



The Interface
March, 2010

President's Message
March, 2010

I'm writing this before March 1st (I don't want to get yelled at for delaying the newsletter) so I don't know if March will come in like a lion or not. According to weather.com the 1st will be partly cloudy with a high of 46 and that doesn't sound lionish to me so I guess that means March will not go out like a lamb and I'm ready for lamb. Generally I like cooler weather but this year either my blood is getting thinner or it's been colder than normal because I'm ready to go for a walk without my parka and gloves.

The February meeting program was a demo of some of the steps we all need to do when we get a new computer and needless to say we did not come anywhere near covering everything but we at least made a dent. This month Sheriff Montgomery will discuss law enforcement in today's environment and how technology has changed things. Take a look at <http://baxtercountysheriff.com/> to see some of the things currently going on in Baxter County, it's a well laid out website with a lot of information. I was pleased to see that even though there are 3,688 active warrants (dating back to 1947) and a whole pot full of pages of wanted folk I did not see any club members so none of you should need to avoid the meeting.

The meeting is on the third Wednesday (3/17 this month) at 2 in the meeting room at the Comfort Inn. Don't forget to wear your badge for the drawing and make use of the help desk which will open around 1.

The Saturday library classes continue to be interesting. I've had trouble getting through the email topic in one class so I broke it into two this time and still didn't finish everything I would like to have covered. We had 37 in part one and 27 in part two and some people who came to part two didn't go to part one so they had to scramble to try and catch up but I hope they were able to get enough to make coming worth their time. Don't forget to let me know if there's a subject you'd like to have added to the schedule.

Until next month, good computing.

Jerry Marr

Review
AM-Deadlink (Freeware)

By Jerry Marr
March 2010

AM-Deadlink is a freeware program that detects dead links and duplicates in browser bookmarks and if they are no longer available you can verify and delete them. You know that a bookmark simply points to a specific webpage somewhere on the internet and they are often deleted or renamed so having a 'dead' entry in your bookmarks is simply clutter and it's very easy to end up with the same address in multiple folders so deleting duplicates is also very handy.

It is a very simple install, just go to www.aignes.com/deadlink.htm and click on download and run through the normal set of download and install windows. It doesn't even try to sneak in a toolbar. It lists your favorites automatically when you start and all you need to do is to click on the green Check arrow and it will run through them and tell you the status of each of them. You will get a status of 'error' and the error number for any link that no longer has a valid address in it. You don't need to worry about what a 500 or a 404 or a 401 error means, you just need to know that you should delete any entry that has an error. There is a handy button that will sort your list so that all errors are on top so it's easy to delete them.

Once the dead ones are gone you click on the find duplicates icon and it will list all of the duplicates. The nice thing is that it doesn't matter what you've named the link or what folder it's in, if the address is the same it is listed as a duplicate.

Another interesting feature is that if you double click on an entry it will display the page to you in its own window so it doesn't need to open your browser. I'm not sure why that's better but it's different so it's fun. You can also backup your favorites or copy them to a zip file or check the bookmarks contained in other browsers such as Firefox or Chrome.

Bottom line here is that this is a very handy free program that I would recommend for everybody; just remember to run it once in a while.

Computer Tips
Windows XP & Vista

How to remove an item from the start menu

You can remove Start Menu items that you no longer use to allow other often used programs to appear. The left side of the main start menu is divided into two sections. The top part consists of menu items that remain in place. The bottom part consists of the six programs you have used most often, so these change as you use your computer. You can remove programs that you no longer use from either section on the left side of the Start menu.

1. Click start.
2. Right-click the item you want to remove.
3. Click remove from list.

Marie

[Likable Links](#)
[Baxter County Library Databases](#)
[Special Interest Group \(SIG\) Questionnaire](#)

Monthly meeting program schedule

February: See the President's Message above.

March: To be announced

Twin Lakes Computer User Group
General Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2010

The Meeting began at 2:00pm with 38 members in attendance.

Treasurer Lea Chodacki stated a balance of \$4923.65 as of Feb.11th and the account had been moved to First Federal Bank.

There were no new memberships for this meeting and Kay Hutchinson indicated a total membership of 180.

The SIG's are still on hiatus until the new Library is opened and then it will depend on member interest.

Next month's meeting Speaker will be Sheriff Montgomery on Computer Technology used in Law Enforcement.

Jerry Marr spoke on new computer set up this month and was invariably informative and entertaining.

The winner of the Flashdrive door prize was Lena Anderson.

Respectfully submitted by
Ruth Kelley, TLCUG Secretary

Members Photo Gallery

Click on the camera



Special Interest Groups

The Office 2007 SIG and the Digital Camera SIG meetings have been temporarily canceled. Once the new library is complete and we have access to their new meeting rooms we will consider starting one or both back up again if we can organize them into true SIGs rather than ongoing classes.

A special interest group should be a group with a shared interest that gathers to discuss that interest but our meetings have become a class where the moderator is expected to be an instructor rather than a participant. It might very well be that computer topics simply don't lend themselves to a SIG environment and that will be something we will consider before attempting one again.

Sunshine Lady

So, you ask, what is a Sunshine Lady, anyway, and what does she do?

She sends cards of congratulation, sympathy, and get well as required for members of the Twin Lakes Computer Users Group. But --- she can't do that unless she knows who needs a card for what, and that's where you members come in. Please let me know if you know of anyone of our members or their families who could use a card for any special occasion, and a card from the group will be immediately dispatched. Right now, she doesn't do birthday cards or anniversaries unless it's something memorable like a 50th or better. Maybe birthdays at 90 or above. We are not an uncaring group and want to be sure all our members know it - so please let me know if there is a need for a card of remembrance for any occasion.

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Webmaster Note:

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Virus protection for your computer

You are strongly encouraged to have an antivirus program on your machine, and to download the periodic updates from the internet. (If you do not update regularly you won't be protected from the most recent viruses.) Need help? Your mentor or other club member will assist you.

PLEASE---It's your computer---keep it safe

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See you next month