

Computer Observer

July 2008

Preferred Copy (FREE)

Win Great Stuff

by Adam J. Richter M.S.

Support your local community
&
Win great prizes at the same time!

Drawing will be held Friday August 15th 2008

Computer Pros is holding the first annual
"Technology Gives Back"
This event helps to provide a fun, safe, & educational
environment for kids ages 10-17 every Friday night,
beginning in the Fall.

By purchasing tickets you enter yourself to win
Valuable Prizes!

Friday August 15th 2008 Computer Pros will draw a
ticket every hour starting at **10am-2pm**.

Tickets can be purchased 3 easy ways:

- ONE OUR WEBSITE
www.computerpros.cc/raffle and your ticket
vouchers will be mailed to you!
- AT OUR STORE Computer Pros 8392 S
Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34238
- AT ANY SERVICE CALL that you schedule
with Computer Pros, for computer service.

Drawing times & Prizes!
Cannon Digital Camera - 10am
iPod Touch - 11am
Garmin GPS - 12noon
PC Desktop Package - 1pm
Apple Laptop - 2pm

Any questions call Jennifer at 941-918-0300

Ann's Tips for July 2008

by Ann Dodderidge

5 quick tips for sorting e-mail

1. A quick way to store e-mail you need to keep is to drag-and-drop an Outlook e-mail message onto the desktop or any folder.
2. It's best to sort your e-mail into at least a few different folders, to have some form of organization. If you make them subfolders of your Inbox, you can search through all your messages all at once.
3. If you're worried about forgetting to read messages that are automatically filed in folders, remember that Outlook 2003 folders that contain unread mail have a little bolded number after them in brackets such as (3) to indicate the number of messages in the folder that you haven't read. It's pretty easy to track so you will probably find this is sufficient an indicator that you won't forget to check the folders.
4. Can you have replies sent to a subfolder? Yes. You can write a rule to have messages sent to various folders upon receipt or on sending the message-- whichever option suits you. Click on the Tools tab and select Rules and Alerts.
5. How Rules are applied to incoming e-mail in Outlook 2000 and 2007: If more than one rule applies to an incoming e-mail, the ruled placed in first place takes precedence, or both rules are applied.

We Fix Computers

Computer Pros provides full service computer repair and tutoring. Computer Pros services the following areas: North Port, Rotunda, Englewood, Venice, Osprey, Nokomis, Sarasota, Myakka City, Bradenton, Palmetto, Ellenton and more.

Call today to schedule your appointment
Sarasota/Venice (941) 918-0300
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<http://www.computerpros.cc>

Are You A Computer Pro?

If you know a lot about computers send me an e-mail and I'll include your article in the next Computer Observer.

Articles are proofread and edited upon final publication.

Send to Adam
adam@computerpros.cc

Backup Your Cell Phone Contacts

By Adam J. Richter M.S.

Do you have a Blackberry, Motorola etc...

Some cell phones have internal memory cards that can be moved to a new phone. But this only typically works if you are upgrading to a new model phone of the same make. Other phones do not have an internal memory card that can be transferred to a new phone.

iPhone and smart PDA phones typically come with software to synchronize to your computer. The software will automatically backup your phone to the computer.

If you have a standard cell phone that did not come with software or a transferable memory card then you may need to buy some software. If you have a Motorola phone you will have to buy the Motorola phone tools software to back up your contacts. It's pretty inexpensive but absolutely necessary. For those of you that are not very technical some phone stores will use their software to transfer your contacts for a fee. Sprint/Nextel stores usually offer this service.

Advertise in the Computer Observer

Would you like to reach thousands of people in Sarasota and Manatee County? Start advertising in the Computer Observer today. Custom ad sizes available.

Contact Jennifer for more information
(941) 918-0300



Your Child's Secret Life Online by Adam J. Richter M.S.

An eye-opening breakthrough for parents. The first tell-all resource for parents that will help you keep your child safe online. All 24 chapters include breakthrough discoveries and up-to-date information made clear and simple.

"A lot of children accidentally...increase their chances of being stalked by a predator." Pg.30

Call Jennifer to reserve your copy today \$29.99
(941) 918-0300

Tech Support Tips

by Adam J. Richter M.S.

Vista SP1

I know I recommended that people upgrade to Vista SP1 last month as it became part of Windows Automatic Updates, but for now wait again. A lot of people are having issues with SP1 causing their computer to no longer boot.

Firefox 3

The next version of Firefox is available. Although it is not yet automatically updated, it is available for manual download from www.getfirefox.com I recommend waiting for the official upgrade as there is already a security flaw.

No More Free XP with a New Computer

To get everyone adopting the new technology Microsoft and other company are pushing people to start using Vista. Dell will start charging customers up to \$50 for factory-installed Windows XP on some of their PCs, according to a report.

Windows 7

Microsoft is working on the next release of their operating system currently named 'Windows 7'. It is expected to utilize touch technology and to be able to automatically recognize devices in the computers area and install them.

Gmail Filters

Gmail has a million great features; one of them is the Gmail Labels. Using Gmail labels is a lot like using folders. When you label an email message Gmail assigns it into a group with that same name. You can then archive the message and quickly retrieve it by clicking the label on the left hand column. This reduces the clutter in your inbox while giving you the power to organize.

New Yahoo E-mail Addresses

Yahoo is expanding its free e-mail service with two new domain names for Yahoo Mail users. The company has added ymail.com and rocketmail.com as options for personalized e-mail addresses. Registration opens Thursday afternoon. With 266 million active accounts, Yahoo bills itself at the world's largest e-mail service.

Mac News

Not much is ever said about Mac's but since they are becoming more popular I'm going to include some news about them.

Local root escalation vulnerability in Mac OS X 10.4 and 10.5 discovered. All news about Mac's isn't always good news. As Mac's become more popular there will be more people interested in finding security flaws. This will mean that Mac OS X will be making updates and patches the same way Microsoft is always providing updates.

3G iPhone Released – The difference in this iPod/Phone is that it will have much faster internet surfing speed, improved voice communication and accurate GPS mapping.

Verizon and Comcast upgrading speeds

Verizon FIOS and Comcast are in competition to offer faster internet. So if you have either of these services you may see a slight increase in the speed of your connection.

FIOS says they have a lot of extra bandwidth with their new network that they could offer some exceptionally fast speeds.

Comcast says that they have a new DOCSIS network that will give their customers faster speeds as well. Just keep in mind that cable is a shared connection. So the more neighbors using it the slower.



The Venice Area Computer Users Group

The Next Meeting is Monday July 7th 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Venice Library

www.thevacug.com

The VACUG is a non-profit organization designed to help its users become more adept in using computers. This is accomplished through classes, Q&A sessions, and through the networking of members.

Presentation meetings are held the first Monday of each month. Family, guests, and the general public are welcome. Meetings feature high quality demonstrations on the latest software and hardware available.

A one year membership is \$35.00 and includes a one year subscription to Computer Observer and admittance to each General Meeting and Class.

Invite a guest to the next meeting for just \$2.00. Non-members may join at the meeting or may print and bring an application from www.thevacug.com

Meeting Schedule

- 4:00-4:05 PM.....Sign-in
- 4:00-4:45 PM.....Forum – Computer Pros
- 4:45-5:00 PM.....Break
- 5:00-6:00 PM.....Guest Lecture
- 6:00-6:15 PM.....Prizes and Raffles

Meeting Location

Venice Public Library (in the auditorium)
300 Nokomis Ave S
Venice, FL 34285



8392 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34238

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