



SoftTalk

The Official Newsletter of the Roanoke Valley Personal Computer Club

Volume 22 Number 2

Serving the Roanoke Valley

February 2006

Soft Talk to go modern:

Beginning with the March issue, SoftTalk will join the modern age and be distributed on the Internet instead of paper. This is in response to the high cost of paper-publishing, which had been made even higher by the recent increase in postage.

As a transition, the February SoftTalk will be distributed both on paper and on the Internet. This will be a test to make sure the club has your correct e-mail address. So, if you don't get the electronic newsletter, make sure that the club has your correct address so that you won't miss future issues.

Next Meeting: Sat., Feb. 11

Place: Arnold R. Burton
Technology Center, Room 105,
1760 Roanoke Boulevard, Salem,
Va. 24153

Time: 9:15 a.m. - noon

*This newsletter is published
by the RVPCC*

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 11

We will have a demonstration of both paid and free tax preparation software.

MARCH 11

Ernie will show how to set up a home network (both wireless and wired) and make it secure.

APRIL 8

Organizing and displaying digital pictures.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Converting videos to DVDs
Using MS Word and Excel
Tour the Roanoke Times
Using Power Point
Changing LPs to CDs
Wireless Internet

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Help your newsletter

You are invited to share favorite websites, reviews of software or just general computer experiences. Send your article or notes to editor@rvpcc.org.



Your officers hard at work at the January 19 meeting at the golden Corral



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Secretary's Report

ROANOKE VALLEY PERSONAL COMPUTER CLUB MINUTES

Saturday, January 14, 2006

Earl Abbott, Ex-President, called the meeting to order at 9:15a.m. Earl stated that we really need a president as he wouldn't be able to fill in indefinitely. He then turned the meeting over to Vice President Ernie Arnett.

OFFICER UPDATE:

Secretary - Margaret Ann Hoag - The minutes are in the newsletter.

Treasurer - Azella Tingler - Azella stated that all bills were paid and we have money in the bank.

Public Relations - Bill Scott - Bill said that he needed more ideas for programs. Things members are interested in. Ernie Arnett said he would

do a program in March on securing wireless. John Yeatts said he will do a program. Others suggested a program or programs on Digital Cameras, filing and storing photos. Also digitizing movies and putting them on disks.

Roanoke County Schools - Homer Duff - It was again announced that the Roanoke County Schools provided us with our meeting place and to please support them by taking their Adult Classes. Talk it up to friends and neighbors. The second semester classes start the end of January. There was a schedule of classes in a recent Roanoke

Times Newspaper.

Webmaster - Tim Johnson - Tim has recently updated the web site. Check it out.

Newsletter - Sandy Johnson and Kay Viskup - They need the club's copy of Publisher. Someone thought that Cathy Keon might have it.

Ernie Arnett asked the officers to watch for an e-mail concerning the scheduling of an Officers Meeting in January.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ernie Arnett stated that we really should have a president by the next meeting. He will do some calling.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ernie asked for volunteers for an Audit Committee. Bill Padgett and Jim Ruble volunteered. The audit should be done and reported by the March meeting.

DOOR PRIZES:

1. Candy Springer - Paper
2. Betty Aliff - \$10.00
3. Jack Cunningham - Pen
4. Margaret Ann Hoag - T-Shirt
5. Jack Morris - Floppy Disks
6. Connie Kirk - Pen

A "Question and Answer" period followed.

PROGRAM:

Ernie Arnett gave an EXCELLENT program on "How to Protect our Data." He covered External Drives, Data Recovery, Anti-Virus, Spyware, Spybot, using

Batch Files for backup, and Batch File Programming. He handed out an information sheet with appropriate web pages.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SMOKE POWER: Did you know that PCs and other electronic devices are powered by smoke? They must be, since when the smoke escapes, the device doesn't work anymore.

FUNNY SITE OF THE DAY:

Does your funny-bone need tickling? Try <http://www.pinetree.net/humor/> The technical manual written in Dr Seuss style was especially good.

Newsletter created with
MS PUBLISHER

Meeting space provided
by Roanoke County
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To: