank cell returns a #DIV/0 error from the formula.)

If your particular needs require that your list contain blanks (but you don't want them counted as a "value") and you want the evaluation to be case-sensitive, then you have no choice; you must turn to a macro. The following VBA macro, CountUnique, will do the trick:

```
Function CountUnique(ByVal MyRange As Range) As Integer
    Dim Cell As Range
    Dim J As Integer
    Dim iNumCells As Integer
    Dim iUVals As Integer
    Dim sUCells() As String

    iNumCells = MyRange.Count
    ReDim sUCells(iNumCells) As String

    iUVals = 0
    For Each Cell In MyRange
        If Cell.Text > "" Then
            For J = 1 To iUVals
                If sUCells(J) = Cell.Text Then
                    Exit For
                End If
            Next J
            If J > iUVals Then
                iUVals = iUVals + 1
                sUCells(iUVals) = Cell.Text
            End If
        End If
    Next Cell
    CountUnique = iUVals
End Function
```

Simply put an equation similar to the following in a cell:

```
=CountUnique(MyRange)
```

The value returned is the number of unique values, not counting blanks, in the range.

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NEW FEATURE

WORD TIPS

FINDING RELATED WORDS

Finding just the right words to say what you want to say can sometimes be a challenge. Fortunately, Microsoft Word can help in this regard. One of the tools that Word provides is a full thesaurus. You can use this tool to find alternate words with the same meaning (synonyms), words with the opposite meaning (antonyms), or related words. Related words are typically similar words based on the root of the word you specify. To find a related word, follow these steps:

1. Position the insertion point in the word you wish to check.
2. Press **SHIFT+F7** or choose Language from the Tools menu and then Thesaurus from the submenu. If you are using Word 97 or Word 2000, you see the Thesaurus dialog box. If you are using Word 2002 or a later version, you see the Research task pane, with the thesaurus information displayed.
3. If related words are available for the word, you will see the Related Words choice in the dialog box or the task pane. Click on Related Words.
4. In the Related Words list, select the desired related word.
5. Click on Replace (if using Word 97 or Word 2000) or click the down-arrow to the right of the related word and choose Insert (if using Word 2002 or a later version).

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GLOVES

Next time you use a pair of rubber gloves, you're going to smile when you think of this:

A dentist noticed that his next patient, a little old lady, was nervous, so he decided to tell her a little joke as he put on his gloves.

'Do you know how they make these gloves?' he asked.

'No, I don't,' she replied.

'Well,' he spoofed, 'there's a building in Canada with a big tank of latex, and workers of all hand sizes walk up to the tank, dip in their hands, let them dry, then peel off the gloves and throw them into boxes of the right size.' She didn't crack a smile.

'Oh, well. I tried,' he thought.

But five minutes later, during a delicate portion of the procedure, she burst out laughing.

'What's so funny?' he asked.

'I was just envisioning how condoms are made!'

(Gotta watch those little old ladies!

Their minds are always working!)