

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2019

January

1. Setting up Windows 10 out of the box and How to change the settings after the initial installation
2. How to manage your wi-fi
3. A Quick Look at using NightLite on Android Phone
4. Interesting products from the Consumer Electronics Show CES 2019

February

1. As we start our 20th year, a review of the first 19 years
2. Everything you didn't know about your router
3. Google Chrome's Password Checkup Extension
4. What is System Restore and How To Use It

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2018

January

1. Bitcoin digital currency explained
2. Video editing on your PC
3. Demonstration of capabilities of Microsoft Photos

February

1. Using Ring hardware and software products for creating your own home security system
2. Incredible ways to use your smartphones camera

March

1. Bluetooth communications: Find out what it is all about, how it works and what to use it for
2. Customize your Windows 10 Start Menu to look like what you want
3. Add 3D objects to your Word documents and Powerpoint shows
4. Some very useful websites: Send large files, Check your router, Edit photos, Convert files, etc

April

1. How to Remove Windows 10 Startup Programs to make Your PC Start Faster
2. Finding Reliable Health Information on the Internet
3. The Dark Web has your online identity for sale - Some ideas to protect yourself
4. Some more Incredibly Useful Websites

May

1. How to remove viruses from your computer
2. Ask an expert anything about Google's Chrome Operating System
3. How to find out why your PC crashed using Windows built-in tools
4. Short topics: a) How to continue where you are on your phone browser to your PC
b) How to index all of your hard drives

June

1. How to use Windows 10's File History Backup Feature
2. Ten ways to keep hackers and scammers away from your private files
3. What does Google know about you?
4. 7 Ways to take a screenshot in Windows 10

July

No meeting

August

1. Introduction to the Windows Registry: What is in it? How is it used? Should you back it up? Etc.
2. New Photo standards (HDR and HEIF) coming to your phone and computer
3. Get help using Cortana Show Me
4. How to use OneDrive to protect important folders

September

1. The why, the how and the types of backups for your PC
2. Latest news on Intelligent Assistants and Hardware
3. Five easy ways to protect your digital privacy
4. Know which programs you can safely delete in Windows 10

October

1. Five easy ways to protect your digital privacy
2. Latest & Greatest Software and Hardware from Apple and Google
3. New features in the Windows 10 October update
4. Short topics: How to clean your laptop; 9 Good PC Habits you should have

November

1. How your hard disk is organized
2. How to organize your user directory
3. Nine good PC habits you should have

December

1. Learn how the old Livermore Railroad Building Restoration movie was made
2. Seven secrets of Windows Task Manager
3. How to Check Your Security Software, Settings, and Status
4. Use the hidden magnifying glass on your iPhone

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2017

January

1. Weather apps for your smartphone
2. Ultimate Utility List for Windows 10
3. Demo of a new drone with camera footage
4. Extensions that make your browser more useful

February

1. Introduction to Smart Watches
2. How to find and get extensions to make your browser more useful
3. Several ways to move pictures from your phone to your PC
4. Download magazines to read on your PC
5. How to get the most out of Windows 10's File Explorer

March

1. Demonstration of the Amazon Dot (Alexa device)
2. Evolution of Windows Operating Systems
3. File Folder Tricks, Windows Power Options, Password Managers, Find crime in your area website

April

1. How does WiFi really work?
2. Wonder what the inside of a ChromeBook looks like?
3. What's new the latest Windows 10 "Creator's Update"?
4. Don't backup your hard drive? This might be your story
5. Don't like everyone tracking your internet use? Try Opera on all brands of your computer/phone/tablets

May

1. See how well you would converse in a foreign country using translator apps on your smart phone
2. Seventeen iPad tips and secrets you'll use
3. Use Windows' own troubleshooters to fix a problem
4. Ransomware: What can you do to make it less painful
5. Do you know what plugs into the ports on your PC? You'll find out with this topic.

June

1. Using Minecraft via Skype by a UK 12 Year Old and a US 11 Year Old
2. Run your favorite Android apps on Chrome OS using App Runtime for Chrome (ARC)
3. Experience with seven years of electric cars (Leaf, Bolt)
4. Identify plants with a smartphone app
5. Short topics: a) Unsend option in Gmail, b) What is Windows 10 S?, c) Find fake Amazon/Yelp review

July

No meeting

August

1. Cool Ways to Use Your Phone Camera
2. Mobile Virtual Network Operators (cell phone providers other than the "Big Four", e.g. StraightTalk, Cricket, etc.)
3. Avoiding Tech Support Scams
4. Short topics: Uninterruptible Power Systems (UPS) and Booting in Safe Mode

September

1. Facial, place recognition and the integration of Google Photos and Maps
2. Short topic: Get neighborhood crime alerts on your smartphone
3. Equifax hack exposes 143 million people. Are you at risk?
4. Some free apps from Microsoft-Photo Editing, Movie Editing, Writing

October

1. Use Windows Safe Mode to help solve malware, virus or other PC problems
2. Useful websites you probably don't know about
3. KRACK - the latest way to attack our wi-fi network
4. What is new in the Windows 10 Fall Creator Update

November

1. Experience setting up and using a Slingbox. With Slingbox, you can watch live cable or satellite TV, video apps, recorded shows, and on demand shows on your phone, tablet, and computer. Anywhere in the world.
2. How to keep your old videos, music and photos safe forever
3. The Best Free Software for your PC

December

1. Use Microsoft OneDrive to share data between your PCs and mobile devices
2. Kingsoft Office software - Office software that looks like 2016 Microsoft Office
3. Some ways to use that old smartphone

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2016

January

1. Technology & Time, 1959 to present
2. What you should know about Cyber Security

February

1. Using Raspberry Pi Rachel as a teaching tool in third world countries
3. Get your second chance on lottery scratchers
4. Short subjects: a. How to make File Explorer's Quick Access work for you; b. Create a PIN or Picture signon to use instead of your password; c. What to do when your computer freezes; d. Be careful believing your CallerID information

March

1. How to use the Windows 10 Recovery Drive (Revisited)
2. Make Microsoft's OneDrive work for you
3. One change that instantly makes your PC 86% safer from malware

April

1. Home management technology
2. Dictating to your PC: How well does it work
3. Seven essential browser tricks every user needs to know

May

1. How to run the Android operating system on your PC
2. Introduction to EverNote
3. Tools to remove almost any malware
4. Protecting yourself from Ransomware and What To Do If You Get Infected With Ransomware

June

1. Brief demo of the \$15 Google Cardboard Virtual Reality Viewer
2. Summary of survey on Apple Apps
3. Summary of survey on Android Apps
4. Demo of Google Chromebox (desktop PC) and review of Chrome OS changes
5. Drivers - What are they? Do you need to update them? How do you update them?

July

1. Introduction to Google Now and Google Now On Tap
2. Podcasts available on your PC, Tablet or Smartphone
3. Favorite android smartphone apps

August

1. Six surprising things you can do with your Apple/Android smart phone
2. Send text messages from your email account to cell phones
3. Get free magazines though the library using Zino or buy them from Zinio
4. Set default apps in Windows 10/What does Google record about you/New thoughts on passwords

September

1. Exploring the new Microsoft Photo App
2. Demo of the Nest Security Camera
3. Use Recuva, Disk Drill or Photorec to recover deleted files
4. Block the camera on your computer/Senior's Guide to Online Safety/How to use Quick Assist in Windows 10 to help (or get help from) someone else

October

Genealogy - Where to find information about your family members

November

1. Travel from your arm chair - Demo of the Samsung Virtual Reality Viewer
2. Brief summary of the elements of electricity that are pertinent to computers
3. Short topics: a) 3 Handy Built-in Tools in Windows 10, b) Formatting USB Drives, c) Free Microsoft Apps

December

1. Learn about Google Allo (Smart messaging) and Google Duo (Video Calling) Apps
2. Home Designer, 3D software for home design, interior design, and outdoor living projects
3. Scan your old photos with your smartphone (Apple and Android)
4. How hackable is your car?
5. Use Restart options to solve problems on your Windows 10 PC
6. Virtual Reality videos on the USA Today App

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2015

January

1. Plan your travels using Knut Ojermark's website
2. Find people information using whitepages.com
3. Get a better understanding of computer programming with a simple tutorial
4. Two free photo editing programs
5. Survey of PC User Group for 2015 topics

February

1. Tips and Tricks for your iPhone, iPad, iMac
2. Enjoy a tour of the Mountainview Computer History Museum
3. Wearable Technology

March

1. New technology to help us to live independently
2. See the "innards" of an Apple iPad
3. How to resize your photos for email or uploading to photo sites
4. A free and easy way to control a computer from anywhere

April

1. Comparison of the new Asus Zenbook UX305, Dell XPS 13 and the upcoming MacBook
2. Demo of a new Chrome laptop and how he uses it
3. Free ways to remove malware on your PC
4. Examples of spam/scam emails

May

1. Keeping your PC up-to-date using Windows Update
2. Learn about Chromecast and Miracast for TV display and a palm sized projector demo
3. How to use OverDrive to get audio or readable books from your library onto your tablet

June

1. What is an Uninterruptable Power Systems (UPS)? Do you need one?
2. Experience using an old hard drive on a different PC
3. Adding extras to your Chrome browser from the Chrome Webstore
4. What is coming with Windows 10

July

1. AM-DeadLink - a free tool to detect dead links in various sources
2. Cloud backup vs. cloud storage: Which one is better?
3. Cloud services: How do they compare?
4. How to get a .mobi ebook onto my Kindle
5. How an Apple app, Waterlogue, can turn your picture into a water color painting

August

1. Podcasts
2. Early experience with Windows 10

September

1. Privacy considerations for Windows 10
2. Two Apple iPhone/iPad apps, a translator and one that lets you listen to live police action
3. Several short topics applicable to Windows 7/8/10

October

1. Five essential tricks every PC user needs to know
2. Experience using NomoRobo to greatly reduce phone telemarketing calls
3. The price of "free" – How Apple, Facebook, Google and Microsoft is using you
4. Two short topics: How I used Google to solve a problem and Beware of the PC destroying USB device

November

1. Using RoboForm to manage your passwords
2. Update on Cell Phones and Cell Phone Providers
3. Short Topics: a. A few good reasons to upgrade to Windows 10, b. How to block the Windows 10 upgrade, c. Emergency alert technology for smart phones

December

1. Use GoodSync to synchronize all of your devices
2. Learn about the new \$40 Raspberry Pi 2 computer
3. Issues you should know about regarding your internet router

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2014

January

1. What is running in the background on your PC?
2. Create a PC Baseline for later comparisons
3. Google Experience - New voice commands for Google Chrome browser

February

1. Avoiding and fixing viruses
2. Twenty helpful features in Gmail
3. What is a Graphical User Interface (GUI)? You use them every day

March

1. Experience of using Google Hangout for church activities
2. Which one of the 3 top web browsers, Chrome, Explorer 11 and Firefox, is the best
3. Reasons to use your browser's Private Mode
4. How to block someone on Gmail

April

1. Have you wondered what Bitcoins are? You will know after this presentation
2. Security: Passwords: how to be more secure, Email, websites (including banks), wireless home networks, HeartBleed

May

1. Interesting website: reddit
2. "Drop a pin on a friend" - New features in Google maps
3. How different operating systems handle email attachments
4. Back to basics: Do these 7 tech tips really work?
5. Easily recover deleted and erased files

June

1. Backing up your tablet and smart phone
2. Need more fonts? Here's where to get them
3. How to save printer ink
4. Be safe when using "free" Wi-Fi
5. Some nice new features in Windows 8
6. Those pictures you send may tell more than you want them to

July

1. Things to consider when buying a smartphone or tablet
2. Using the mouse right click - benefits you may not know about
3. Basic introduction to editing photos with Adobe Lightroom
4. Fifteen best unused keyboard shortcuts

August

1. Introduction to the Elder Wisdom Circle
2. Understanding "The Cloud"

September

1. Secure your cloud accounts with two step verification
2. Nine steps to protect against credit card
3. Users experiences with using Carbonite to backup the data on their PC to an offsite provider
4. Short topics a) Using "Web of Trust" to check safety of websites b) Classic movies you can watch for free

October

1. New features Google has rolled into Hangout
2. Three ways malware gets into your PC
3. Short topics – a) Sleep, Hibernate, Shutdown What is the difference? b) Help the NY Times with old ads
c) Tap & Pay – Use your smart phone to pay for purchases

November

1. How to be safe and secure online
2. Short topics: Old radio programs, Free Microsoft Office Guides, World Earthquake Map
3. PC Matic - Keeps your PC running well - Stops viruses

December

1. Comparison of Apple iPhone 6+, Samsung Note 4 and Samsung Edge
2. How to use Pandora for listening to music
3. Pros and Cons of using the Ubuntu operating system
4. Examples of email scams

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2013

January

1. Fix-It Utilities Pro - The one-step PC Tool makes it easy to diagnose and fix your computer problems
2. Confused about all of the video formats? This overview will help
3. Three security threats to avoid in 2013 (including current Java concerns)

February

1. Introduction to the programs, Memory Manager and Storybook Creator 4.0
2. List of free software that is comparable to major vendor products
3. What did 45 of you have to say in our 2013 annual survey?

March

1. Two applications that are useful on Smartphones
2. What is a Virtual Private Network and how you can use a free one to protect your PC use at open wifi spots like Starbucks
3. Delete Google history; Check the software your browser uses for required updates; Recent scams; PC Reading sources

April

1. Websites that help you determine whether those emails you get are true
2. Back to Basics - Review of the areas on the desktop
3. Should you be using Twitter?
4. Digital Photography - Use the histogram on your camera to improve your pictures

May

1. Power Management for laptops and other battery powered devices
2. Photo composition techniques
3. Back to Basics - How to Manage the Add-ons Section of Internet Explorer Options

June

1. Scams, Viruses, Malware - Ways to avoid them or get rid of them if you have them
2. One users experience with using PC Mover to move programs/data to a new PC
3. Back to Basics - Ten tech terms everyone should know

July

1. Find out about yourself on the internet
2. Smartphones: How and why did I get one and how much is it costing?
3. What made me decide to change from a Windows PC to an Apple Mac?
4. Back to Basics: What is "Safe Mode"? How do I get there? Why is it helpful?

August

1. Services available at the Pleasanton Library
2. An early look at the new Google Chromebook
3. Demonstration of a 3D printer

September

1. Use "Weebly" to easily build a web page
2. Back to basics: Restore points and Volume Shadow Copies
3. Demo of Ubuntu operating system
 - a. Runs great even on an old "clunker"
 - b. Can save your data on your Windows PC when problems arise

October

1. LEAP Motion - Demo of a device that allows hand motions to operate your PC software
2. What's new with Google's Gmail?
3. Back to Basics - Web browsers. Choices and myths about them

November

1. How does crapware get on your computer?
2. Back to Basics - Google tips and tools
3. Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer

December

1. Experiences building our own PC
2. Use applications on a USB drive to solve problems on your PC
3. Interesting websites

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2012

January

1. Ultrabook laptops, "the next big thing"
2. Use Incredimail to add some fun to your email
3. Use Spotify to get free music on the internet

February

1. Should you be using Gmail for your email
2. Password Management/Security
3. Establish a Digital Workflow for better photos

March

1. Use a game camera and a PC to see who is raiding your bird feeder
2. Cozi Calendar will help you keep family activities organized
3. Windows 7 and Microsoft Office on a tablet
4. Brighten Unwanted Shadows in your Photos

April

1. How to use Flickr to share your photos with family and friends
2. Online Security and privacy issues with Google, Yahoo and others
3. Synchronize your data between desktop PCs, laptops, USB drives and more using Allway Sync

May

1. How to use the free cCleaner program to clean unnecessary files off of your PC
2. How to use the panorama and fusion features in Windows Live Photo Gallery

June

1. How to use Google search operators
2. Latest news on the Microsoft "Surface" Tablet
3. How to set up and use Roku to download movies, TV shows, music, etc. from the internet
4. Uses for your middle mouse button; Check your PC for DNS Malware

July

1. How do people use a tablet and smart phone
2. Introduction to YouTube
3. Ten ways to speed up windows

August

1. Easy way to create your life story
2. Need help fixing something? This website will help.
3. Four ways to share files using "the Cloud"
4. Three programs to keep your photo collection under control

September

1. Using Skype with both PCs and Smartphones
2. Several short topics:
 - a) How to Keep Unwanted Toolbars Out of Your Browser
 - b) How to create a Windows Startup Repair Disk
 - c) How to shorten a long URL (**bit.ly** and **tinyurl.com**)
 - d) Does the Windows logon password protect your data?

October

1. Replacing a broken laptop screen is easier than you think! I'll show you how to do it.
2. What is the effect on Windows XP users by Google's announcement to drop support for Internet Explorer 8?
3. What are your choices for an internet browser? What advantages does each provide? Which ones will be supported by Google apps?
4. Tools for defending against malware and for removing malware. Malware includes viruses, spyware, scamware, etc.

November

1. How to use Revo Uninstall to cleanly remove programs
2. Understanding the domain name country extensions
3. Early experience upgrading to Windows 8

December

1. Your Legacy Photography: How to convert your old pictures, slides and movies into a digital format
2. Converting your old VHS tapes into DVDs
3. Overview of available life alert systems

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2011

January

1. How corporations are using social media sites (i.e. Facebook, Twitter)
2. What happens inside your PC when you turn it on?
3. Back to Basics: Windows Explorer file manager
4. Fun and helpful web sites

February

1. Update on Pleasanton Library facilities for PCs and mobile devices
2. Use your own photos to make a wallpaper slide show in Windows 7
3. How does GPS work?
4. Back to Basics: Find, organize and use file folders

March

1. Back to Basics: Find, Organize and Use Files and Folders on your PC
2. Basic Networking
3. Interesting websites and free software

April

1. Back to Basics: Guidelines for Computer Safety and Problem Solving (Windows XP, Vista and 7)
2. Windows Live Movie Maker (Vista, 7)
3. Free internet radio using the Windows Media Player (XP, Vista, 7)
4. Review of your survey responses

May

1. How to copy music from your LP records to your PC
2. How to copy music from your CDs to your PC
3. How to add music to your Movie Maker movies
4. Panel on "How we do backups"

June

1. How to find useful blogs
2. Using Dropbox to keep your data synchronized when using more than one device
3. Getting Ready For The End of your XP PC. What can you be doing to make their inevitable move to Windows 7 easier
4. Interesting websites

July

1. Websites that exercise your brain
2. Windows 8 and Google+ Preview
3. Understanding the email connectivity protocols POP3 and IMAP
4. Demo of GoToMyPC
5. Ask an Expert

August

1. Using Remote Assistance to help or get help
2. Internet telephone
3. How to reduce the amount of spam you receive
4. Interesting websites

September

1. Making a photo collage of family pictures using Powerpoint
2. Review of methods used in some Windows 7 versions to run XP in a virtual machine
3. Where to find free security software for your PC
4. Back to basics: a refresher session on basic word processing using Microsoft Word 2003

October

1. Easily Create Your Own Animated Stories Using Free Alice Software
2. Comparison of Internet Explorer Versions 7, 8 and 9
3. Ten Performance Myths Unveiled
4. Comparison of Free Office Software, Libre Office vs Open Office

November

1. Using a free website to keep friends up-to-date after surgery, illness, etc.
2. Megapixels, Megabytes and DPI - What do they mean?
3. Update on cell phones and tablet technology
4. Organize your photos with Windows Live Photo Gallery

December

1. How You Can Help Friends/Family Members Fix Their PC Problems
2. Master the Taskbar and Start menu in Windows 7
3. Interesting Websites

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2010

January

Demo of Picasa Photo Sharing and Picasa Photo Recognition
Review of Google Earth
What's new in Office 2010
More features in Google Analytics

February

Windows Live Mail (Replaces Outlook Express in Windows 7)
Advanced Google Searching
Resources on Kim Komando's website
Picture sizes for email and printing

March

Basic things you should know how to do on your computer
The greatly improved Calculator function in Windows 7
How and why to calibrate your monitor

April

New PC in your future? Our panel will discuss options, etc.
How to "tag" your photos so you can find them later
Miscellaneous "stuff" (drop.io, cable types, god mode)

May

Composition Techniques for Great Pictures
Incredimail Introduction
Miscellaneous "stuff" (1) Using Move To, Copy To and Send To options in Windows Explorer,
(2) Change your taskbar thumbnail size in Windows 7, (3) Send faxes for free with FaxZero,
(4) Find options easier in Office 2007 ribbon format by adding a search tab

June

Twenty five rules of email etiquette
How to set up message rules in your email for Outlook, Yahoo, Comcast, Windows Live Mail and Gmail
Using Animoto to easily create movies

July

Recent Announcements about XP support and DSL password changes
Microsoft Silverlight, Adobe Flash - what are they? do we need them?
Odds & Ends (1). Recent experiences: Printer ink; On-line backups, (2) Bookmarklets,
(3) Some free downloadable software: Paint.net and FileHippo Update Checker

August

How to create a Yahoo group, how to set it up.
How to use our new PC User Group Yahoo Group
What are Image Backups? How do I create one?
Results of the recent PC User Group Survey

September

Digital Photography - What to do with your old pictures, film, slides, etc.
- Scanning pictures/slides/film, what resolution to use
- Other ways to copy photos
- Resizing and Re-sampling photos
- How/where to store the pictures

October

Barnes & Noble's Nook eReader
Internet Explorer 9 Beta - What's new?
Interesting and helpful websites/software

November

Mobile/Handheld Devices
Windows 7 Magnifier
USB Radio

December

Demonstration of the Apple iPad
Internet Explorer 8 Accelerators
Cloud Computing – What is it? Is it safe? Are you already using it?
Short topics - Ccleaner update, Drop.io replacement site, Yahoo Groups revisited
Back to Basics – How to delete programs you no longer use

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2009

January

Comparison of Internet Explorer 8, FireFox 3 and Google Chrome browsers
"Experts" Open forum (Topics collected from meeting attendees)

February

Keyboard shortcuts (Windows Key + others)
Using the new Picasa 3 from Google to organize your photos
Upgrading memory (How much do I have, how is it configured, what is the maximum I can install, etc.)

March

Re-visiting openoffice.org
Early experiences with a Netbook PC
What are "drivers"? Where/How are they used? How do you update them? Should you update them?

April

Early experience with Windows 7
Memory upgrades - Update on results from the February presentation
Cyberchondria (hyperchondria caused by searching the internet for diagnosing your symptoms)
RSS (Really Simple Syndication)

May

Facebook and Twitter
Downloading music from the internet

June

Introduction to Photoshop Elements
Optical Character Recognition

July

Spies, Trojans and other threats to your PC
Using PowerPoint to show your pictures
Interesting and helpful websites

August

What is "Safe Mode"? How and when to use it
Using Email Stripper to clean up your email
Five sources of infections from using the internet

September

Beyond the basics of Facebook and Twitter
Are you ready for Windows 7?
Tools for improving your PC's performance

October

Using Snapfish to share your photos
What is "Cloud Computing"? How does it change the way you use your PC?
Windows Security Essentials, free security software from Microsoft
Interesting/Useful websites

November

Four Google Applications (Images, News, Document, Reader)
Early experiences upgrading to Windows 7
Windows Live Movie Maker

December

Improved "Gadget" options in Windows 7
Two Short Topics
a) AllWays Sync
b) Google Analytics
Tips & Interesting Websites

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2008

January

What is System Restore and How do you use it?

Google Gadgets

How to make sure your hard disk data is destroyed before giving your PC away

February

Using Mozy to do web-based backups of your data

Differences/New Features in Word 2007

Panel Discussion: Laptop vs Desktop, Configuration needs, RAM needs, etc.

March

Finding good travel prices and other travel info

Uninterruptible Power Supplies for your PC? What do they protect you against? What size? What cost?

Health information on the internet

How do I test the speed of my DSL/Cable connection? What to do if the speed test shows I am slower than others?

The new Snipping Tool included with Vista

April

Icons in the toolbar at the bottom of the screen (i.e. QuickLaunch and System Drawer)

How to Add/Remove Window components from your computer

Using MS Office Picture Manager for editing and fixing your photos

May

Update on the kenmark.us website

Scanning pictures and editing them using Photoscape

Introduction to Family Tree Maker

June

Windows short cuts

Introduction to iTunes

Creating greeting cards with Microsoft Publisher

Using clip art

July

External hard drives-What are they, Why use them, How to use them

How to transfer your programs and data to your new PC

Some interesting websites

August

Scanning for fun - Use your PC for fun projects using your own photos to create photo scrapbooks, T-Shirts, etc.

Google Sketchup

September

Interesting websites about current news

Photo Story 3, an easy way to make a slide show

What is Norton Ghost, why would you use it

Some websites, tools you may find useful

October

Using CrazyTalk to animate your picture

Get (or give) help using the Remote Assistance software in XP & Vista

Remove malware & spyware with Malware Bytes & Spyware Defender

November

How to move photo from your camera to your PC, edit and resize them, and put them on the web in a photo album for your friends and relatives to view

Using Skype for free video calls

Some interesting websites

December

How to build your own blog

Some interesting websites

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2007

January

Listening to the radio on the internet
Creating mailing labels from your Outlook/Outlook Express Address Book
Yahoo Mail (the free version)
Reading books on books.google.com

February

Creating, changing, deleting icons from the desktop. Moving them to the Quick Launch area
Transferring programs and data to your new Vista PC
Easily create a free web page using Google

March

Using your spreadsheet software for record keeping.

April

Belarc Advisor
Creating calendars using the Calendar Creator 12 software
Resizing your pictures for email

May

Using Roxio Media Creator 9 to make a DVD of your pictures, movies, music, etc.

June

Buying and selling on eBay
Using personalVPN to protect your internet usage while on WiFi
Control Panel – General capabilities and the Add/Remove program function

July

Clean up your email before forwarding it
What's in the Control Panel (continued)
Things you should do before your computer crashes

August

Using Blogs and Podcasts
Make your computer run faster by reducing "stuff" running in the background with StartUp Inspector & MSCONFIG
How to archive your email and be able to search it

September

Control Panel - Security Center, Performance & Maintenance Category (Power options, Scheduled Tasks)
Use websites like www.snopes.com to check for hoaxes and other info
Using the new Photostory 3 to make a slide show

October

Control Panel - Administrative Tasks and System items in Control Panel
Transporting your Address Book into other programs
How to find how much RAM is available after you start up your computer (Belarc Advisor)
Using www.picnik.com to edit your photos

November

How to use the Draw function in Microsoft Word
Using crossloop.com to help someone remotely or to do collaborative documents
How to find safe places to download programs and other stuff

December

Google Earth

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2006

January

Fun with PowerPoint
Introduction to ewido
Panel discussion of system maintenance and other topics

February

Using Pandora.com to create your own "radio stations"
Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer (MBSA)
Photo Editing using Irfanview and Microsoft's Digital Image Suite 2006

March

Spam - How to manage it, minimize it, and get rid of it when you do get it.
Using the Calendar in Microsoft Outlook
Using the Fax software included in Windows XP
Using the Print Wizard in the Windows Photo and Fax Viewer
Public WiFi HotSpots - What are the risks?
What is the BIOS, how do you make changes, should you update your BIOS.

April

Publish your life story online using eTributes
What to look for in a digital camera
Using Microsoft's free Photostory 3 to easily create a slideshow

May

Advanced search parameters in Google & Yahoo
What is Microsoft's Media Center?
Sharing a folder on the internet using FolderShare

June

Buying and selling on eBay
Some Short Topics

- Watching a DVD on your PC
- What to do with that CD you got with your developed film
- Site Advisor from McAfee

Using a bootable Linux CD to explore Linux on your PC

July

Identity theft and other computer security problems
Using Newsgroups
Experiences with Microsoft IE7-Beta

August

Finding help using Newsgroups
Email - Resizing pictures, using BCC, stripping other addresses when forwarding
Using the fax software that is included in Windows XP

September

Creating a newsletter using Microsoft Publisher
Using Yahoo Photo to share pictures on the web

October

Earlier experience and demo of new Vista operating system
DSL/Comcast - Cost, ease of install, etc.
Using Styles and Templates in Word

November

Further questions on "Identity theft and other computer security problems"
Introduction to Excel

December

Microsoft Defender spyware scanning and removal tool from Microsoft.
Router security (how to set up a secure wireless router system)
Internet Explorer 7 Password Manager

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2005

January

Digital Scrapbooking

What is Phishing?

How to clean up forwarded emails

February

What shortcuts are available using the Windows key on the keyboard?

Using the Keyhole program to see satellite views of everywhere

Where do you find fonts and how do you install them?

Using Picasa 2.0 to organize and edit photos on your hard disk

March

True Launch Bar (replaces Quick Launch space on toolbar)

Using SightSpeed (www.sightspeed.com) for sending video email

Transferring outside sources of music to your PC and CDs

April

Using the Edit Cut and Paste tools and the Save/Save As commands

Printing photos on your printer without a PC

Microsoft Anti-Spyware Beta Software

Computer Terminology, A-D

May

What are all of those Buttons on MS Word Toolbars?

PC Security (Phishing, Pharming and Keystroke Logging)

Google Desktop Search Tool

Computer Glossary continued (E - K)

June

Weblogs Explained (also called blogging)

Frequency of running PC Maintenance Tools

Using Advanced Searching Features in Google and Yahoo

Terminology (L - P)

July

Getting your free credit report on-line

The answers.com and refdesk.com websites

Mozilla Firefox browser and some of the plug-ins

Terminology (Q-Z)

August

What is available on-line from our Pleasanton library?

Using Skype to make free phone calls over the internet

What is running in the background on my PC and why (including Task Manager)

Using pbwiki to enter topics for future meetings

September

Downloading from your video camera to your PC

Using Sticky Notes in Outlook

Using earth.google.com

October

Digital Photography

November

Genealogy

December

Embedding photos in email

Introduction to Portable Document Format(PDF)

Free Viewers from Microsoft

Openoffice.org -- Free Office-like software from Sun

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2004

January

What is Spybot and why you may want to use it
Mailwasher software for separating spam from your mailbox
On-Line classes available through Las Positas College.

February

How to transfer "stuff" from your old computer to your new computer
More on Control Panel functions
How to get computer help
NetCaptor - an alternative browser

March

Learning Sites on the Web
Adobe PDF Reader
Using Belarc software to determine system attributes of your PC
Using Registry Mechanic to repair registry entries

April

How do you determine what you need to upgrade, memory, storage, etc.
XP Picture Handling Tools
Using SideStep to find good travel prices

May

Sharing your photos with others using photos.yahoo.com
Discussion of the Microsoft Power Toys
Finding Hardware/Software reviews on the web

June

Using the "signature" option in Word, Outlook Express, etc.
How to erase "history" and other things that record where you have been
Flash Memory Storage Devices
Windows File Explorer, an alternative to Microsoft's File Explorer
Using Soople (www.soople.com) for your Google searches

July

How does Restore (in Me and XP) work, what gets restored
What are ZIP files, how are they created, how to unzip
Where have people learned how to become knowledgeable in the software programs they use?
Using Web Eyes to help you read web pages better

August

Microsoft's Service Pack 2 Update - What should you do?
Customizing the Toolbar(s) for MS Word
Hiding, changing the size/position, customizing the Toolbar on the bottom of the Windows screen
Disk scanner to help you decide what is taking up all of your disk space
Report back on the www.annoyances.org website discussed at the July meeting
Using message rules in Outlook Express

September

Wired and Wireless Networking
The New Security Center in Windows XP Service Pack 2 Update
Download Movies to your PC using Movielink

October

Passwords - what makes for a good password, how often to change, how many are useful, best way to keep track of them
Using Special Symbols (like ç) in Word, Email
Cleaning unwanted files from your computer, What does Defragging do, What does Scan Disk do

November

Backing up files using the Microsoft Backup Software
PC Security - Anti-virus software, Firewalls, Spybot, Adaware, etc.
Using your laptop while "on the road"

December

Web Mail Services
PC Media Types (Floppies, CDs, DVDs, Flash Drives)
Using the Draw Toolbar in Word – Roberta
Ask Ken

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2003

January

Creating a Powerpoint presentation, with sound and pictures, on family history.
How to use the Word Art features in Microsoft Word
What is QuickTime?
Features on the CNET websight

February

What you can do about Spam?
Music Match Jukebox
Downloading music from the internet
Local weather station in Livermore on the internet

March

Experiences using Dragon Naturally Speaking to convert speech to computer text
What do you use the ESC key for (and some of those other strange keys)
How do you play Pinball?
Craigslis (on the Internet)

April

Stopping Messenger in Windows XP
Using Scandisk/Defrag in Safe Mode
Using Windows Media Player
Tucows website

May

Using Outlook Express
Basic Home Networking
Using Email strippers to clean up email
How to use your Scanner

June

How to play Minesweeper
Using www.snopes.com to check out hoaxes, etc.
Importing/Exporting Address Books in Outlook/Outlook Express
What is System Restore, How does it work?

July

Creating a professional looking Cookbook using Microsoft Word
PC maintenance you should be doing (Care and Feeding of your PC)
How to use those adjustments on your monitor
Copying tapes, CDs and LPs to your PC

August

Where to find Clip Art and How to use it
Using the Microsoft Knowledge Base
Using Photo Organizing Software

September

Genealogy and Your Computer

October

Viruses, Worms, and Other Ugly Denizens
Using Screen Shot to print your screen images

November

Recipe Processor
Features of Notepad and Wordpad
Scanners Re-visited

December

Exploring the Keyboard function in the Control Panel. This will include looking at the various language options for the keyboard.
Websites that have tips on using Windows
IBM's Web Adaptation Technology

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2002

January

Windows XP Microsoft Presentation

February

Features in Windows XP for Learning XP

Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)

Using TurboTax

March

Organizing Favorites on Internet Explorer

Using Google

Using your Cell Phone and Your Laptop To Access Email

April

Editing pictures, changing size for emailing, etc

Interesting Websites

Using the Windows "Find" command

Movie Sites on the internet

May

Office XP (Microsoft)

June

Digital Cameras

USB 2.0

More "Interesting Websites"

July

Project Gutenberg

Remote access to your PC using GoToMyPC software

How to use Email Blocking

August

Paying Bills by PC

Drive Imaging Software

Using Windows Update

September

Working with Digital Pictures

October

Software to Aid the Visually Impaired (VIP Software)

Creating Picture DVDs Using Your CD Writer Hardware

Using Email While Traveling

November

Comparison of Outlook and Outlook Express

Customizing your Toolbar in Word/Excel/Outlook Express

Interesting Websites

December

Customizing "My Yahoo"

Partitioning your hard disk - Why you may want to and how to do it

On-Line Help Free: Using Protonic to answer your PC questions

On-Line Help-Not Free Ask Dr Tech

Free Software on the Internet

EasyShare - A new free easy picture processing program from Kodak

DiskScanner - A free program shows what is using your disk space

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2001

January

How to backup your files
Experience in building music files
Using Instant Messenger
Working with folders and files

February

Using the 3D Home Design software
Building a customized home page
Using Turbo Tax to file your Federal Taxes
LibrarySpot

March

Buying and Selling on Ebay
Control Panel (Mouse and Display Features)
Firewalls - why you may need one
What to do with that huge picture someone sent you by email

April

Using WinZip to compress and decompress files
My Computer and Control Panel (Accessibility Options - Add/Remove Programs - Add New Hardware)
Using Virus Protection Software
Using Whale Mail to send large files

May

How to use Streets & Trips for trip planning
Control Panel (Mouse - Display - Keyboard)
Urban Legends and Virus Hoaxes

June

Using Data Bases - Part I
Recipe Software
Using Scanners

July

Introduction to Microsoft Publisher
Burning CDs, Part II
What is that "Active-X software" anyway?
How to EASILY build your own webpage using Yahoo

August

Recipe Software
Introduction to Quicken
Using Freeware UltimateZip to compress/extract files

September

Training available in Pleasanton
The next topic will be in a little different format. Nile will have a PC with him and will show us how to take it apart and add a new piece of hardware (either a CDROM drive or new hard drive)
Editing pictures using Microsoft's Picture It software

October

Using the Atomic Clock to keep your PC clock accurate
Scanners Revisited
 Film/Slide Scanner Demonstration
 Scanning pictures, resizing them

November

How to use Net Mail and Print Screen
How I use PrintShop
Setting up a web cam

December

How to play games on the internet (Bridge, Backgammon, Cribbage)
Things you can do with the right mouse button
Experiences upgrading to Windows XP

Topics Presented at Pleasanton Senior Center PC User Group Meetings in 2000

February

AOL Demo/ Q&A
Panel discussion of Internet websites
Meta Search Engines, Radio Stations
Greeting Cards, Movie Database, Phone and Zip Code Directories
Local information websites and other sites
Netscape news offerings

March

Health on the Internet Panel
Health Central (<http://www.healthcentral.com>), Prescription Drugs (<http://pharminfo.com>) and Other Health Websites
Hodge-Podge (Webcams, PC Solitaire Games, A War Story)

April

Organizing Favorites/Bookmarks
Digital Photography
Hoax Information Sites
Shopping Bots
File extension names and URL codes

May

Wave (Phone Call Recorder while on the Internet)
Introduction to Web Pages
Windows Tips - Using Print Screen key to print web page screens
DSL vs Cable Connections to the internet
Greeting card web pages

June

Digital Photography - Camera Demonstration (Kodak DC210, Sony Mavica)
Computer Routine Maintenance Scan and Defrag Use
Using Backup Tools How to send pictures on email
Instant Messaging/Instant Buddy

July

Using the Find Feature (includes use of wildcards)
Genealogy

August

Cookies - What are they? Should you be worried about them?
Airplane/Hotel/Car reservations on the internet
Using Guru (a spell checker and dictionary)
Games on the internet (Bridge, Cribbage)

September

Photo Editing
Elderhostel
On-line auctions

October

Where to learn about computers and software
Using Family Tree Maker for genealogy
Recipes on the Internet
Newsgroups

November

How to change and/or create your screen wallpaper
How to create labels (e.g. return address, envelope, canning jar, etc)
Using refdesk.com
Scanners

December

Accessories Folder
How to merge addresses onto labels
Cutting & Pasting (including cutting & pasting from the internet)
Adding attachments to email notes
Plug-ins