

# McHenry County Computer Club

*USERS GROUP FOR PC-COMPATIBLE SYSTEMS*



*OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008*  
*VOLUME 25 Nos. 10-11*

---

The **November 2008** meeting of the McHenry County Computer Club is **November 8**, at the Salvation Army Building, 290 W. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake. Enter the building at the parking level double door under the awning. The treasurer will be there by 8:30 AM for Club financial transactions.

#### Membership

Our membership is \$26.00 a year. **NOTE:** This fee offsets the running of the club; membership benefits include help with computer problems. Please pay Lyle Giese, our treasurer, or the designated Board Member in his absence.

Meetings : 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

**N.B.: The Salvation Army has asked us not park in front of the dumpsters or in other designated spaces. Your vehicle is subject to towing if it is not parked in the appropriate spaces.**

#### Meeting Agenda

09:00 General Business Meeting  
09:15 Excel - Jack  
10:00 Break  
10:15 Q&A

The Newsletter is published monthly by McHenry County Computer Club, online.

Editor-in-Chief: Lucë York

Direct inquiries, comments, articles to the Editor to Lucë at [info@Mc3ComputerClub.org](mailto:info@Mc3ComputerClub.org)

Direct technical questions to MC3 at: [info@Mc3ComputerClub.org](mailto:info@Mc3ComputerClub.org)

MC3 website: <http://www.mc3computerclub.org/>

#### **UPCOMING DEMOS**

November: Excel - Jack

December:

January:

February:

---

Computers are like air conditioners. They work fine until you start opening Windows.

## MC<sup>3</sup> OFFICIALS

President : Larry Freeman      [lpfreeman@hotmail.com](mailto:lpfreeman@hotmail.com)  
Vice President : Bob Wagner      [rmwagner@ameritech.net](mailto:rmwagner@ameritech.net)  
Secretary : Shirley Teetsov  
Treasurer: Lyle Giese      [Lyle@lcrcomputer.com](mailto:Lyle@lcrcomputer.com)  
Database Manager : John Katkus  
Newsletter Editor : Lucë York      [info@Mc3ComputerClub.org](mailto:info@Mc3ComputerClub.org) (for articles & suggestions ONLY)  
Past President : John Katkus  
Webmaster: Cindi Carrigan  
Board Members : Jack Luff ; Al Schrader ; Dave Lutes ; Joe Marto ; Jim Bierle ;  
Dan Weise ; Bruce Eckersberg

## Computer Joys and Woes 13

Last month, Lem called me that he was at a store that had Zone Alarm Internet Security Suite 2008. Price was \$49.99. However, some place else had it for sale for \$35.00 and a rebate for \$35.00. We know a good deal when we see one and the store agreed. My rebate check arrived today and they sent an e-mail when it was drawn and mailed.

I read the Quick Start Guide. It said EASY to Set Up and Use. You may connect to Internet and register immediately or you may install offline and register later. Sounds simple, huh? Next, if you are upgrading from a previous version, you can install without uninstalling the previous version. And a clean install is recommended.

To Install:

1. Begin at the Windows desktop.
2. Insert the CD-ROM into your CD-ROM drive.
3. The Zone Alarm Suite start up window will appear.
4. Click INSTALL ZONEALARM INTERNET SECURITY SUITE and follow onscreen directions.

First of all, the auto run didn't start. Getting there another way that Microsoft so kindly provides, a window came up and said, "Check for updates and if there are any download them first and then install them, for Windows Vista if there are none proceed with installation."

The next line said check for updates and if there are any download them first and then install them and if there are none go ahead with the installation for 2000 and XP.

Sounds real easy, BUT, if there is an upgrade, it tells you that your subscription has run out and you need to purchase a new one.

OK, uninstall and remove the free version of Zone Alarm and try again. Auto run refused to run again so do the search again and get it going. This time it finally came up with a window that asks if you have an antivirus and spy program running. OK, take the antivirus off and start over. This time a window came up and asked if you purchased it outside of the internet then enter the code on the line.

Wow, finally everything is working and then I get a window about junk mail and when I go to my e-mail there is a junk mail box. A scan starts and afterwards informs me that I have a program to remove ads, etc. and it may cause a problem so get rid of it. OK another job to do.

I could not find where to set the times for scanning, went through the whole thing and finally had to ask the question at our meeting. Well, I finally found it, well hidden if I do say so. All is doing fine now.

One thing that bothers me in Outlook Express, after the new mail comes in the ZA scans it and cuts off what I am doing at the time, *i.e.*, writing another e-mail. Right now I believe I have it under control, at least as much as I have anything under control at any point. I am praying that when I finally tackle installing it on my husband's computer, I will do it with ease and no problems and everything will install well and do its thing and not give me anymore headaches.

*Shirley*

## Questions & Answers

**Q: Is there a way to un-install "Internet Explorer" and reinstall it? There is no problem to get on the Internet with Internet Explorer, but clicking on to links like for online Banking, I get this message:**

**(X in red circle)**

**Windows cannot find '(null)'. Make sure you typed the name correctly, and then try again. To search for file, click Start button, and then click.**

**Then more messages like it are popping in and blank screens. I try to delete those messages, but more and more are coming in. If I use another Browser (Mozilla, Firefox, etc.), this problem does not exist there.**

**A: IE has a bad plugin/toolbar/Addon or is infested with spyware. Un-installing Internet Explorer may not be possible and may not fix the problem if it could be un-installed and re-installed.**

**You can check the plugins used by going to the Control Panel in Classic view --> Internet Options --> Programs --> Manage Add-ons. Some add-ons are useful, like the Adobe. So keep a list of what you disable here so that you can re-enable later.**

**You can check what toolbars are loaded via Add/Remove Programs and looking for toolbars there.**

**And a good scan by your favorite antivirus/antispyware utilities from safe mode would also be useful at this time.**

**Q: New 2008 Zone Alarm - how do you set times to scan? Mine says scan Aug 8 - Update Aug 12.**

**A: Open the user interface by double clicking on the systray icon. Click on Computer Scanner. Highlight the scan you want to change and you can then click on the Edit button.**

**Q: Outlook, Address Book - How can you search ALL cells at one time?**

**A: Not sure if the question means Outlook or Outlook Express or what version. In Outlook Express, use the Find People function to search different fields.**

**Q: AVG8 - Good, Bad, Indifferent? Discovered Problem with Auto Update Firefox Upgrade AVG8 found worms. Question, is there a fraud site for Firefox?**

A: There are always false positives from time to time. AV products will think a legit file/program is bad. It's usually fixed by the next update of the AV product. Also always know where you are downloading things from. For Firefox, go to [www.firefox.org](http://www.firefox.org). For AVG, [www.grisoft.com](http://www.grisoft.com).

**Q: ZIP program opens every time I select an item to print.**

A: That is a problem with file association. Turn on the display of file extensions and then we can go from there and fix the association.

I have not seen the \$99 Linux computers to comment on them.

**Q: Prefetch cache. Should it be cleared?**

A: Prefetch cache is an area where Windows keeps track of recently used files and where they are on the hard drive. As a matter of maintenance, we never routinely delete this unless we are chasing viruses.

The only areas that we routinely clear for performance is temp and the internet temp folders.

**Q: AVG 8.0 update manager states 'not enough free memory - write error'. Updates do not complete.**

A: If using a pay for version of AVG, make sure you have your license key. Uninstall and reinstall AVG to fix.

**Q: My computer does not turn off when shut down any more?**

A: Changes in power management in BIOS can cause this or a Windows update is interfering with power management. Or it's been reported that a corruption in the Windows shutdown being corrupted. This is hard to troubleshoot.

**Q: On the menu for default email program is Outlook. How do I change it to SBC?**

A: You can only select an email program here. Web based email is not an option here.

**Q: A word or excel document saved to a disc or flash drive and taken to a different computer it opens as read only. This other computer is at a school.**

A: The school has probably installed programs to limit the usability of CDs, disks, or flash drives. They do this for security reasons.

**Q: I have a new Dell that did not come with restore CD nor have I found a way to make restore CDs.**

A: Call Dell. Usually for a small S&H fee, you can get CDs or they will tell you how to make restore CDs.

**Q: How do you setup a computer to use two different operating systems?**

A: First of all, it's called Dual-Booting. Google it. Instructions can be found and they are very specific and for instance to install Vista and WinXP, WinXP has to be installed first. Read a couple different how-to's as the exact procedure is very dependent on what two operating systems you want.

## SOME BASIC TIPS

\* Forcing the camera's flash to go off prevents silhouetted, too-dark faces when you're outdoors.

- \* When you're searching for something on the Web using, say, Google, put quotes around phrases that must be searched together. For example, if you put quotes around "electric curtains," Google won't waste your time finding one set of Web pages containing the word "electric" and another set containing the word "curtains."
- \* You can use Google to do math for you. Just type the equation, like  $23*7+15/3=$ , and hit Enter.
- \* Google is also a units-of-measurement and currency converter. Type "teaspoons in 1.3 gallons," for example, or "euros in 17 dollars." Click Search to see the answer.
- \* You can switch from one open program to the next by pressing Alt+Tab (Windows) or Command-Tab (Mac).
- \* You generally can't send someone more than a couple of full-size digital photos as an e-mail attachment; those files are too big, and they'll bounce back to you. (Instead, use iPhoto or Picasa-photo-organizing programs that can automatically scale down photos in the process of e-mailing them.)
- \* Whatever technology you buy today will be obsolete soon, but you can avoid heartache by learning the cycles. New iPods come out every September. New digital cameras come out in February and October.
- \* Just putting something into the Trash or the Recycle Bin doesn't actually delete it. You then have to \*empty\* the Trash or Recycle Bin. (If you hear about somebody whose hard drive is full, despite having practically no files, it's may be because, over the years, they've put gigabytes' worth of stuff in the Recycle Bin and never emptied it.)

Double your drive space. Delete Windows!

X