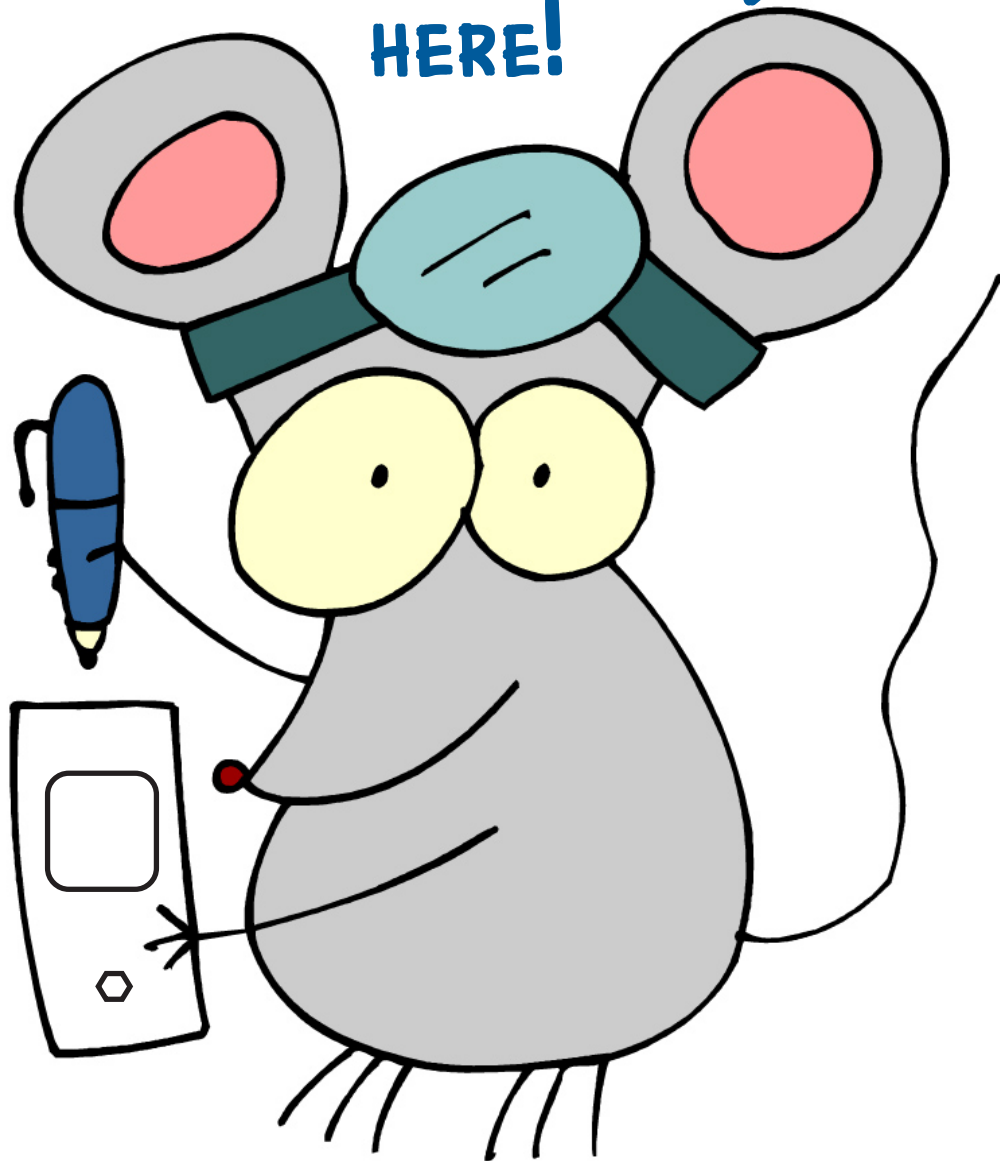


YOUR RECORDS, HERE!



NEXT MEETING:

DACS CO-FOUNDER, **ED HEERE**, ON HOW IMAGING TECHNOLOGY IS HELPING TO ENSURE YOUR VITAL MEDICAL INFO IS JUST A MOUSE CLICK AWAY.

President's File



The trip to Aruba was pretty good! It was interesting to see the landscape and environment down there. Most time was spent pool-side, but we also took time out on a Waverunner, did a snorkeling trip through the "Jolly Pirates" venture

<http://www.jollypirates.com>, went to "Texas de Brazil" (HYPERLINK "<http://www.texasdebrasil.com>") golfed at Divi Links HYPERLINK "<http://www.divigolf.com>", snorkeled at Baby Beach, and we did the Aruba Safari Off-Road Adventure tour through De Palm tours HYPERLINK "[Http://www.depalm.com/adventure/adventure.html](http://www.depalm.com/adventure/adventure.html)"). We stayed at the Occidental Grand (HYPERLINK "<http://www.occidentalhotels.com/grandaruba/index.asp>").

Across the street from our Hotel was a little bit of civilization (for tourists, I'm sure), which hid a little plaza that was for obtaining wireless internet access through Wi-Fi Aruba. There were connection booths for connecting one's laptop through a modem, and long distance phone cards could be purchased. I should have opened a temporary Wi-Fi Aruba account... the 'complimentary wi-fi' at the hotel was lack-luster, at best.

Given the prevalence of the emerging VoIP technologies, I figured there had to be

a practical way to make long distance calls for 'free' and considered a Vonage account. Instead, I found iCall HYPERLINK "<http://www.icall.com>". However, it's been a bit quirky, at least on a wi-fi connection and attempting to use the built-in microphone and speakers on the laptop. Since it's free for calling anywhere within the US to any US phone number, I'll probably fiddle with it a little more before writing it off altogether.

Book Review

"Fire in the Valley" by Paul Freiberger and Michael Swaine

Between the various activities and the flight back, I managed to squeeze this book in. There are a couple of revisions of this book, and it's hard to find. A used copy may run about \$30. The latest revision in mint condition can fetch over \$100. Why so much? Well, this book is about how the personal computer revolution started from Silicon Valley. The story unfolds explaining how the PC industry started, the key people who led it, and the successes and failures along the way. The book is a good read, but it jumps back and forth depending on the chapter topics. For example, the book goes from concept, to hardware, to software, to mainstream usage. The timelines and people overlap at times between those various topics. As such, the chapters are describing concurrent events more so than not. In my opinion, I think it would be a little easier to follow if they had written it according to a timeline rather than by topic. There is a timeline in the book and quite a few pages of pictures of significant people, events, and machines. It can be found on Amazon at <http://www.amazon.com/Fire-Valley-Personal-Computer-Collectors/dp/0071358951>.

Video Review

"Pirates of Silicon Valley"

Of course, the book above wouldn't be complete without seeing the docudrama it inspired. 'Pirates' was made for TNT and released to video later. I was only able to identify a few scenes in the movie with sections of the book ('Fire in the Valley'). The movie details are mostly accurate. What it does different from the book is that it builds background of the personalities and interactions of Steve Jobs and Bill Gates and how Apple and Microsoft started. For more information check out

PRESIDENT'S FILE Continued on page 5

Membership Information

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Postmaster

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Editorial Committee

Managing Editor:	Patrick Libert
Production Editor:	Marc Cohen
Technical Editor:	Bruce Preston
Copy Editor:	Patrick Libert

Contributors

Charles Bovaird	Richard Corzo
Sean Henderson	Mike Kaltschnee
John Lansdale	Lisa Leifels
Chris Novell	Jim Scheef
Jeff Setaro	Richard Ten Dyke

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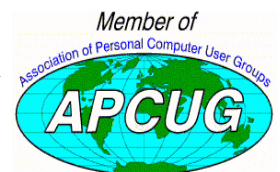
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Patrick Libert
APCUG Liaison
860-567-9586

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Directors' Notes

A REGULAR MEETING of your Board of Directors was held on Monday, August 13, 2007. Present were Charles Bovaird, Richard Corzo, Sean Henderson, John Lansdale, Lisa Leifels, Patrick Libert, Jeff Setaro and Jamie Yates. In the absence of the President Rob Limbaugh, Sean Henderson presided and Secretary Lisa Leifels kept the record. Minutes of the last meeting held July 9, 2007 were approved.

Treasurer Charles Bovaird reported current cash assets of \$8,499.52, consisting of total bank and postal accounts in the amount of \$8,476.38 plus postage on hand of \$23.14. Subtracting a liability of prepaid dues in the amount of \$5,423.00 left a net equity of \$3,076.52. He also reported that the current membership increased to 243, 73 of which are electronic.

Christine Novell reported by email that Ed Heere, who is the President of AMSYS, will talk about medical digital imaging at the September general meeting.

Sean Henderson mentioned he will be meeting with Howie Berger and Rob Limbaugh to discuss how to best fit the non-profit companies into DACS. They will report their ideas at the next board meeting.

Patrick presented three different designs for the newsletter cover that were created in a joint effort by himself, Jeff Setaro and Anna Collens. A vote took place and the majority of the board preferred the second design with dacs.doc in white, lowercase letters on a blue background.

Sean asked Charlie to send out an email to the membership requesting people to assist him with contacting local media representatives in an effort to better market DACS.

A discussion took place on whether the Special Interest Groups which are now referred to by the acronym SIG, should be renamed to Workshops.

Sean Henderson suggested the idea of starting up a new Microsoft Vista SIG. It was decided to mention the idea to the membership at the next general meeting to see if there was any interest.

Rob and Sean are planning on attending the August 22nd APCUG meeting to report on the results of the DACS focus group held on March 3rd.

—LISA LEIFELS

Officers

PRESIDENT: Rob Limbaugh (203) 826-8196 relimbaugh@dacs.org
Vice Presidents: Gene Minasi, Chris Novell, Sean Henderson
SECRETARY: Lisa Leifels • **TREASURER:** Charles Bovaird

Directors

dacsboard@dacs.org

Charles Bovaird	(203) 792-7881	cbovaird@dacs.org
Howard Berger	(860) 355-9837	hberger@dacs.org
Richard Corzo	(203) 797-1518	rcorzo@dacs.org
John Gallichotte	(203) 426-0394	gallichotte@dacs.org
Sean Henderson	(203) 837-7068	henderson@dacs.org
John Lansdale	(914) 533-2002	lanzdale@yahoo.com
Lisa Leifels	(203) 270-7584	lleifels@dacs.org
Patrick Libert	(860) 567-9586	pepe222@optonline.net
Rob Limbaugh	(203) 826-8196	elimbaugh@dacs.org
Jim Scheef	(860) 355-0034	jscheef@yahoo.com
Jeff Setaro	(203) 748-6748	jasetaro@yahoo.com

Committees

NEWSLETTER: Patrick Libert: dacseditor@dacs.org, (860) 567-9586

PROGRAM: Chris Novell (VPprograms@dacs.org)

WEB MASTER: Richard Corzo (rcorzo@dacs.org), (203)797-1518

Annette Collens (avo555@earthlink.net), (914)232-0149

MARKETING AND PR: Sean Henderson (pr@dacs.org)

APCUG LIAISON: Patrick Libert (pepe222@optonline.net)

RESOURCE CENTER: (203) 748-4330 • **WEB SITE:** <http://www.dacs.org>

HelpLine

Volunteers have offered to field member questions by phone. Please limit calls to the hours indicated below. Days means 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; evening means 6 to 9:30 p.m. Please be considerate of the volunteer you are calling. HelpLine is a free service. If you are asked to pay for help or are solicited for sales, please contact the dacs.doc editor; the person requesting payment will be deleted from the listing. Can we add your name to the volunteer listing?

d = day e = evening

Program	Name	Phone #	
Alpha Four	Dick Gingras	(203) 775-1102	(d e)
APL	Charles Bovaird	(203) 792-7881	(e)
ASP.Net	Chuck Fizer	(203) 798-9996	(d)
C/UNIX/ObjC	Kenneth Lerman	(203) 426-4430	(d e)
C#, VB	Chuck Fizer	(203) 798-9996	(d)
Clipper	Dick Gingras	(203) 426-0484	(e)
dBASE/DOS	Alan Boba	(203) 264-1753	(e)
DOS	John Gallichotte	(203) 426-0394	(d e)
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Focus	Jim Scheef	(860) 355-0034	(e)
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Microsoft Access	Dick Gingras	(203) 426-0484	(e)
Newdeal/Ensemble	Marc Cohen	(203) 775-1102	(d e)
Paradox	Alan Boba	(203) 264-1753	(e)
PhotoShop/Dreamweaver	Anna Collens	(914) 232-0149	(e)
SAS	Lewis Westfall	(203) 790-0229	(e)
Statistics/Data Analysis	Charles Bovaird	(203) 792-7881	(d e)
SQL	Lewis Westfall	(203) 790-0229	(e)
SQL Server, MySQL-5	Chuck Fizer	(203) 798-9996	(d)
Viruses	Jeff Setaro	(203) 748-6748	(d)
VB.Net, Visual Basic	Chuck Fizer	(203) 798-9996	(d)

Meeting Preview

September, 2007
Medical Digital Imaging

by Chris Novell, along with Ed Heere

WE ARE FORTUNATE to have among our DACS members Edward C. Heere, founder, president and CEO of CoActiv, LLC. Ed brings almost 40 years of both film-based and digital imaging experience to his company. In 2002 he was instrumental in the introduction of the medical industry's most modern and affordable method of medical image management: PACS. PACS (Picture Archiving and Communications System) is a comprehensive approach to the storage, retrieval, distribution, and presentation of medical images. These images include content from many medical imaging instruments: e.g. X-rays, ultrasound, magnetic resonance, and mammograms. This is the subject on which he will speak at our Tuesday, September 4 General Meeting.

Ed also controls AMSYS Computer, an IT systems, networking and support company that he founded more than 20 years ago. It is Ed's unique background in both imaging and IT that has contributed to the remarkable success of CoActiv's EXAM-PACS® product line, already successfully in use in hospitals and independent imaging centers across the country.

Ed will elaborate on how thorough the approach is for making medical images easily accessible through PACS while at the same time keeping them secure and reliably available. Local installations include: Griffin Hospital in Derby, CT, New Milford Hospital, Northern Westchester Hospital in Mt. Kisco, NY, Gaylord Hospital in CT, Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville, NY, Putnam Hospital in Carmel, NY, Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, NY, Northeast Radiology in Brewster, NY, Mt. Kisco Radiology, Mt Kisco, NY, and multiple imaging centers and Orthopedic Centers throughout NY & CT. CoActiv also has installations from Rhode Island to San Diego, CA and from New York to Florida.

CoActiv Medical, a Connecticut based innovator in PACS technology, provides complete medical digital imaging to hospitals and imaging centers nationwide.



CoActiv unites all medical imaging in a facility into a single acquisition, viewing, distribution and archiving solution. Radiology, Cardiology, Mammography, Orthopedics and treatment planning are integrated for easy access for single site facilities as well as multi-site urban medical enterprises.

Cost is no longer an excuse for not having PACS at a hospital. CoActiv Medical has consistently been able to convert hospitals from film to digital imaging for less than their current film expenses. In fact it is often possible to provide both PACS and CR (Computed Radiography) to give a complete film-less conversion for less than a current film based budget.

In addition to a general overview of the many advantages of PACS, Ed will also give *detailed financial examples of how many hospitals have made this transition...* from a small 30 bed regional facility to several 200+ bed urban medical centers. Current advances in both digital-imaging and IT, combined with innovative programming, software and systems development, now brings the advantages of PACS to hospitals, regardless of size and bud-


get restraints. A facility can easily have all the advantages of PACS for less than the cost of film.

It appears that medical digital imaging is one of the areas where technology has been applied with finesse in the area of medical record keeping. Let's take advantage of our front row seats. Come listen to Ed Heere's presentation on Tuesday, September 4, 2007.

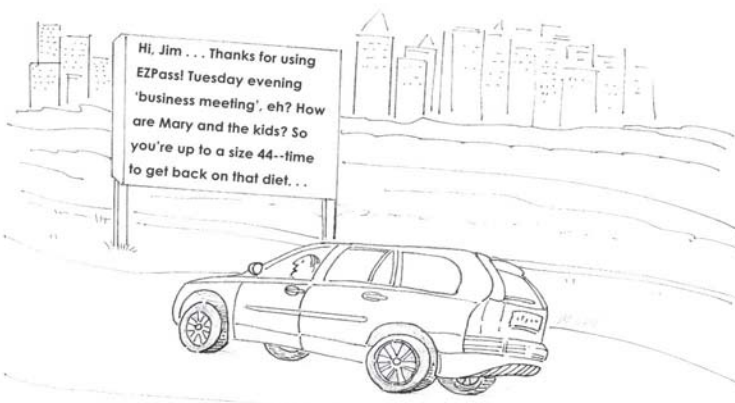
Meetings are held at the Danbury Hospital auditorium. Activities begin at 6:30 p.m. with registration and casual networking. The meeting starts at 7:00 with a discussion of what's new in technology (What's News) followed by a general question and answer period (Ask DACS), announcements and a short break. The featured evening presentation begins at 8:00.

As a reminder, our General Meetings are free and open to the public so invite anyone you know who would be interested in this topic.

ED HEERE is a technology entrepreneur and a member of DACS from its inception. He has served many years as a director, chairman and guiding light.



Are you up to your nose with computer questions? DACS Special Interest Groups may have the answers. If not, let us know, and we'll try to create a new SIG that helps fulfill your special needs.



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The information highway

Meeting Review

Staples Easytech™

By Chris Novell

NEEED SOME HELP with your PC? Andy McVey, coordinator of Staples Easytech™ program at its Newtown Road store came to the DACS General Meeting to assure us that help is closer than one might think. In fact, he and Gabriel Maccio, one of the Staples mobile technicians, first showed the audience a humorous video account of someone taking extreme measures to get their computer fixed.

Staples started offering the Easytech™ service earlier this year. The scenario that is likely to be typical at most of its stores is that there is one technician on the premises, a mobile technician for in-office or home visits, and a myriad of additional resources that can be called upon. Staples has partnered with other companies to make their coverage more encompassing. One of these partnerships is with Seagate for data recovery. Another partnership is with PrivacyGuard to protect against identity theft. PrivacyGuard has been endorsed by Frank Abagnale. Complex system? Talk to Staples. Have a Mac? Staples has a place it can send it for care.

Even if you don't need more specialized expertise for things like data recovery, the Staples representatives reminded the audience that basic measures can go a long way.

You might already know that dust can spell doom for a computer, and heat could wreak havoc as well. But what about water?

Well, you just know it can't be good for those wires and chips,

But the audience did seem surprised to learn that if a system somehow does get water logged, it's actually better to leave it that way until a knowledgeable person (read: Staples Easytech™ technician) comes to its rescue.

Apparently, funny things start to happen if the unit gets exposed to air.

Some other good measures include keeping the computer off the floor (the dust, remember?) and giving the box

two inches of breathing room on all six sides.

Staples has a recycling program to help people get rid of old PCs, UPS bat-



teries, and cell phones. For the large items, such as a PC, printer, or monitor, there is a small fee, although the fee may be waived with a purchase.

DACS members and visitors each received coupons for discounts on services and purchases at Staples. The computer coupon for a "spring cleaning," i.e., Windows Maintenance, System Analysis, and Virus/Spyware check, was priced at a very generous discount. To get further details about Staples Easytech™ services, visit www.staples.com/easytech.

The evening finished with the most fascinating of raffle ceremonies.

Several odds were beaten.

Who do you think won the first selection? – Clue: someone sitting in the first row.

Andy was totally floored by his own off-the-cuff prediction.

What prize do you think was selected first? – Nope. Most of us were fooled by that one. But the raffle winner was happy, and that's what counts, right?

What prize do you think went next? Nope. – Wrong again.

To find out what happened, come to the next meeting so someone can fill you in!

And, be sure to stop at the Easytech™ kiosk at Staples, to thank Andy for introducing us to their services.

PRESIDENT'S FILE, Continued from page 2

the Internet Movie Database [HYPERLINK http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0168122/](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0168122/), Netflix [HYPERLINK http://www.netflix.com/Movie/70036929](http://www.netflix.com/Movie/70036929), or Blockbuster [HYPERLINK http://www.blockbuster.com/catalog/movieDetails/134990](http://www.blockbuster.com/catalog/movieDetails/134990)

This is one case where I would suggest the movie over the book. It's more refreshing, in my opinion, to be able to see the personal interactions and social climate in contrast to technology. The book focuses on more of the matter-of-fact details and loses that 'human' aspect of the times and goals.

Until next time...

—Rob Limbaugh

relimbaugh@dacs.org

New Members

7/18/7 to 8/20/7

- 1) Laurie Vrba
- 2) Bob Jeraci
- 3) Linda Joseph

This is your last newsletter

If the membership date on your mailing label reads

**EXP 07/2007
or earlier**

You need to renew your DACS membership

NOW

When dining at

the DACS

Resource

Center,

please

carry your

leftovers out

with you.

Thanks!

**The
Management**



Tips & Tricks

Tortoise SVN Client and Server

by John Lansdale

IF YOU'VE HEARD OF version control and either CVS or Microsoft's Visual Source Safe (VSS), you'll appreciate Subversion right away. If you haven't and you're doing any creative work on your computer you might want to find out. CVS was the old standard. It's still decent and a much better deal than VSS which costs \$549 (standard edition).

To be fair I've used VSS in the past and it did a decent job of version control. The older version I used had drawbacks such as all or nothing file checkouts. The new version, according to the product description has corrected this. But I haven't tested it so, other than the price, I don't want to compare it to Subversion. There are Macintosh and Linux subversion clients as well but I haven't looked at them yet.

I'll give you a short background, tell you where to get it, present a quick how-to and narrate a practical example I had.

You can download subversion from tortoiseSVN.tigris.org or sourceforge. It's free.

The Tortoise SVN client runs in Windows and is actually a stand alone desktop server as well as a client. You can install it on your PC with very little setup and use it right away. The server runs in Apache or as SVN on Linux.

I've got an SVN server running on my Ubuntu 6 workstation but other than configuring, haven't used it yet. My main use has been the standalone client/server on PC's for developing PHP and Ruby applications. So that's what I'm going to talk about.

I first set up TortoiseSVN on my Windows XP desktop for a PHP project I was starting. There were several copies of the source code and some question about which was the most current. Date/time didn't work because they had been cop-

ied destroying the original create date and some work was done in parallel. Running file by file Winmerge (also worth knowing about: winmerge.org) was too slow. And there were maybe 500 programs to check. I needed to be able to see many files at once, selecting only those with differences. Subversion seemed to fit the bill but you're never sure about trying new technology when you're on the spot. It can be an embarrassing time killer. I was forced to try. It worked!

The Windows setup was uneventful. Only problem was a little performance hit. Because it's a Windows shell extension that monitors all your file events and right mouse clicks it was a little performance hit. This wasn't noticeable on my fast workstation but on another PC (1.8 MHz speed processor / 756M ram) performance was less, but it worked and was worth it for the benefit. (Considering this and Visual Studio 2005's sluggishness I'm beginning to think Dual processor / 3Mhz / 2Gig is the minimum size for development. Zend developer works decently though. This is another story.)

Here's a step by step tutorial on how to use it: (Install it is step zero !)

- 1) Create a folder named MyRepo in a work area (inside the project folder)
- 2) Right click on it and in the context menu (created by setup - in practical terminology, that's what Windows shell integration means) select TortoiseSVN -> Create Repository Here. It asks "Native File" System of "Berkley" (whatever that is). Choose "native" and in a second it reports "repository successfully created". Inside the new repository are a few meaningless files and subfolders. Don't touch. You don't do anything in this folder.

3) Right click on the first project folder (for the example MyProject1) and select TortoiseSVN -> Import. You'll see the name file:/// ...MyRepo. (At this point if you had a remote server based setup, instead you'd enter a http:, https:, svn: etc. type of address.) Another OK at the end.

4) Now that MyProject1 is in the repository, the original is not needed. After you're sure everything works, delete it or rename it. Then create a new folder named MyProject1Working. You can not just click on a MyProject1 and say put this under version control.

5) Right click on MyProject1 Working and select SVNCheckout. If you haven't done anything else the dialog will be filled in with the names file:///... MyRepo you just created and the Checkout Directory ...MyProject1Working.

6) Select OK. If you've chosen a full directory it will warn you of overwriting, the initial Working folder should be empty. The original MyProject1 files will be copied here from the repository. And now they'll all have a green checkmark on them. It means there have been no changes yet. (Figure 1)

7) Change one of the files, close it and take a look in Explorer. It now has a red explanation mark. (Figure 2)

8) Right click on the changed file TortoiseSVN -> DIFF and you see a nice side by side comparison of the original file and changed files. (Figure 3)

9) You can, optionally select TortoiseSVN -> Export to into another empty folder to make a copy without the .svn configuration files it puts in each controlled directory.

10) You can remove a directory from version control by searching for all files names ".svn" and deleting them, then deleting the repository. To delete individual files under control, do not delete them using explorer. Use TortoiseSVN -> delete so it knows about it.

11) As long as you haven't deleted the repository you can always check out a whole new working copy.

12) To turn the icon green again you can either revert get the original back from the archive or commit-assume the current is newest, register the fact. You can revert from any version you've got.

Version numbers are automatically generated and you can go back to the very beginning. There is also provision for multiple users and security but this is another topic. It's a sophisticated and complete system. I'm leaving a lot out.

Background from Wikipedia

TortoiseSVN is a Subversion client, implemented as a Windows shell extension. It is free software released under the GNU General Public License. TortoiseSVN won the SourceForge.net 2007 Community Choice Award for Best Tool or Utility for Developers

- Windows Shell (Explorer) integration.
- Can be used without an Integrated Development Environment.
- Icon overlays show immediately which files/folders need to be uploaded (committed) to the database/repository.
- Supports diff/merge of office documents such as Microsoft Word

To solve my problem, I created a repository and working directory, MyProject1Working, for the client's folder out of what I guessed was newest. After the checkout all files had the green check. Next, using explorer I copied the contents of the client's other directory (MyProject2) over top of first MyProject1Working. (Important. MyProject2 had no existing .SVN files in it.)

Like magic, all of the differing files and folders containing them had red explanation marks. All I had to do was right click TortoiseSVN -> DIFF over any red! and there were the differences. I found about 30 differences including the config which was set with some other database connection strings. If the newercode was in MyProject2 I'd SVNCommi, MyProject1Working Tortoise SVN-> Revert. I could also merge in individual blocks of code, selecting from MyProject1Working or MyProject2 text. It was very fast and I was 100% sure I had the correct code.

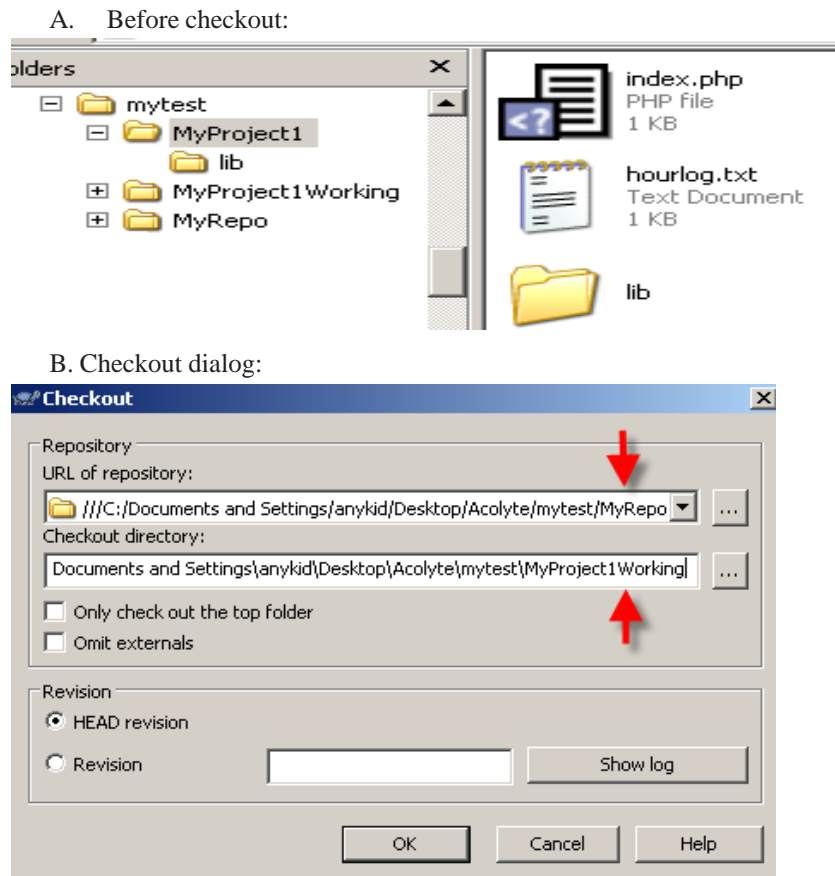
SVN works with Word 2003 Documents and a variety of other formats too. Pictures even work. DIFF shows changed photos side by side - but of course unlike lines of text so code you couldn't merge them.

I think it's indispensable for any creative project with more than a dozen files or two or people. Are you using it? Are you still on CVS, or do you have the Microsoft money for VSS. Is it worth it? I think there's something in Microsoft Team too but this is very expensive, are you using this? Nothing? Why?

If you want to learn more, need help or share your experience come to one of my SIGS; Open Source applications for more on it's use or Linux for setting up the

server. You can also email or get me at the general meeting or Pig SIG. change, allows merging.

Figure 1. Filling the working directory



Tortoise SVN, Continued on page 15

Background from Tigris.org:

The goal of the Subversion project is to build a version control system that is a compelling replacement for CVS in the open source community. The software is released under an Apache/BSD-style open source license.

A Subversion client, implemented as a windows shell extension.

TortoiseSVN is a really easy to use Revision control / version control / source control software for Windows. Since it's not an integration for a specific IDE you can use it with whatever development tools you like. TortoiseSVN is free to use. You don't need to get a loan or pay a full years salary to use it.

- Easy to use
 - all commands are available directly from the windows explorer.
 - only commands that make sense for the selected file/folder are shown.
- See the status of your files directly in the Windows explorer descriptive dialogs, constantly improved due to user feedback
 - Allows moving files by right-dragging them in the windows explorer
 - All Subversion protocols are supported http:// , https:// , svn:// . svn+ssh:// , file:/// , svn+XXX://

- Powerful commit dialog
- The big picture
- Can create a graph of all revisions/commits.
- Graphs of commit statistics of the project
- Easy comparing of two branches or tags
- Per project settings
- TortoiseSVN provides a flexible mechanism to integrate any web based bug tracking system.
 - Helpful Tools
 - TortoiseMerge
 - Shows changes you made to your files
 - Helps resolving conflicts

- Can apply patchfiles from users without commit access to your repository
 - TortoiseBlame: to show blames of files.
 - TortoiseIDiff: to see the changes you made to your image files
- TortoiseSVN is stable
- Support
- Extensive and descriptive documentation
 - System Requirements
 - Win2k SP4, WinXP or later
 - IE5.5 or later
 - Windows Installer version 3.1 or later
 - Source code

Special Interest Groups SIG NOTES: September 2007

ASP.Net. Focuses on Web site/server application development using Microsoft Visual Studio, C#, VB, Javascript and SQL Server programming tools. Starts with Random Access, followed by a programming discussion with examples.

Contact: Chuck Fizer cfizer@snet.net.

Meets 1st Wednesday, 4-6 p.m., at the DACS Resource Center.

Next Meeting: Sep 5

Digital Imaging. All about digital cameras, retouching and printing.

Contact: Ken Graff at 203 775-6667 graffic@bigfoot.com.

Meets last Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

Next Meeting: Sep 26.

Investment Strategies. Discusses various investment strategies to maximize profits and limit risk.

Contact: Paul Gehrett, 203 426-8436, pgehr4402@aol.com.

Meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Edmond Town Hall, Newtown.

Next Meeting: TBA.

Jobs. Networking and jobs search

Contact: Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 aam@mags.net.

Meets by e-mail.

Next meeting: TBA

Linux. Provides Help in installing and maintaining the Linux operating system. Also of interest to Apple owners using OS X.

Contact: John Lansdale 914-533-2002

Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 pm at the DACS Resource Center.

Next Meeting: Sep 19.

Macintosh. Focuses on all aspects of the Mac operating system.

Contact: Richard Corzo macsig@dacs.org.

Meets 1st Thursday at DACS Resource Center at 7 p.m.

Next Meeting: Sep 6.

Open Source Web Programming. Focuses on open source tools for Windows and Linux.

Contact: John Lansdale, 914-533-2002.

Meets 3rd Monday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

Next Meeting: Sep 17.

PC Maintenance. Review of PC hardware and OpSys maintenance and use.

Contact: Charles Bovaird, 203-792-7881 aam@mags.net.

Meets on 4th Thursday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

Next meeting: Sep 27

Server. Explores Back Office server and client applications, including Win NT Servers and MS Outlook.

Contact: Jim Scheef jscheef@telemarksys.com

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m., at the DACS Resource Center.

Next meeting: Sep 13.

VB.Net, Visual Basic-6. Focuses on Smart Client Windows application development using Visual Studio, VB, C# and SQL Server programming tools. Starts with a random access session, followed by Object Oriented discussions and programming with examples.

Contact: Chuck Fizer, 203 798-9996 cfizer@snet.net or Greg Austin, 845 494-5095 greg.austin@ryebrookpba.org.

Meets 1st Wednesday, 7p.m., at the DACS Resource Center, preceded 1 hour with a shared cost pizza snack.

Next Meeting: Sep 5.

Virtual Computing. This SIG will explore virtual computing technologies and how to leverage them as additional system resources. Our main focus will be on the free VMWare products, but we will also look at other technologies and tools.

Meets 4th Tuesday, 7 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center

Contact: Rob LimbSeph relimbaugh@dacs.org, 203 826-8196.

Next Meeting: Sep 25.

Web Design. Explores Applications for designing and creating Web sites.

Contact: Anna Collens avo555@earthlink.net.

Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at the DACS Resource Center.

Next Meeting: Sep 18.

SIG News & Events

MACintosh. We returned in August to cover the topic of networking between Macintosh and Windows machines. As you read further you'll see why this session went over time!

In order for everyone to see the demonstration of file and printer sharing, I first used Microsoft's Remote Desktop Connection to connect from the Mac to the Windows desktop. Remote Desktop Connection, along with other Microsoft programs for the Mac, can be downloaded from their Mactopia (<http://www.microsoft.com/mac/>) site. We needed to enable Remote Desktop on Windows by going to Control Panel > System > Remote tab and checking "Allow users to connect remotely to this computer."

First we demonstrated file sharing. Windows home networking uses a workgroup, which the Mac will need to join to enable file sharing between the Mac and PC. This information can be obtained on Windows from Control Panel > System > Computer Name tab and look for the Workgroup value. The place to enter this information on the Mac is not obvious. Go into Applications > Utilities > Directory Access. You'll need to click the lock and enter your password, then select SMB/CIFS (a technical term for Windows networking) and click the Configure... button. In the

ensuing dialog you'll enter the workgroup name exactly as you found it in Windows' System Control Panel.

On Windows, if you haven't already done so, you'll need to share a folder. Typical choice is the My Documents folder. Right-click and select Properties, then the Sharing tab. If you see a box entitled Network sharing and security, you are using "simple" file sharing, so check "Share this folder on the network." If you want to write to the folder from other computers on the network, also check "Allow network users to change my files." If you are not using "simple" file sharing, you will instead see a radio button "Share this folder" to select. You can control access to the folder share with the Permissions button. By the way, the toggle for "simple" file sharing is in Control Panel > Folder Options > View tab Advanced settings. The last setting is "Use simple file sharing."

To see the shared folder on your Mac open Network in the Finder and look for the workgroup. Open that folder and wait a moment. You should see your Windows machine appear shortly. If you open that you should get a dialog prompting you for access to the shared folder.

SIG News and events, cont. on page 14

September 2007

Danbury Area Computer Society

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Tips

Building a PC for Vista

By Dan Hanson,

THE GREAT LAKES Geek needed to build a new PC for the Computers Assisting People (CAP Inc.) Resource Center. It will be used for CAP operations but also so that the volunteers and others can become familiar with Windows Vista and learn about it the CAP way - hands-on.

Windows Vista is the first version of Windows that provides different user experiences depending on the hardware it is running on. We wanted to have the "ultimate" Vista experience so I built a hot machine and loaded Windows Vista Ultimate on it.

Ultimate is just as described - the ultimate version. It includes all the features of the Home, Premium, Media Center, Mobile and Business versions.

As the ad says, Windows Vista Ultimate is "The most complete edition of Windows Vista—with the power, security, and mobility features that you need for work, and all of the entertainment features that you want for fun."

We unveiled the new system at the Hardware SIG and everyone took a look at the guts of the PC. The crew wanted to know the specs of the PC and why some of the components were chosen. So I created a webpage at:

<http://www.greatlakesgeek.com/other/cap-pc.htm> that explains what's in the PC, why those components were selected and what it all means. It also

has lots of links to Windows Vista resources and info and reviews of the components.

Since Vista provides different experiences for different hardware, you need to have some kind of metric to let you know what can and cannot run. This metric is a built-in feature called the

WEI - the Windows Experience Index

The WEI is designed to help consumers understand how well Windows Vista and the software running on it will perform on a specific PC. So if you check your WEI score (from Control Panel - Performance Information and Tools) and it turns out to be 3.2 and the new game you want to play requires a 4.1, you know that you need to upgrade your hardware (and hence your WEI score) or you won't be able to play the game as intended.

The WEI score comes from the assessment of 5 different areas of your system

1. Processor - Calculations per second
2. Memory - Operations per second
3. Graphics - Desktop performance for Windows Aero graphics
4. Gaming graphics - 3D graphics performance. Useful for gaming and 3D business applications

5. Primary hard disk - The data transfer rate of the primary hard disk

Higher scores indicate a better Vista experience on your PC. The hot new CAP PC almost maxed out the WEI with a smoking 5.8 score! You can see the exact components at the afore-mentioned webpage but basically the system has 2GB of fast DDR2-667 RAM, an Intel motherboard with Intel 975X Express Chipset and Intel Core 2 Duo E6600 2.4GHZ CPU.

The graphics are great - an NVIDIA GeForce PCI Express card with 512MB so we can run the cool Aero interface and everything else.

It has a fast 300GB SATA drive (lots of SATA ports on the motherboard for other drives which we may set up in a RAID array) and what was described as "The Worlds fastest DVD rewriter."

I figured the power consumed would be around 300W so went with a power supply of 460W to handle growth.

Good thing because the CAP guys immediately installed a floppy drive (I don't build them into systems anymore except by special request) and a 2nd hard drive.

Be sure to visit:

<http://www.greatlakesgeek.com/other/cap-pc.htm> for more details on the components of this PC and why they were chosen as well as plenty of useful links about Windows Vista and hardware.

Dan Hanson, the Great Lakes Geek, cap@magnuminc.com This article has been provided to APCUG by the author solely for publication by APCUG member groups. All other uses require the permission of the author (see e-mail address above).

Upgrading

This and That

By Elizabeth B. Wright

HOW MUCH TIME are you spending upgrading, both hardware and software? New operating systems, programs that won't run on older systems, changes in the internet, memory hog programs and graphic cards? If you are keeping up with the trend toward power, then all of these things probably apply to your computer life. But are they worth it?

For myself, I have found that so much time and money have been invested in trying to keep up with the times. Keeping up with the Joneses doesn't even apply here. Just trying to

stay current on the internet is enough to make most of us upgrade, upgrade, upgrade. But all of this has come with a severe penalty. I find it is taking much too much of my valuable time and that not enough of that time is being spent productively. If there wasn't a deadline for this column, would I even find the time to write it? Some big changes in direction are in order I think.

Until Microsoft makes everything we already own completely useless, I find that most of what I need to do with the computer can be done with much older programs. For instance, if I want to be sure

someone can open and read a document; I still save it as ASCII text. Oh yes, we have .pdf and other so-called portable text formats, but so what? The most portable is still the above mentioned ASCII. The output is usually in exceedingly small files. There is no formatting possible, but if you are merely transmitting information, what need is there for more than an old-fashioned typewritten letter? Most word processing programs still offer the option of saving the file as a .txt file. Personally, when I want to be sure the file can be accessed by someone else, I type it in Notepad. I've even been known to use really archaic programs, just for kicks.

If you are earning your living with mathematical programs such as accounting, then where do you draw the line on

updating? Does your older software do the job, and does your older computer do that job fast enough to ensure that you meet your deadlines so you can get paid for your work? But if your clients upgrade their software and you find that you must submit spreadsheets, etc. to them in a new format, then you are caught in the trap. So far most new programs will read some of the data from older versions of their software, but when will that change? About the same time as the printer manufacturers found out they could make more money selling ink rather than printers, one can only assume that the software companies were probably thinking "why can't we do something like that?"

When it comes to graphics however, don't even think about using older software and computers, unless of course you have all the time in the world to wait for changes to take place when you are enhancing your photos. Once again, if this is your job, you simply can't afford to be slow. But even for hobbyists, speed is really essential to graphic manipulation.

Where is the bottom line on speed versus money? Each of us has to decide on the point at which we achieve the balance of using our computers for productive output without further upgrades. It is just as easy to write this column on my oldest computer, but since working with photos is my hobby; my fastest computer will have to be used. However, from now on, the two machines will be used to do a specific job, rather than keeping everything on just one of them. As for the internet, as long as it can be accessed with something other than the computer dedicated to the photos, then that is the one that will be used.

Hopefully I can keep my useful work separate from the internet, the object being to avoid contamination as much as possible. But I'm not sure how long the older, slower computer will serve my internet connection. If you are limited to one computer, you might look into removable hard drives in order to keep your data safe from the bad guys out there. But that takes us back to the money issue.

ELIZABETH B. WRIGHT is a frequent contributor to the eMonitor, Computer Club of Oklahoma City.

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What's News

August 7, 2007

by Jamie Yates

Description:

Everybody has widgets and gadgets. Amnesty™ Generator is downloadable and free. Use it to convert from Google and others to Vista sidebar.

Also available for Mac 10.4
<http://www.amnestywidgets.com/GeneratorWin.html>

Description:

It's amazing what services you can find. Do you travel a lot or have two homes? You may be interested in Earth Class Mail. Selected mail sent to central location. Scanned and accessible from anywhere. Can be shredded or recycled. Can be forwarded – original or electronically

Set-up fee (\$35) plus monthly charge (\$14.95+)

<http://www.earthclassmail.com/personal-use>

Description:

The 46 Best-ever Freeware Utilities! Actually 46 categories – more than 46 programs.

Something for everyone.

It includes a nice writeup for each one.

Seems like a good starting point for free software.

Main site has a lot other good information.

http://www.techsupportalert.com/best_46_free_utilities.htm#21

Description:

Want to create and print your own book?. Can have both hardcover and soft cover. Prices are reasonable – 8x10 soft cover 40 pages \$18.95

Many different options and page counts available.

Supports both Windows and Macs.

Requires small download.

Try Blurb.

<http://www.blurb.com/home/1/>

Description:

You can't do without this if you work wirelessly outdoors.

Do you want to keep mosquitoes and other insects away?

It's the PC version of all the sound driven animal/insect repellants you see.

It's tunable to any animal or frequency.

Comes with a predefined list.

It appears to be free.

Clearly not a US made product.

http://babelfish.altavista.com/babelfish/trurl_pagecontent?url=http://dcrteam.sourceforge.net/ultrafobos/&lp=es_en

Description:

Could you crash the entire Internet?

What would happen if it did crash?

It could be really bad.

http://www.theonion.com/content/video/breaking_news_all_online_data



Do the DACS General Meetings leave you thirsting for more? Find all that plus food for thought

Significant Bits

Version Control

by Sean N Henderson

MUCH HAS BEEN written about version control (VC). Here is a bit of an introduction to those not familiar with the concept.

VC is useful to a lot of people besides coders. Authors spring to mind immediately as a group who would find VC useful.

How VC works: A file is created and edited. At some point it might be desired to freeze, archive or snapshot (pick a term) the file, so it can be referenced or chosen over a later version. If not using any sort of VC application, typical users copy out the file to a similar name and stamp it using either an index number or date. If using VC, the file gets "checked in" initially. On subsequent editing sessions, the file is "checked out." When a file is "checked out" for editing, (generally) other users are prevented from making changes to the file or else the changes create a "fork" or "delta." Some VC apps will attempt to reconcile simultaneous edits. Obviously, there's little or no file-locking without a VC application and is dependent on OS and configurations.

Simple Version Control

A really simple way to VC a file is to send yourself the file as an attachment in an email. This limits the file size, but is one solution that is good if you are not around your usual system.

Version Control on Unix/Linux

Most flavors of UNIX/Linux have 'scs' built in. At the shell, type 'man scs' to get the low-down and a list of 'see-also' entries. (Love UNIX for that convention.) Although not installed by default on many systems, RCS is pretty common and much easier to use. CVS is also popular. For myself, if I need the file's version details included in the file, I choose scs over RCS, otherwise RCS winds out for being simpler.

Version Control on Windows

Some applications on Windows have version control built in. MS Word docu-

ments can use a type of versioning inside the file. Some may find it confusing and resort to copying out the file to another filename.



MS has a VC system called Source Safe (hereafter MSSS). It is launched by going to Start Menu > Programs > Microsoft Visual Studio 6.0 > Microsoft Visual Source Safe > Microsoft Visual Source Safe 6.0. MSSS seems suitable for coding things like Visual Basic programs, library files, ASP files, and other MS proprietary files. It seems less useful for things like general documents.

Unlike VC apps on UNIX/Linux, and typical for MS, files versioned by MSSS are stored in a database. This is part of the *what-not-where* application design philosophy that I've commented on previously. If you're uncomfortable with files living inside a database vs. a separate directory, consider another VC than MSSS.

Other VC apps for Windows include CVS, Borland StarTeam, Subversion, SourceGear Vault and others. I'm looking forward to investigating TortoiseSVN.

Keep in mind that most VC software involves some sort of daemon or service to be running. These could be as simple as a web server to a full-blown app server. If you're concerned about performance overhead, choose your VC wisely.

Files that are Candidates for Version Control

Any file that changes over time is a candidate for VC, especially where the previous version of the file may still be needed. Note that scs can version graphic files using the utility uuencode.

For instance, this article is produced using version control (RCS). On websites, HTML pages could be put in VC, in par-

ticularly the index files and other files that get 'slurped' into main pages. The data files that feed various calendar applications and similar get versioned so that they can be kept as small as possible, and prevent a group of editors from overwriting each others' changes.

Without version control, a lot of HTML and other code related files would be bloated with commented-out code that some coders would not be comfortable losing altogether. So using VC in this case is a way to keep the final file as small as possible.

Version Control Gotchas

It is not correct to assume that once a VC system is in place that a team can just edit at will, and trust in the VC app to merge the deltas seamlessly. That is still a human job. This is especially true if the code is deep and the developer team or group of contributors number more than 2-3 people.

For more on version control, in particular for teams or groups, check the documentation on Subversion.

SEAN N. HENDERSON *Is a member of the board of directors. Leading a dual life as a computer-guy and musician, his devices also contribute to his music life as well.*

Be Informed by E-mail

Members who wish to receive DACS email messages who have not received an email notice for the General Meeting should send a request to be put on the DACS email list to treasurer@dacs.org.

Meyers & Company, L.L.C.

Certified Public Accountants
www.meyers-cpa.com

Lyn R. Meyers, C.P.A.

46 Main Street
Danbury, Connecticut 06810
Tel. 203-797-0405 E-Mail. meyers.cpa@snet.net

Changes in membership dues

By Rob Limbaugh

AS WITH ANY ENTITY, whether for or non-profit in nature, there are basic operating costs to maintain services for its patrons or, in our case, members. For the past several months, the Board of Directors has discussed and analyzed our operating costs, membership benefits and expectations, and ways to close the gap between 'income' and 'outgo'. The two key areas of expense for DACS are in maintaining the Resource Center used for SIGs and the hardcopy distribution of the Newsletter. Our sources of income are membership dues, donations, and ads placements in the newsletter.

To remedy the situation we need to raise dues to cover our basic operating expenses. If we do not, then we would need to begin cutting out things that would directly affect services to the membership.

The Board of Directors therefore voted in July 2007 Board Meeting to close the financial gap without reducing or disrupting services provided to the members. We concurred that to setting a date for October 1, 2007 and are allowing a special renewal period for existing and past members.

Changes that will take effect on October 1, 2007

DACS "Electronic Membership" will become "DACS Basic Membership" and will be valued at \$30 per year. Each member will have access to the club tech support volunteers, Newsletter online in PDF form, able to receive club related news via email, attend SIGS, and participate in any club-only related events, promotions, or activities.

DACS "Regular Membership" will become "DACS Basic Membership plus Newsletter" and will be valued at \$45 per year. Membership entitlement is the same as above and will also receive the monthly newsletter in hard-copy.

DACS "Corporate Membership" will become "DACS Corporate Membership" and will be valued at \$150 per year. Corporate memberships allow for 10 registered employees access to the same benefits of the rest of DACS Members and the corporation will also receive a monthly newsletter hardcopy. Additional employees can be registered for an additional \$15 per year each. "Three Year

Prepaid" memberships will no longer be offered or renewed after October 1, 2007.

The newsletter will be offered as a separate subscription independent of membership. This is for the general public who would like to receive a copy of the monthly newsletter, and who attend General Meetings when possible, but do not wish to participate in other club activities or benefits. These subscriptions will be available for \$20 per year per copy for a single mailing address.

Members may add additional newsletter subscriptions to their existing account at the same mailing address for \$15 per year.

Limited renewal period for current and past members

Those with memberships that expire on or before December 31, 2007 and have not yet been renewed may do so now at our current membership rates. The following restrictions apply:

Membership must expire on or before 12/31/2007. Those with memberships expiring after 12/31/2007 are ineligible.

Members that currently hold three year memberships expiring on or before 12/31/2007 may renew at the current three-year pre-paid prices. Members that currently have per-year memberships cannot switch to three-year memberships at this time.

Non-members may become members at current membership rates, but cannot automatically renew.

Renewal deadline is September 30, 2007.

Renewal can be done online via PayPal, through snail mail, or at the August and September General Meetings.

Example 1: If your membership expires in November of this year, and you are a Three-year pre-paid 'Electronic' member, you can renew yourself as a 'Three-year pre-paid Electronic Member' at the current price of \$56 before 9/30/2007. On October 1, 2007, your membership will become known as "DACS Basic Membership" and will be listed as paid in full until November 2010. This saves you \$34.

Example 2: If your membership expired in June 2007 and was renewed and now expires in June 2008. You cannot take advantage of this renewal offer be-

cause you've already renewed. (Ironically, I fit into this category.)

Why these decisions were made

The primary justifications and reasons for these changes are as follows:

Establishing a baseline membership level helps to determine shared operating costs that all members' dues pay for. In particular, this is relative to the expenses incurred to keep the Resource Center open, have internet access, phone, Danbury Chamber of Commerce membership, Insurance, the resources for production of a newsletter (not the printing and distribution), and other aspects of club operations. If DACS had 200 members, then \$15.73 from each member's yearly dues helps to cover these costs. The base membership is currently valued at \$20 which means there is \$4.27 leftover for the club to afford things like replacement projector bulbs, club non-donated prizes, etc.

The difference between the "regular" and "electronic" memberships is that a "regular" member gets a hardcopy of the newsletter. Beyond that, they are both entitled to the same benefits. The current cost is \$30 and \$20 respectively for each membership type. This difference therefore values the printed newsletter subscription at \$10 per year. The actual cost to print and distribute 12 issues to one member is \$20.79 (\$1.73 per issue). This is a deficit of \$10.79 per year per subscription. Identifying the newsletter as a separate item from membership permits for addressing financial issues independent of membership dues.

Part of the \$10.79 per subscription deficit is offset by the \$4.27 unallocated to operating expenses. That still leaves a steady bleeding of \$6.52 per printed newsletter subscription. Increasing the subscription rate from \$10 per year to \$15 per year for members narrows the gap changes the deficit to \$5.79 and the \$4.27 reduces it further to \$1.52. Ads and increases in total subscriptions to the newsletter close the deficit the rest of the way and will begin returning the \$4.27 back to a nest egg.

Increasing the basic membership dues from \$20 to \$30 aids in quickly stabilizing the current financial situation and begins building future security in the organization. As membership increases, so would our ability to save. This in turn has a positive effect by allowing us to consider luxuries for the club we currently cannot afford or can only obtain if donated by a member or third party.

As always, if there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me directly dacsprez@dacs.org or contact another member of the Board of Directors.

Circuit Rider

Good News – I Think

by Jim Scheef

DID YOU SEE THE NEWS ITEM in last Saturday's New York Times (August 11th)? You had to look below the fold on the business section, so you might have missed it. The SCO saga has taken a turn, and possibly for the better, but I'm not quite convinced yet. The decision by Federal District Court Judge Dale A. Kimball says, in 102 pages, that Novell, not the SCO Group, is the rightful owner of the UNIX copyrights. Basically this cuts SCO off at the knees. The ruling even stipulates that Novell can force SCO to drop its claims against IBM. The Times article goes on to say that this decision removes the cloud hanging over the Linux community based on SCO's claims of copyright infringement.

Why am I not convinced that this is all wonderful and the battle is over? Because Microsoft is on both sides of this case. Remember how Microsoft helped "fund" SCO about two years ago when SCO was about the go under? And more recently there is the "interoperability agreement" between Novell and Microsoft from late last year. Is Microsoft playing both sides against the middle? Quite possibly. If Microsoft can find a way to hobble the Linux movement, they will. Linux is currently the biggest single threat to Windows and this case is but one poke at Linux. Also looming is the FUD about how Linux infringes on more than 200 Microsoft patents.

The only sure bet in all of this is that SCO will appeal and that the fat lady has yet to sing in this courtroom battle.

New on my **summer reading list** is a 2001 book by Ken Auletta, *World War 3.0, Microsoft and its Enemies*. It chronicles the battle between the U.S. Department of Justice and Microsoft. Right now I'm only in the second chapter, but the author is good and the book is extremely well researched. I'll have a review in a few months.

Jim Scheef is past president of DACS

*Rising mailing costs
are forcing up dues.
See Page 13*



SIG News and Events, Continued from page 8

To enable file sharing from the Mac to the PC, on your Mac go into System Preferences > Sharing and enable Windows Sharing. This will allow sharing of your home folder.

Go to your Windows XP machine and open My Network Places. You should see the share for your Mac. If not, click on "View workgroup computers" in the list of Network Tasks on the left and look for your Mac computer.

Printer sharing is a bit trickier. We had a USB printer attached to the Mac and shared it with the Windows machine.

First make sure the printer is already set up on the Mac in Printer Setup Utility (found in Applications > Utilities). In fact select Add and add the same printer with the same name except prefixed with the word Shared. So if the printer was named Canon i950, the second one would be named Shared Canon i950.

Next open a browser and go to <http://127.0.0.1:631>, which will go to a page entitled "Common UNIX Printing System." If prompted for a username and password for "CUPS", enter your Mac user name and password. (It must be an Admin user.) Click on Printers on the top navigation bar. Find your printer with the description starting with the word "Shared," and click the Modify Printer button. Under Modify Printer the fields (Location and Description) should not require any changes, so click Continue. At the next page select USB Printer as the Device. Now comes the really tricky part. You need a URI for your printer beginning with "usb." To find the correct value open up Terminal in Utilities. Enter the command:

```
lpinfo -v
```

and find the line with your USB printer such as:

```
direct usb://Canon/i950?serial=KJTUPG
```

Copy the string after "direct" and paste the value into the Device URI field in your browser window. Whew! Click Continue. Under Model/Driver select Raw as the Make and click Continue. Leave Raw Queue (en) as the Model and click Continue. You should get a message that your printer was modified successfully.

Go back to Printer Setup Utility and verify that the Kind of the Shared printer is Local Raw Printer.

To make things a bit easier on the Windows side you'll want to download and install Apple's Bonjour for Windows (<http://www.apple.com/support/downloads/bonjourforwindows.html>). You'll also want to install the Windows printer driver, perhaps from the CD that came with your printer, or downloaded from the manufacturer's Web site. Start the Bonjour Printer Wizard, click Next and look for your shared Mac printer. Click Next and select the Manufacturer and Model for your shared printer. Finally click Finish and you will have added a printer that you can print to from your Windows machine over the network. Try testing it if you dare with Print Test Page from the printer properties of the new printer in Printers and Faxes!

LINUX. Very informally, we all showed what we learned. Barbara gave us some real stories about developing your own web site and gave us a little tour of her www.healthcarephotos.com.

Join up and help a DACS member. It's free for first three photos, no spam, etc. Use them for your web site. They're royalty free and professional quality.

She showed how she uses MySpace social networking and Friend Blaster for getting visitors to her site. It's smart because you can selectively market to people who would be interested, i.e. graphic designers and pr professionals only. I talked a little about setting up subversion.

Drew was the star though. He was loaded with good Linux tips and ideas. Here are some of them:

- Use adept in KDE menu for installing software
- Mono for Linux now runs Microsoft Net 2.0 www.mono-project.com
- You need a repository in Suse (or many other Linux's) to get choices and updates of all the good stuff. Search the Suse 10.2 Wiki for package repository
- distrowatch.com shows you versions of popular software included in Linux distributions
- Very cool www.monodevelop.com a Linux IDE for generating Mono (.Net 2.0) applications. (I still side with Visual Studio though.)

OPEN SOURCE PROGRAMMING. Richard won't be here this month to teach us Java so I'm back with a variety of application programming topics. Subversion, the Zend Developer Environment 5.5 IDE, application frameworks, Ruby on Rails, RadRails (Atpanta), Cake PHP and others, maybe a visit from another guy (Barbara's the first with [healthcare-photos.com](http://www.healthcarephotos.com)) who's developing a real web site.

Ask DACS

August 2007

Jim Scheef, Moderator
Lisa Leifels, Reporter

WE WELCOME QUESTIONS FROM the floor at the start of our General Meetings. In addition, members who are not able to attend the General Meeting may submit questions to askdacs@dacs.org. We will ask the question for you and post the reply in *DACS.ORG*. Please provide as much information as possible since we can't probe during the session.

Q. Is it possible to rent a laptop for a day?

A. If you do a Google search on the two words computer and rent, you will see that there are many companies out there offering to rent you a computer for one day or longer.

Generally speaking monthly computer rentals cost less per day than daily rentals. Typically desktop computers rent for less money than notebook and laptop computers.

Q. There was an article in Federal Computer Week magazine on the topic of protecting your valuable information. The article mentioned signature scanning, sandboxing, and heuristics. Do I get all of these features with most anti-virus programs?

A. Signature scanning is the basic mode of virus detection today. This is when your anti-virus program is looking for known viruses that can be identified by a unique fingerprint.

Heuristics comes from the Greek word "heuriskin", which

means to discover and it is used to detect unknown viruses. It is a generic method of virus detection where anti-virus software makers develop a set of rules to distinguish viruses from non-viruses. If a program or code segment follow these rules, then it is marked a virus and dealt with accordingly. Most of the more popular anti-virus software packages available today utilize heuristic virus checking.

A sandbox, is an isolated area that is used to test potentially dangerous programs in a controlled environment. By using a sandbox, you can learn what a virus might do in the wild without any possibility of its escaping and making changes on a real systems or the Internet. Most anti-virus programs do not offer sandboxing, since additional computer resources are required.

Q. I have DSL Service and I've noticed when my computer is doing nothing

ing I see the lights on my modem and activity monitor blinking, even when I'm doing nothing. It also happens when my computer is shut off. Should I be concerned about this?

A. When the activity light on your modem is blinking this means that data is being received or transmitted. Some flashing of the activity light, even when the computer is not in use, is completely normal. In most cases, this traffic consists of ARP broadcast packets. ARP, which stands for Address Resolution Protocol, is used by TCP/IP to translate IP addresses into their associated MAC addresses, a process which is required for network operation.

Q. I setup many wireless networks using various security levels. I like to hide the SSID, but when I do this on a computers running Microsoft Vista I am not able to connect to the internet.

A. Double-click on the double computer icon in the lower right hand corner of your screen to open up the Network Center. The Network Center shows a graphical presentation of your network. Go to set up a connection or network, and pick the option to manually connect to a wireless network. Enter your network name, security type, encryption type and passphrase. Make sure you check the box to connect even if the network is not broadcasting.

Tortoise SVN, Continued from page 7

C. After checkout: Note MyProject1Working is full and has (green) checks. MyProject1 can be deleted/archived.

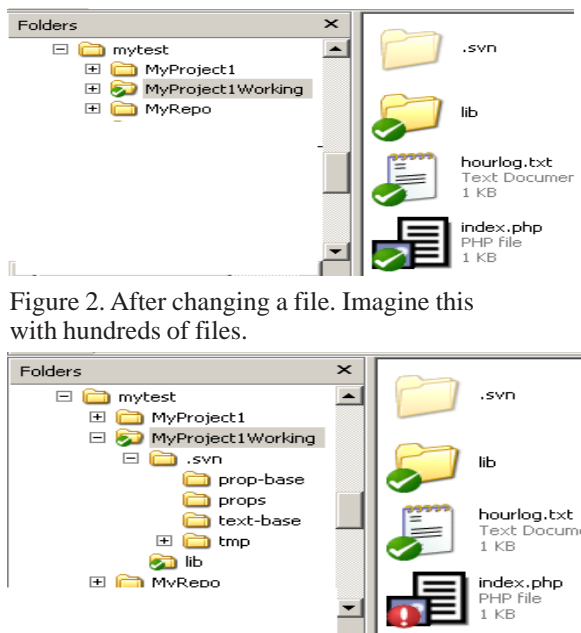
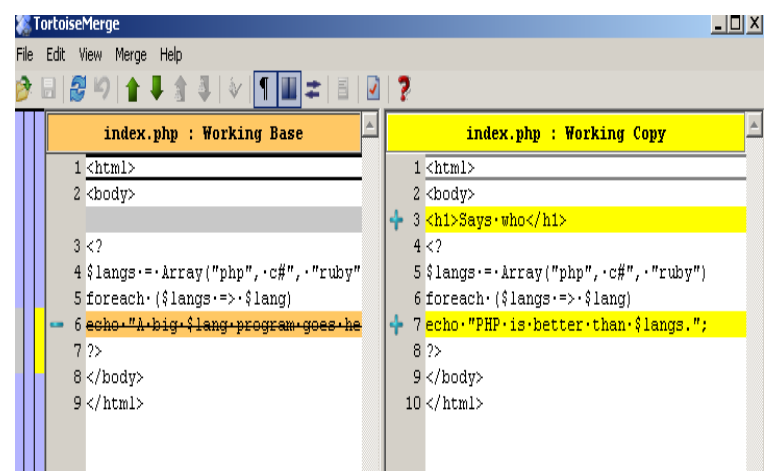


Figure 2. After changing a file. Imagine this with hundreds of files.

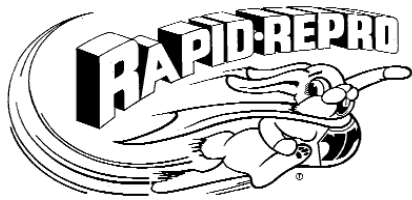
Figure 3 DIFF Note menu shows the change, allows merging.



JOHN LANSDALE is an active DACS member and director, and head of the Opensource Web Programming SIG and Linux SIG.

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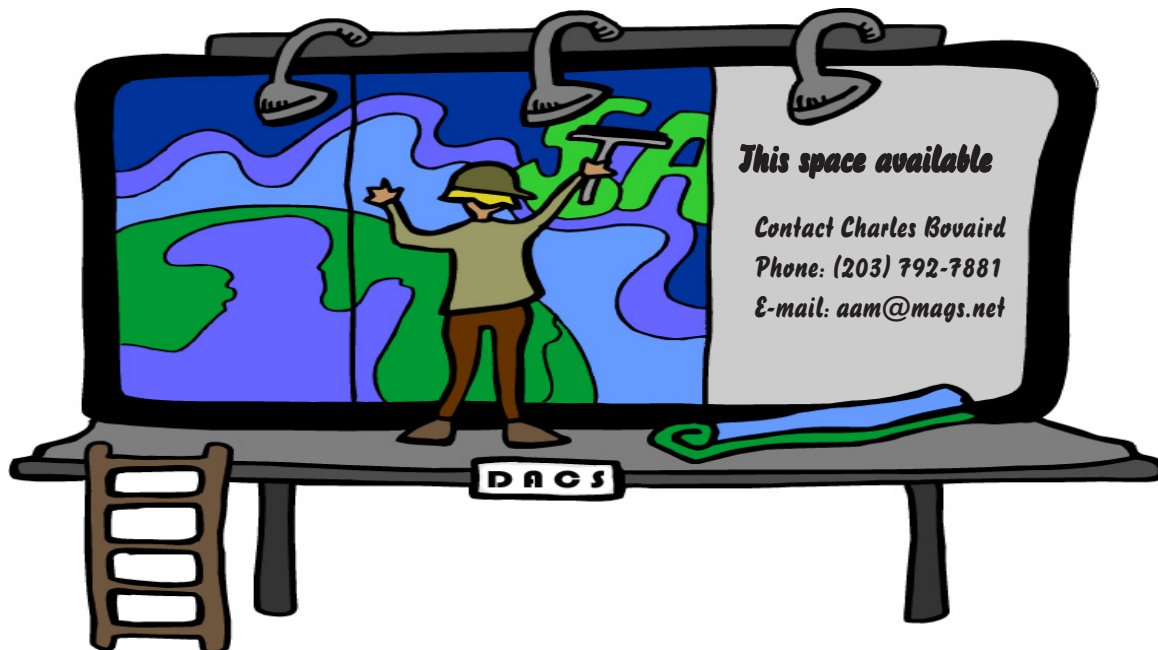
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Future Events

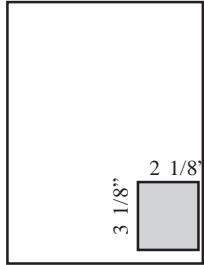
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October • 2 TBA



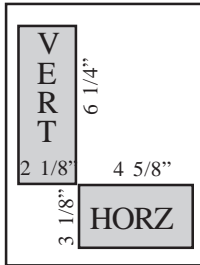
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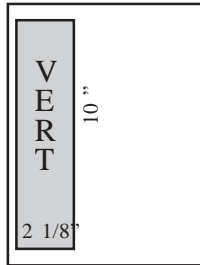
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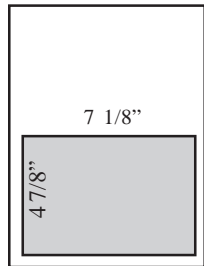
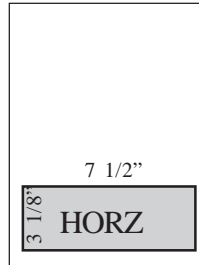
1/9 PG
1 Insertion **\$26**
6 Insertions **\$130***



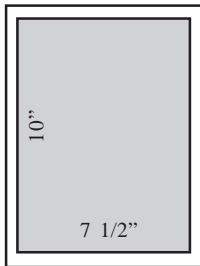
2/9 PG
1 Insertion **\$50**
6 Insertions **\$250***



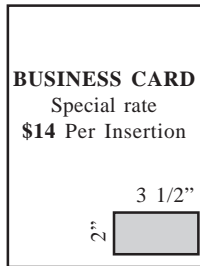
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We sponsor or participate in community support projects by collecting, repairing, and redistributing used computer equipment and software to community service providers such as schools, libraries, and patient/client support groups. DACS members provide pickup, refurbishing, installation, and training assistance as needed. Firms or individuals with equipment to donate should leave a message on the DACS Infoline (203-748-4330). or send an email to recycling@dacs.org.

The Voice for Joanie program was created in 1992 through the initiative of DACS member, Shirley Fredlund. This program provides computer-assisted speech for victims of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis ("Lou Gehrig's Disease"). DACS members have contributed volunteer time and technical assistance since the program began. Voice for Joanie and DACS have earned national computer industry recognition and financial assistance for this vital collaboration.

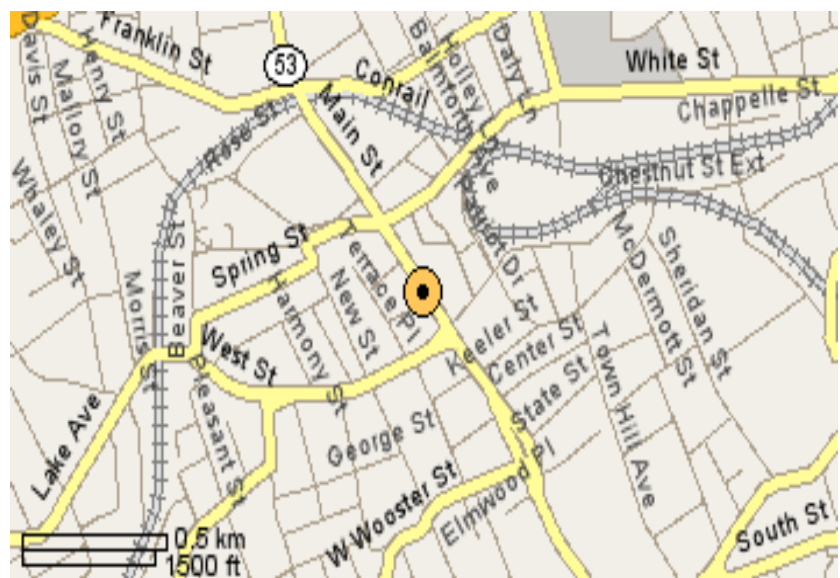
Our general meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Danbury Hospital Auditorium at 7 p.m. These meetings are open to the public. The main presentation is scheduled from 8-9:30, preceded by casual networking, announcements and Random Access, an informal question and answer session. A free product raffle is often held at the conclusion of the main presentation.

In addition to the general meeting, DACS sponsors many special interest groups (SIGs) where members can learn and share information about a specific topic. Each SIG plans its own meeting schedule and program topics.

Our newsletter, *dacs.doc* is published monthly for our members, and mailed to arrive before the general meeting. It features articles written by members and others on timely topics including product and software reviews, issues and trends in personal computing and "how-to" articles on sound, video, digital photography, etc. In addition, each issues includes the calendar of meetings, announcements on SIGs and other DACS events. *dacs.doc* has won numerous prizes over the years for its design and content.

Through its activities, DACS offers numerous opportunities to network both professionals and computer hobbyists. Our Special Interest Groups are an excellent way for members to both learn and share application or hardware knowledge. Any DACS member can form a special interest group on any topic where there is interest. Most SIGs meet in our Resource Center in downtown Danbury.

If you have concerns, requests, or suggestions regarding DACS or its programs, please contact dacsprez@dacs.org. DACS officers and board members' phone numbers are listed on page 3 of *dacs.doc*.



The DACS Resource Center is in Ives Manor, Lower Level, 198 Main Street, Danbury, CT 06810 (203-748-4330).



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New Membership
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page 13



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Please take a moment to answer the following questions. Answer all that apply.

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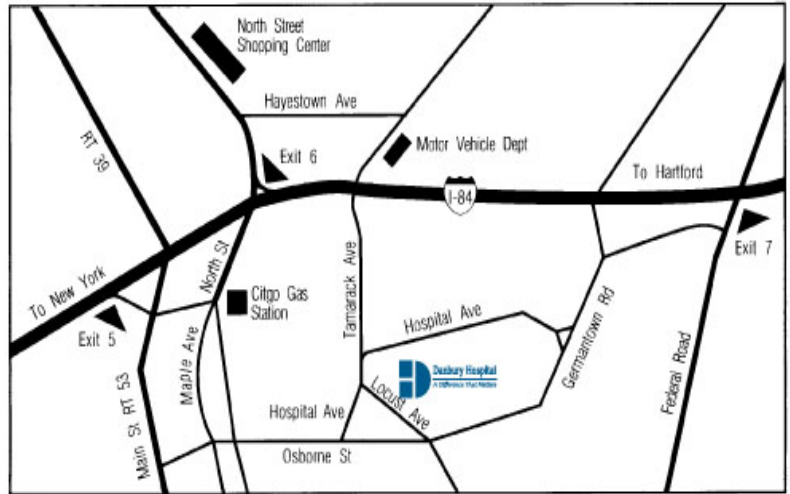
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