

July 9th, 2010 7:30 pm Main Meeting

Volume 22 Number 11

Fun Things For Your Summer Computer

Summer's here, and it's time for your brain to take

a vacation. Same goes for your computer. Giveitabreak from work andWindows woesby giving it a brain freshener and taking it new places with new interests. Far from the workaday world, the computer



No, we're not talking about the latest monster mayhem game (though games will certainly come up). There are many things for the computer that can perk up your 'puter pursuits and not just euthanize your encephalon (such as a creative



thesaurus). . .

Don't forget to bring yourfavoritecomputer productivity frolic and be ready to show it off. Participation in the pursuit of playfulness is paramount here. Join in the fun!

is simply the best mind toy ever invented. Jan Fagerholm will be joined by other PCCers to show you how to mop out those moldy workaday tasks from your CPU registers and give your RAM a rise with new and refreshing things for it (and you) to do.



As always, there'll be good food, good fun and good friends all around. See you there!

This month, a 50/50 Split. That's 50% of the ticket proceeds goes to you and 50% goes as a fund raiser to PC Community. It's a win/win situation and you get to buy anything you want, anywhere you want, with your half of the money. Can it possibly get any better than this? And, it's YOURS for the price of a ticket!

Tickets are 56 each, available where you sign in. Need not be present to win.

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Deadline: Copy must be submitted no later than the second Saturday prior to the main meeting. Check the newsletter calendar for the date. Submissions should be made by e-mail to the editor, **lcms@pacbell. net**. Advertising rates are available from the editor.

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PCC News is the monthly newsletter of PC Community (PC Clubhouse) P.O. Box 55513 Hayward, CA 94545-0513

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Thanks to WeirdStuff (www.weirdstuff.com) for donations for door prizes, raffle items and give-aways.



Thanks to PCC Member Chris Yager, ICEMAN Consulting Enterprises, Inc., for printing PCCNews. iceman@prado.com - (510) 317-5900



About PC Community

PC Community is a computer users group for people who wish to expand their knowledge and experience of personal computers and software. This is accomplished through monthly general meetings of the full membership where major industry vendors present information, and through smaller focus groups (Special Interest Groups, or SIGs) where members meet to share common computer interests. The group's monthly Main Meeting takes place at Calvary Baptist Church, 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward, at 7:30 P.M. on the first Friday of each month.

PC Community is dedicated to community service, providing enabling technology to people with special needs, working in the community to obtain computer equipment, and working with other computer groups to help people extend their lives through computer technology.

PC Community has a Web site at **http://www.pcc.org**.

Membership dues are \$35.00 per year. \$20.00 for educational and seniors (65 and over), and \$45.00 for family per year. Call 510-436-0799 for more information, or write to PC Community at the address on this page.



PCC is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG)

PCC Announcements O'Reilly - Books and Media

Review a Book: Review an O'Reilly book and get



published in the PCC Newsletter and on the PCC Web Site. Find a book that interests you at www.oreilly.com, e-mail me the name of the book and ISBN so I can order it for you. PCC requires a deposit from you in the amount of the User Group price, a 35% discount. You have 60 days to complete the review, at which time the deposit is refunded and you keep the book.

Elsie Smith - PCC UG Representative to O'Reilly lcms@pacbell.net or 510-887-4038

PCC Recycle Program is Back, Bigger and Better!

Your used **toner cartridges**, old **cell phones**, used **inkjet cartridges**, old **PDAs** and defunct **iPods** are valuable. Don't toss them in your trash to be used as landfill. They are worth something to PCC and other groups, either in the form of exchange or as discount on products at some local retailers. This not only helps PCC, but also helps our community. You can drop



any of these items off at our Clubhouse or at a Main Meeting. Do your part for PCC and your community! Keep the environment clean by taking a few extra moments to recycle these items with PCC.

> contact: Chuck Horner churck@comcast.net 510-589-9677

Directions to the PCC Main Meeting

From All Directions: take 880 to the Tennyson Road exit in Hayward. Take the exit toward the hills. Proceed northeast on Tennyson Rd. about 0.7 mile to the 5th stoplight. This will be Ruus Road.

Turn right on Ruus Road and proceed southeast for about 0.4 mile. Look for Calvary Baptist Church on your left.

Turn left into the driveway into the parking lot. Parking is available anywhere from the driveway to the back of the lot.



Look for the PCC signs.

Directions to The PCC Clubhouse

From 880: take the A St. exit East (toward the hills). Immediately after crossing the overpass, turn left at the light onto Princeton. Go straight ahead to Sunset Ave, then turn right. After half a block, turn right into the driveway where the playing field meets the parking lot. Drive all the way back past two fences. When facing the Gym, the clubhouse entrance is on the left side.



More Windows 7 Tips

By Diane George, PCC Webmaster

digeorge@sbcglobal.net

I recently replaced Windows XP with the Windows 7 Starter edition on my Netbook. While sitting by the pool on a recent cruise, I decided to tell you about some things I have learned about it.

The Windows Start Menu

The start menu resembles the Windows XP Menu, but has



a few features that might be new to you. You can access the Start Menu with the Windows key on the left end of your taskbar.



installation of Windows 7 is fairly new, you may have the "Getting Started" selection. When you click on it, you see a of some useful to various tasks to help you set up your computer

"Share with a homegroup" takes you to the screens that allow you to share files and devices with other computers on your network.

"Change UAC Settings" allows you to change the way Windows 7 deals with programs that want to make changes to your computer. One of the complaints about Vista was that the User Access Control function keeps popping up all the time, requiring you to click to allow the program to continue. In Windows 7 you can change how the system handles program changes.



"Backup Your Files" opens the screen that allows you to set up your backups. In this screenshot, you can see that I haven't set anything up yet.



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The first link takes you to a Microsoft site with more information about Windows 7.

The next link, "Transfer your Files," takes you to Windows Easy Transfer, a utility for moving files and more from your old computer to the new one, if you need to move files.



More Windows 7 Tips

Continued from page 5

"Add New Users" is where you – add new users or make changes to your own user account.



Finally, "Change Text Size" allows you to change the default size of the text. Changing this setting affects all the text on your computer. This is difficult to use on a Netbook with an 8.5 inch screen—a lot of things are not easily used at 125% of the normal size. Notice all the other things you can modify.



You can not only search for files in the box, but also start programs.

For example, if you type "command" in the box, you get a list like the following:

Note that the items found are grouped into types, Programs, Control Panel, Documents and Pictures. Depending on the search term, you may find other groupings, such as Files.

Command Prompt is the first item on the list. Press enter and the Command screen will open. The first items listed are programs and if the one you want appears at the top of the list, hit enter and your program will open.

•	Command Prompt
1	Command
a	Control Panel (3)
t e	Scontrol the computer without the mouse or keyboard
;	Set up a microphone
	Start speech recognition
•	Documents (2)
	Soomlal_1.5_Template_Design_[eBook]_26062009_46794.pdf
6	Tips for Word and possibly screen capture.docx
	Pictures (1)
5	setup.inx
	See more results
	command × Shut down +

PDF contents are included in the search.

The last item for today is the box in the left hand corner of the Start Menu at the bottom of the screen.



If you click on one of the groupings, e.g., Documents, Windows displays a listing from the Documents Library with the first few words from the document displayed, along with the date modified, the author, the size and more.



Take Out The Trash

By Rod Scher, Smart Computing Magazine Published by Elsie Smith, Editor

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Much like Haight-Ashbury in the fabled 1960s, the Internet was once home to a free-wheeling family of occasionally addled but always peaceful inhabitants, where goodwill held sway, a place where the streets were filled with happy, helpful residents, all delighted to welcome a newcomer. It was a boisterous place, filled with clamor and confusion, but peace and love reigned supreme.

Those days are long gone, both in North-Central San Francisco and on the Internet. We can't do anything about dangers on the city streets, but we can help protect

you from the viruses, spyware, and other nasty critters you might encounter on the Web. We'll give you some background so you can recognize the risks, and then we'll show you how to defend yourself.

Recognize The Problem

Computers don't get tired. They do get old, but because they're neither arthritic organisms nor gummed up electro-mechanical devices, they don't get slow and rickety as they

age (like some writers, for

example). So why is your PC so slow? Possibly because it's infested with malware of one sort or another: a virus, spyware, adware, or a Trojan.

In fact, if you have plenty of memory and free hard drive space, a noticeable slowdown is one of the most obvious signs that your system is infected with some sort of malicious software.

Other signs of an infestation can include finding that your Web browser's home page or search engine has been changed or replaced, suddenly being inundated with popup ads, regular system or application crashes, receiving odd emails—including emails from yourself, startup errors, and error messages (sometimes including a fake Blue Screen of Death) accompanied by "scareware" ads offering to solve your problem—for a price.

Keep in mind that these are not all definite signs of an infection; some could also indicate hardware or software problems that have nothing to do with malware. But because it's usually fairly easy to remove malware, we

can quickly eliminate an infection as a possible source of whatever problem you might be experiencing.

The Tools & How To Use Them

Most viruses or spyware don't purposely cause noticeable problems; after all, the most effective attack is one the victim never notices. Instead, the usual goal is to collect information or to use your computer as part of a network of "zombies" to attack other systems. But in doing so, the virus, spyware, or adware drains your system's resources and causes conflicts with other, legitimate software. This causes crashes and slowdowns, and these you do notice. That's what gives the game away. What you need is a set of tools you can use to rid your system of any

existing infestation and then guard against a reoccurrence.

Antivirus. The first tool you need is a solid AV (antivirus) application, such as Avast! Free Antivirus (www.avast.com), McAfee Total Protection 2010 (\$79.99; home. mcafee.com), or Malwarebytes Anti-Malware (free; www.malwarebytes.org). The typical AV app will scan your system for various forms of malware and let you delete or otherwise neutralize any threats it finds.

Even the best antivirus program does you no good unless you actually use it.

Run the scanner every day, making it part of your computing routine: Boot up your system and let the scanner run while you go make coffee. Update the scanner at least weekly. These tools use a threat database to help them locate infections, and that database must be updated regularly. Note that it is normally not a good idea to run multiple AV applications; most have components that run all the time, and these competing programs can cause problems.

Antispyware. Spyware is software that collects information about you and your computing habits without your knowledge. (Adware is similar, but it's normally benign software—the use of which you, knowingly or not, actually approved.) In a worst-case scenario, the information collected can be used to pilfer financial information, steal your identity, or otherwise do serious harm. Even absent such malicious intent, spyware and adware can slow your system down to a crawl and inundate you with irritating pop-up ads and messages.

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Take Out The Trash

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An antispyware application, such as Ad-Aware (free; www. lavasoft.com) or Spybot-S&D (free; www.safernetworking.org), works like the AV applications discussed above: It uses a threat database and other methods to look for hazards; thus, as with the AV apps, you need to run and update your antispyware program regularly.

Unlike with antivirus applications, it is perfectly fine to run more than one antispyware program. One application may find adware that another program missed, and antispyware applications rarely conflict with one another.

Install An Anti-Malware Application

We don't have room here to cover the use of every available

anti-malware tool or suite, so we will use Malwarebytes Anti-Mal-ware as an example; it eliminates both viruses and spyware/adware, and it's free, readily available, effective, free, and we like it. Did we mention FREE?

Go to www.malwarebytes. org and click either the Download Free Version button or the Buy Now Full Version button. (At \$24.95 for the downloadable version, the latter includes real-time protection and scheduled

scanning and updating, features that are absent from the free version.) If you've opted for the free version, you'll be taken to a download site; click the Download Now button. (Your browser may try to "protect" you by disallowing certain downloads, in which case simply OK the download.) When the File Download dialog box appears, click the Save button. Save the installation file to your Desktop; you can erase the file after the program is installed. The Anti-Malware installer is close to 6MB, so it may take several minutes to download on a slow connection.

Once the installer is downloaded, double-click it and click the Run button when the Open File – Security Warning dialog box appears. Windows Vista and Windows 7 request permission for the installer to make changes to your system; click Yes. Select English as the appropriate language and then click OK to start the Anti-Malware setup wizard. Click Next. Read and accept the Anti-Malware license agreement, and then click Next and Next again. Accept the program's default location or browse to a different one; click Next to accept the location and then Next again to accept the folder name. At this point you can opt to have the installer create a Desktop icon, a Quick Launch icon, or both; having done so, click Next and then the Install button.

Anti-Malware takes only a minute or two to install. When it's finished, you can opt to check for program updates and then launch the program.

Run Anti-Malware

To run the program, double-click the Anti-Malware icon. (Vista and Win7 may ask you to confirm that you wish to allow the program to make changes to your system.) When the program launches, you'll see several tabs, most of which are self-explanatory or easily understood simply by clicking them. The most important are the Scanner, Update, and Quarantine tabs.

Scan resu	Update Duarani	ine Logs IgnoreList Settings MoreTo	ols About	
Below is a li		warebytes' Anti-Malware found on this system. Close all a ninate unexpectedly.	pplications before	re removal as during
Vendor	Category	Items	Other	Action Taken
Trojan.BHO	Registry Key	HKEY_CLASSES_ROOTVinterfaceVictoec0a5		No action taken.
Trojan.BHO	Registry Key	HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Typelb\(2386c4d3-e		No action taken.
Trojan.880	Registry Key	HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\quantic.plug		No action taken.
Trojan.880	Registry Key	HKEY_CLASSES_RODT\quantic.plug.1		No action taken.
Trojan.Agent	Folder	C:\WINDDWS\SYSTEM32\wii		No action taken.
Mahware.Trace	File	C:\WINDDWS\SYSTEM32\pac.bt		No action taken.
Mahware.Trace	File	C:\wINDD/wS\SYSTEM32\DRIVERS\core.ca.		No action taken.
Trojan.Agent	File	C:\Documents and Settings\Vever\Start Menu		No action taken.
	_			

Start the scan. Under the Scanner tab, you'll find three types of scans: Perform Quick Scan, Perform A Full Scan, and Perform Flash Scan. (The latter checks memory and autorun objects; it's available only to users of the commercial product.) The Ouick Scan is a fast check of memory and the Windows Registry; it takes several minutes. A Full Scan is a complete examination of all indicated drives, system memory, and the Registry. It

can easily take up to an hour or more, depending on the size of your drives and how many files reside on them.

View the results of a scan. Once the scan is complete, you can see a recap of the scan and the results by clicking the Logs tab and then double-clicking the appropriate log entry.

If Anti-Malware finds any threats, it will list them and let you select and quarantine them. Once quarantined, they'll be listed under the Quarantine tab. You can leave them there or select one or more and click the Delete button to remove them from your system.

Get It. Update It. Use It.

There are plenty of free and commercial products to help keep your PC free of viruses and spyware. No matter which ones you decide to use, keep in mind that simply downloading a tool does absolutely nothing for you. You have to install and then regularly use and update the utilities if you're to benefit from having them. Do so, and your computer will be full of peace and love and goodness. Fail to do so, and it'll be full of . . . well, malware.

May Door Prizes

Congratulations to all the members who won door prizes at the Main Meeting!

General Drawing:	
Adobe bag	John Cordeniz
IFA messenger bag	Richard Churchill
JumpBox tee shirt	Chris Yager
Pepcom bag	Stan Sorensen
Q Logic sun visor note set	Dennis McNeff
Safariu tee shirt	Dan Peterson
Sing to Learn Chinese	Michael Wong
Windows 7 the missing manual, from O'Reilly Media	Harold Smith
ZoomText Express	Ruth Churchill
Raffle Prize:	

Hitachi 1 TB internal hard driveBob K	Ciessling
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PCC Newsletter Wins 2nd Place

PCC News won second place in the 2007 APCUG Newsletter Contest at CES (Consumer Electronics Show) in Las Vegas in January. The award is for medium sized groups (100 to 300 Members).



Membership Dues

As of January 1, 2007, the following changes went into effect:

Regular\$35.00
Family (same household)\$45.00
Educational, Seniors\$20.00
Corporate (maximum 5 memberships)\$100.00
Remember, you can always pay your dues by
mail. Make a check payable to PC Community in
the amount listed above to:
PC Community
P.O. Box 55513
Hayward, CA 94545-0513

Door Prize Donations

O'Reilly Media generously donates the books that are our door prizes. Go to www.oreilly.com and pick books you'd like to see on our door prize table. You might win one you choose. E-mail the names and ISBN of the books you want me to request from O'Reilly.

> Elsie Smith lcms@pacbell.net

Clubhouse Information!

Hayward Adult School will remain open for the coming school year. It will be open Wednesday evenings and on the Saturdays HAS conducts traffic school. If and when traffic school is held will not be known at the time the Newsletter is published and Saturday openings cannot appear on the Newsletter calendar. Please check our PCC Web site (www.pcc.org) to learn if the Clubhouse will be open on a specific Saturday.

Dues Expiring This Month!

The following members dues expire this month:

- John Bellaire Joel Ellioff Wendy Ellioff Miguel Estrema Lucille Elaine Hill
- Lola Hunter George Lewis Arleen Ong Andrew Tews Linda Wyman

Special Interest Group Meetings



Carl Webb - (510) 351-3335 cwebb531@aol.com_ Third Tuesday of the month:6:30pm



Dan Dolgin - (510) 895-8845 dandolgin7@comcast.net 3rd Monday of the month:7:30pm http://www.pcc.org/mobile



Del Parton - (510) 276-4292 delpa@pacbell.net Saturday after Main Meeting:8pm



Chuck Horner - (510) 589-9677 churck@comcast.net 3rd Monday of the month:7:30pm http://www.pcc.org/mobile



Jan Fagerholm - (510) 652-1726 pcc4me@gmail.com Last Saturday of the Month:2pm



Bud Gallagher - (510) 269-3623 budgall@comcast.net 2nd Saturday of the month:1pm



The Penguin Partition Linux for Human Beings

by Jan Fagerholm, PCC Penguinista

One of the interesting facets of Linux is the development side, where the OS is adapted to different devices to perform tasks that you might not have ever expected.

It's useful to remember that when we refer to "Linux" that we are actually speaking about the kernel, which is a relatively small part of what we computer mavens think of as the operating system. The kernel is the part that is the core of any OS, that which takes your

input and sends those commands to the hardware. Conversely, it receives data back from the hardware and turns it into human usable data. In the case of both Linux distributions and Windoze, that core is the central component of the entire system..

The fundamental difference between the Linux kernel and the Windoze kernel is that the Linux kernel is designed for adaptability, and the Windoze kernel was designed specifically for desktop computer operating systems. This makes the Linux kernel much easier to apply to devices like phones, GPSs, computer controls in cars and the like, while Windoze has had a tough time being adapted to any of these devices. (Ever notice how different Windoze CE is from desktop Windoze? Hey, would you trust your car running on Windoze?)

Linux's flexibility also makes it easier to run on platforms more conducive to development, such as computers, then compiled on the destination device. This also makes it possible to compile versions that run on platforms other than the one it was developed for. This makes it possible to try these custom system on the device most of us already have, namely, your desktop or laptop computer.

On a practical level, it permits you to try operating systems

intended for other platforms to evaluate how well they work for you. If you are thinking about getting that new hot netbook, but you aren't sure how you will get along with that netbook OS, you can usually download a copy of it and copy it to CD-ROM or flash drive and try it out on your present computer to see how you get along. Better yet, try several versions of netbook OSs (they're all versions of Linux) and find the one you like, then install it on your shiny new netbook. Oh, sure, you can probably get Windoze XP on that netbook because you feel you already know it, but that netbook running Windoze XP will cost more, need more RAM, a larger hard drive, and run slower,

which takes away a lot of the appeal.

If you have some interest in technology (and if you are reading this, you probably do), Linux offers ways to try out that new technology you are considering before you buy it. Just download its operating system and try it out on your PC. It can give you a jump start on using the device before you put money down on it.



PCC Main and Executive Meeting Highlights



Secretary — Bayle Emlein pcc@ix.netcom.com

Treasurer — Tom Smith smith-tf@pacbell.net

Main Meeting Highlights

June 4, 2010

The Main Meeting Highlights are unavailable at this time. Door Prize report is also not available.

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

June 19, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 PM by President Chuck Horner.

Members present: Bayle Emlein, Chuck Horner, Sid Jordan, Elsie Smith, Tom Smith. Absent: Jan Fagerholm, Diane George, Chris Marston.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved.

Old Business: None.

President's Report - Chuck Horner: Hayward Adult School will stay open for the time being.

Executive Vice President - Position open.

Treasurer - Tom Smith: As of June 19, 2010

Checking Account	\$2,895.74
CD	\$3,364.28
Total	\$6,260.02

We have 3 renewals for the month of June. We lost \$10.00 on the door prize at the last Main Meeting.

Secretary - Bayle Emlein: Nothing special to report.

VP Clubhouse - Sid Jordan: Sid reports that Hayward Adult School will remain open for the coming school year. They will be open Wednesday evenings and Saturdays when HAS runs traffic school. That might be as much as twice a month, depending on how many people who receive citations elect to go to traffic school at HAS. Attendance has dropped off since the schedule has become so irregular. The Clubhouse gets a lot of requests that should be directed to the Recreation Department.

VP Marketing - Chris Marston: No report.

VP Membership - Jan Fagerholm: Member count as of June 19, 2010

Туре	Number	Percent
Regular	42	46.67
Senior	44	48.89
Student	1	1.11
Associate	3	3.33
Totals	90	100.00
1 1 1 1 /	1 1	•

The membership database needs attention.

VP Newsletter - Elsie Smith: Submission deadlines

June 19, Saturday midnight, July Newsletter July 24, Saturday midnight, August Newsletter August 21, Saturday midnight, September Newsletter

Programs - NOTE: The July Main Meeting will take place on July 9th.

Stay tuned for the program.

Fund Raiser: 50/50 Split

VP Special Projects - Bayle Emlein: The changeover from MAR to Microsoft Registered Refurbisher is still in transition. PCC has submitted the application, but the site for reporting license distribution does not appear to be open yet.

Southwest Computer Conference in San Diego June 4-6, 2010 had a variety of educational sessions and a vendor faire. The faire had several local companies as well as nationally known ones such as SmartComputing, Iolo, and Nero.

Webmaster - Diane George: If there are any changes to the Web site, let Diane know so she can update it.

Calendar: See the Web site for the latest updates and changes in SIG meetings.

Remember to check the Web site before going to the Clubhouse on a Saturday.

New Business: The EC will be on vacation in August.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Saturday, July 17, 2010 at 2:00 PM, 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bayle Emlein, Secretary

Hints for the Wannabe Blogger

By Joan McIlmoyl Cleghorn, Member

Big Blue and Cousins, Canada

joansjoy@gmail.com - http://www.bbcc.org

This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups; all other uses require the permission of the author (see e-mail address above).

Do I Need Or Want to Have a Blog? Now, for many, the first question is "what on earth is a blog?" and, "why would I want one?" The origin of the actual word 'blog' comes from the definition of what it really is – a web log – which then became shortened to 'blog'.

People are using blogs for many varied purposes. Some use them like a personal diary, as though the world is truly fascinated by the minutiae of their daily lives (though in the case of celebs, that may be the case). Others, for sharing their knowledge of a particular subject which doesn't necessarily lend itself to publishing a book; and still reporting on the constantly changing happenings in a specific area of interest. In many instances now, professional reporters, whether radio, TV or in print, are writing blogs as well as their regular reporting functions. Others, for reporting on the constantly changing happenings in a specific area of interest.

There are two advantages of using blogs over publishing in the more traditional ways – first, they can be interactive, allowing the readers to make comments, add to the information or contradict the writer; and, second, as mentioned, the ability to update immediately with new or additional information.

My purpose in starting a blog at the end of June was prompted by an article in the Family Chronicle which pointed out how, by publishing a family history book, relations that you'd never known or connected with would suddenly contact you.

This struck a chord with me as I was in the midst of planning a family history book and wanted to connect with others researching this same family. Obviously, publishing a book wasn't the answer for my particular situation.

After some thought on this, I decided to investigate what was involved in creating a blog, thinking this might accomplish my purpose. Of course, one can use any of the social media sites such as MySpace, Facebook, etc. as a type of blog. However, I was looking for specific 'blog' sites. Well, typing 'free blog sites' into Google gave me far more results than I could have dreamed of! Fortunately, there were two with which I was somewhat familiar so I opted to check them out first.

I wanted simple and easy to use.....nothing fancy, just the ability to type whatever I wanted to post and have it work. Obviously I was asking a lot for anything connected with technology right? Actually, wrong. I was able to set up the blog, type out my first posting and have it online within an hour!

You want a site that gives clear, easy to understand directions and allows you to have some choices on the appearance or theme of your blog. Also, if you want some interaction with your readers, make it easy for them to add their comments. The site I chose definitely qualified under these points; much more so than the second site I checked out. I also checked out a few that I wasn't as familiar with and found that my first choice was still the best for my purpose. The two choices I initially checked out were Google's Blogspot and Wordpress. They can be found at www.blogspot.com and www.wordpress.com; however, be sure to check out some of the others as well.

Should you decide to start a blog, there is one caveat I'd both read about as well as heard about from others – don't start posting, and collecting followers of the site, only to lose interest, and just stop posting, or become very erratic in your postings. When first starting my blog, I hoped to post about three times a week, with no less than once a week. In the nine weeks since I started, I've made 18 posts so have averaged two per week, even though I had a couple of weeks when I didn't make any posts due to the death of my mother.

Now, was posting my blog successful in my original purpose? So far, yes. I've heard from a couple of researchers with whom I'd lost contact a number of years ago, plus another couple of whom I'd never heard, so I certainly accomplished that part of my goal. Another bonus is the information I'm gaining from those connections that I might not have otherwise found. Should you wish to take a look at my blog, here's the address: www.mcilmoylfamna. blogspot.com. If you decide that having a blog is something you'd like to do, I wish you well, and have fun with it! For tips on 'how to blog' just type 'blog tutorial' into a search engine and you'll find lots of choices.



PC Community P.O. Box 55513 Hayward, CA 94545-0513



July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
for SI info	e Page 9 G Meeting ormation. d at Clubhouse	www.	ck the calendar at pcc.org for up-to- te information!	1	2	Clubhouse Open? 3 Check on www.pcc.org
Happy Birthday America	5	6	→ 4 pm-7 pm Clubhouse Open	8	9 7:30 pm <i>Main</i> Meeting	 Clubhouse Open? Check on www.pcc.org 1 pm-Windows 7 SIG 8 pm-Hardware SIG
11	12	13	→ 4 pm-7 pm Clubhouse Open	15	16	 Clubhouse Open? - Check on www.pcc.org 2 pm-Exec. Committee Mtg.
18	19 7:30 pm- Mobile Computing SIG	20 6:30 pm- Genealogy SIG	→ 4 pm-7 pm Clubhouse Open	22	23 -	➤ Clubhouse Open? Check on www.pcc.org 24 Newsletter Deadline!
25	26	27	28	29	30 -	Check on www.pcc.org
			➔ 4 pm-7 pm Clubhouse Open			2 pm-Linux SIG

The August 2010 Main Meeting will be at 28924 Ruus Road, Hayward CA, on August 6, 2010 at 7:30 P.M.