



SoftTalk

The Official Newsletter of the Roanoke Valley Personal Computer Club

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Serving the Roanoke Valley

January 2006

SPECIAL WEATHER NOTICE

Whenever Roanoke schools are closed on the Friday before the club meeting date, please check the club web site to see if there will be a meeting. The information should be posted by 8 a.m. the day of the meeting.

IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN by Sandy Johnson

The government has changed the way people can file their returns this year. They are still offering free e-filing but no telefiling is available.

At the IRS.gov site, click on e-file info. This year's program is called Free File and can be used by people with incomes of \$50,000 and less. Click on e-file information and continue from there. A list of companies, such as H&R Block, Turbo Tax, etc., that will provide the programs will be listed on the site in mid-January. Then you click on the company's name and that will take you to the company's site. **DO NOT GO DIRECTLY TO THE COMPANY'S WEB SITE** as services offered there would be for a fee. If you can take advantage of the free program, you are not obligated to buy anything.

Missing: The club copy of Microsoft Publisher. Do you know who has it?

Considering a new PC?

Kim Komando discussed new computers in her 11/05/2005 weekend newsletter. She said that a buyer getting a computer now should consider one that will be capable of handling Vista, Microsoft's upcoming new version of Windows. She advised getting:

- a 64 bit microprocessor
- 1 GB of RAM
- a DVD drive
- a video card with 128 MB of RAM

She tried a test version of Vista and said, "You will want it."

If you haven't heard the "humble and modest digital goddess," you can catch her show on WFIR, 960 FM, 10 am to 1 pm each Saturday morning. She also publishes four e-mail newsletters, three daily and one weekly, all free.

A CLICK AND DRAG TIP

by Bob Johnson

To relocate something, you use the left mouse button to highlight it, then press and hold down the left mouse button, drag the selection to the new location, and release the mouse button.

Using the left mouse button **moves** the selection. Pressing the control key while left-clicking and dragging **copies** the selection. Or is it the other way around?

I can never remember, so I use the right mouse button to click and drag. When I release the right mouse button, a small menu pops up asking if I want to move or copy the selection. One extra click, but one less chance of making a mistake.

This works in Microsoft applications such as Word and Excel. I find it most useful when moving or copying files in Windows Explorer.

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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.



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Secretary's Report

ROANOKE VALLEY
PERSONAL COMPUTER
CLUB MINUTES

Saturday , December 10, 2005

Earl Abbott, President, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

OFFICER UPDATE:

Treasurer - Azella Tingler - Azella stated that all bills were paid and the RVPCC was solvent. There were no door prizes.

CHRISTMAS DINNER: Ernie Arnett apologized for the mix up on the date of the Christmas dinner. He asked for suggestions on a place to have the Christmas Dinner next year and said that he would work on it right away so we could have a place with a private room. He asked for suggestions from the club members.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY:

If the schools are closed on the Friday before the club meeting, check our web site Saturday morning to see if the RVPCC

To:

meeting has been cancelled.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

John Yeatts read the following slate of officers:

President:

Vice President: Ernie Arnett

Secretary: Margaret Ann Hoag

Treasurer: Azella Tingler

Public Relations: Bill Scott and John Yeatts

Newsletter: Sandra Johnson and Kay Viskup

Membership: Del Kirschner

Web Master: Tim Johnson

John Yeates moved that we accept the slate and Earl Abbott seconded the motion. The motion passed. It was decided

that we would vote on the president's position at the next meeting.

COUNTY SCHOOLS:

It was again announced that the the Roanoke County Schools provide us with our meeting place and to please support them by taking Adult Classes.

A "SHOW AND TELL" period was followed by a "QUESTION AND ANSWER" period.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Margaret Ann Hoag , Secretary

We Meet the 2nd Saturday of the Month

**Next Meeting
Sat., Jan. 14**

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

Time: 9:15 a.m. - noon

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