



WE DO WINDOWS
THE WINDOW
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CADDO-BOSSIER
 WINDOWS
 USER GROUP

Shreveport – Bossier City
 Louisiana

www.shreve.net/~cbwug

Volume 6 No 9

Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group Newsletter

September 2004

August Meeting

By Glenda Conradi



Bernie Conradi gives a demonstration to answer a question.

At the August meeting Bernie Conradi conducted one of our very popular question and answer sessions. There was a large group and they came well prepared with a lot of good questions and also, some tips, suggestions, and personal computing

experiences that the whole group benefited from.

It was mentioned that Microsoft Service Pack 2 would soon be released and how it would be distributed. Please join us in September to find out more about SP 2.

September Program

By Glenda Conradi

The new Microsoft Service Pack 2 patch has been released and many people have put, or will be putting, it on their computers. There may be more to the new SP 2 patch than you realize. Some of our members have been doing some research on things you may want to look for when you add the patch to your computer. There are some changes it makes to Internet Explorer and Windows security that will be discussed at the meeting on September nine. Please come and bring your questions or comments on Microsoft's Service Pack 2 patch or other Windows subjects.

MEETINGS

Thursday Sept. 9, 2004

Thursday Oct.. 14, 2004

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q

1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy
 Shreveport, Louisiana

*Meetings 2nd Thursday of each month
 7 p.m.*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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Ark-La-Tex Computer Sheaux

~Sheaux Dates~

~2004 Dates~
February 21, 2004
May 8, 2004
August 14, 2004
November 13, 2004



www.computersheaux.org

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Membership Dues.
Full: \$12.00 a year
Spouse: \$6.00 a year
Student: \$6.00 a year.

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~Thank You~

Podnuh's Bar-B-Q 1146 Shreveport-Barksdale Hwy for letting our group hold our monthly meetings in a private dining room in their restaurant

ShreveNet, Inc. for generously providing an email account and internet access for C-BWUG and for providing web space for our club.

BancorpSouth on Youree Drive for providing us with a checking account at no charge.

Office Depot 70th Street for making copies of the newsletter.

~A QUICK TIP~**Using Disk Cleanup**

If you have a lot of unnecessary files cluttering up your system it can make important files much more difficult to locate and can slow down your system.

There is a way you can help clean up the clutter.

Open the Start menu

Select Programs

Select Accessories

Select System Tools

Select Disk Cleanup.

The Disk Cleanup applet will calculate how much space you can save by emptying the Recycle Bin, deleting temporary Internet files, and (for NTFS drives) compressing old files. Look at the options. Decide which ones make sense to delete and check them.

Click on OK to regain the specified amount of hard drive space.

President's Page**Caddo-Bossier Windows Users Group August Meeting**

Our guests this month were Kathy & Anita Widener. They accompanied their father to the meeting this evening. The meeting was started with the announcement of the ComputerSheaux coming on Saturday August 14. Gordon Ward brought his laptop computer stand, which he has mounted in his truck, to show the group. This was a follow-up to last months meeting about the GPS and using it in your automobile. We had a long discussion about what to do for the upcoming release of Windows XP SP2. The release date to the Windows update will be August 16, 2004. The recommendation is that you wait until the update appears on your Windows update and it will download and you can install it when you are ready. David Huckabee also said that it will be available on CD from Microsoft in the near future. Those of us that have dialup should probably get the update this way, because the download is going to be very large. The meeting this month was an entire evening devoted to questions and answers and we had more than enough to fill the evening. There were questions about the use of the "msconfig", the Control Alt Delete to bring up the Task Manager to see what programs are running in the background. Also, what programs appear in the Startup program group and how to remove them. Bob Franklin asked about how to get rid of the splash screens in Windows XP. A question was also asked about deleting the viruses in the virus vault in AVG, and there was a question as to what is a good free web page building program.

The door prizes this month were: a box of floppy disks won by Wayne Ebert; a ream of paper won by Julious Windham; and a computer tool kit won by Bob Franklin.

Look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on September 9, 2004.

Bernie Conradi, President Caddo-Bossier Windows Users Group

Internet Explorer changes by SP2

By Wayne Ebert

Some major changes to Internet Explorer are installed when Windows XP Service Patch 2 is installed. Some are transparent to the end user and are of interest to Web developers. Others may frustrate users at first, as some Web sites may not function properly for example. However, SP2 adds some new features that when understood will be welcomed by most users. The pop-up blocker, the Add-on Manager, Object caching, locking of the local security zones, and changes to download, attachment, and Authenticode handling improve the security of your computer.

The pop-up blocker displays an information bar under the address bar when a pop-up is blocked. If you want to see the pop-up, all you have to do is click on the information bar and select to temporarily allow pop-ups, always allow pop-ups from this site, or change the pop-up blocker settings. You can turn off the notification bar by deselecting the Show Information Bar For Pop-Ups option. If you turn off the information bar, the pop-up blocker will display an icon in the status bar to notify you of a blocked pop-up. Turning off the information bar for pop-ups does not turn it off for other notifications. The Add-on Manager displays a list of add-ons that are installed, whether currently loaded or not or just those that are currently loaded. You open the Add-on Manager by clicking Tools > Manage Add-ons to select from the Show drop-down list. Object caching for Web object [HTML pages, graphics files, sound files, script, etc] are cached on the hard drive for better performance by speeding up access. Web sites are assigned to different security zones with different levels of restrictions based on how safe the sites are

sumed to be. All content already on your computer is presumed to be safe. As hackers can exploit this presumption, SP2 locks down the local machine zone. The information bar should provide a notification that the file has been restricted and you can click it to remove the lockdown. The change to download, attachment, and Authenticode handling now include additional information when you download files and attachments. The Authenticode dialog box now gives you information about the publisher of a signed file before opening the file.

These are not the only changes that have been made to Internet Explorer by SP2, but they are the ones that will have the most impact on end users. Other changes make browsing safer and more secure.

GETTING STARTED WITH XP

Run Old Programs in XP

If you have some old programs that you do not want to give up you may still be able to run them in the XP operating system.

When you install some of your old software that came out before XP you may find that it will not work and you may also find that there is not an update available for the program.

You may be able to get the program to run in XP by taking the following steps. Right-click the program's shortcut. Choose Properties. Select Compatibility. Click "Run this program in compatibility mode for," (choose the appropriate Windows version). Click OK.

Important: Never run an antivirus program, a defragger, or any other system utility under a version of Windows it isn't intended for. Doing so could damage your system.

Door Prizes Winners for August 2004 Meeting



Bob Franklin, Wayne Ebert and Julious Windham

The August door prizes were won by Bob Franklin, a PC tool kit; Wayne Ebert, a box of floppy disks & Julious Windham, a ream of paper. All Caddo-Bossier Windows User Group club members in attendance are eligible to win door prizes at the monthly meetings.

Service Pack 2 Tips

By David M Huckabee

Now that you have installed Service Pack 2 (SP-2) on your Windows XP, there are a few things that you can do to adjust it to your liking.

Change Internet Explorer Pop-up Blocker Settings to let in some pop-ups:

1. Open Internet Explorer.
2. On the Tools menu, point to Pop-up Blocker.
3. Click Pop-up Blocker Settings.
4. If you want to see pop-up windows from a specific Web site, type the address (or URL) of the site in the Address of Web site to allow box.
5. Click Add.

Adjust Windows Firewall settings:

If you're running SP-2, the new Windows Firewall is turned on by default. To help protect your computer against viruses or security threats, it is recommended that you keep Windows Firewall on. However, you might need to adjust settings for some programs that prefer an open connection.

1. Click Start.
2. Click Control Panel.
3. Click Windows Security Center.
4. Click Windows Firewall.
5. In the General Tab make your selection.
6. Windows Firewall has three settings: On, On with no exceptions, and Off.

On: Windows Firewall is turned on by default, and normally you should leave it that way. When you choose this setting, Windows Firewall blocks all unsolicited requests to connect to your computer, except for requests to programs or services selected on the Exceptions tab

On with no exceptions: When you select the Don't allow exceptions check box, Windows Firewall blocks all unsolicited requests to connect to your com-

puter, including requests to programs or services selected on the Exceptions tab. Use this setting when you need maximum protection for your computer.

Tip - There is no need to keep Don't allow exceptions selected all the time, because when it is, some of your programs might not work correctly, and the following services are blocked from accepting unsolicited requests:

- File and Printer Sharing
- Remote Assistance and Remote Desktop
- Discovery of network devices
- Preconfigured programs and services on the exceptions list
- Additional items that you've added to the exceptions list

Note - When you select Don't allow exceptions, you can still send and receive e-mail, use an instant messaging program, or view most Web pages.

Off: This setting turns Windows Firewall off. This setting should only be used if your computer is protected by another firewall

Outlook Express:

When you open an e-mail message in Microsoft Outlook Express, the areas in the e-mail message that are supposed to contain images are blocked. These areas display a red X placeholder. Additionally, you are prompted with the following just above the content window of the e-mail message:

Some pictures have been blocked to help prevent the sender from identifying your computer. Click here to download pictures.

Warning:

The Block images and other external content in HTML e-mail option is a security feature that has been included in Windows XP SP-2 to protect your computer against junk e-mail (spam). I recommend that you do not turn this option off.

If you must turn this off :

1. While in Outlook Express.

2. Click on Tools.
3. Click Options.
4. Click the Security tab.
5. other external content in HTML e-mail check box.
6. Click Apply.
7. Click OK.

I hope these tips help you to get familiar with some of the new features of Service Pack 2.

~Web Sites~

Windows XP Support Center

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?pr=winxp>
(Windows XP Service Pack 2, Top issues, Step-by-Step Instructions & How To Articles, Downloads, Updates & more)

Yahoo! Search Shortcuts

<http://help.yahoo.com/help/us/ysearch/tips/tips-01.html>
(Links to all sorts of information such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, airport info, zip codes, maps and much more)

CopyKat Recipes

www.copykat.com/asp/recipes.asp
(CopyKat Recipes reveals secrets of giants like Olive Garden and Bennigan's!)

Webstrider

<http://www.webstrider.com/>
(This site is loaded with links to some very impressive sites such as lists of major network news sites, weather sites, fun sites, entertainment sites, homework help, public safety... the list goes on & on!)



DID YOU KNOW?

You should not plug your printer into a surge suppresser or power strip that you turn off at the end of your computing session. Plug it into a source of power that is never turned off, such as a wall outlet. Some recommend a printer be left on all the time, but if you need to turn your printer off use its power switch. The printer needs to go through a shut down procedure, especially an ink jet. It needs to park the print cartridges so they won't dry out.