

The logo for 'The Interface' magazine, August 2009 issue. It features the word 'The' in a small font above 'Interface', which is in a large, bold, red, 3D-style font. Below 'Interface' is the date 'August, 2009' in a similar red, 3D-style font. The background of the text is a stylized American flag with stars and stripes. The entire logo is set within a green rounded rectangular border.

The Interface
August, 2009

President's Message
August, 2009

I'm going to have to complain about the weather more often since it appears to have done some good. Shortly after I whined last month about it being too hot it cooled down and we've had the best stretch of July weather I can remember since moving to Arkansas. If we now have a rotten August we can blame me for saying something positive this month.

The August meeting program will be a presentations by the library Program/Volunteer Coordinator Kathe Altazan and either the Twin Lakes Literacy Council Director Nancy Tester or Deborah Blevins, Volunteer Coordinator. I know that a good number of club members are already a volunteer in one or both of these organizations but if you don't know about them you will be amazed at the wide range of services they offer and how much good they do for our community. The meeting is on the third Wednesday (08/19 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.

I've posted the Fall Saturday class schedule on our website so have a look. We normally start classes on the first Saturday in September but the fact that it is usually Labor Day weekend has had a rather severe negative impact on attendance and since the first class is the introduction class I decided to take that weekend off and start on the second Saturday. You may notice that this year's schedule looks a lot like last years and there are two reasons for that. One is that these topics cover the basics and have enough information in them that many people can attend them more than once and still learn something new. The second reason is that these classes have no class outline and are often question driven so just because a class has the same name does not mean it is the same class.

Until next month, good computing.

Jerry Marr

Review
Windows Backup Manager
Review by Jerry Marr

August 2009

I'm continuing to flip-flop on what program I want to use to replace the backup feature of Windows OneCare and my current flip (or flop, I'm not sure which it is) is back to using the backup built into XP Pro and all versions of Vista. If you're running XP Home Edition go to www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/setup/maintain/backups.wm and they'll tell you how to install the backup software if you decide that's what you want.

I know I can just selectively copy whatever files I want to save onto my external hard drive but I've been using OneCare for long enough that I'm simply too used to having it done for me so I forget to do it. I've tried several programs (see the Genie review in the March 2009 newsletter) but I keep coming back to the same basic problem inherent in any backup program and that's longevity. Backing up data is great but will the program still be around if I need to do a restore sometime in the future, OneCare is a good example of that not being the case. I figure if I use Windows I can be sure there will still be an operating system in a few years.

If you want to do this and you're on Vista or XP click on **Start**, point to **All Programs**, point to **Accessories**, point to **System Tools**, and then click **Backup** (ignore the extra words in Vista). The setup is straight forward and you can safely accept nearly all of the default options but if you have a Restore partition it will show up as an additional disc so make sure it's not checked. Also make sure your external hard drive is plugged in and turned on when you start the setup so Windows can set it as your default destination.

The downside here is that Windows Backup will backup many files you don't really need backed up but it only does it once so just bite the bullet and let it take a couple of hours. It says you can do other things on the computer during the backup but I'd recommend you get it started and take a nap or go to the store or something and let it run on its own. It will want to do this automatically once a month which seems like a good time but you can change it to run more often if you want.

Computer Tips

SETUP OR CHANGE THE SCREENSAVER (windows xp only)

Screen savers can help protect your monitor from wear by showing a constantly changing display when your computer is not being used. Screen savers can be simple, like the Blank screen saver that turns off your monitor to save energy.

To change your screen saver

1. Right-click your desktop and then click **Properties**.

2. In the Display Properties dialog box, click the Screen Save tab
3. Click the Screen saver drop-down box, and then click a screen saver
4. Click the Preview button to see how the screen saver will appear on your monitor
5. Move your mouse or press a key to return to the Display Properties dialog box. To try a different screen saver, return to step 3.
6. Click the Settings button to change the standard behavior of the screen saver you selected. (Each screen saver has its own settings dialog box.) Then, click OK
7. In the Wait box, type the number of minutes the computer should wait to start the screen saver after you last touched the keyboard or mouse.
9. Click OK.

Windows XP will start the screen saver you selected after your computer has been idle for the specified number of minutes

Marie

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

Monthly meeting program schedule

August: See the President's Message above

September: To be announced.

Twin Lakes Computer User Group
General Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2009

The general meeting was called to order by President Jerry Marr at 2:00 PM

Lea Chodacki gave the treasurer report with a balance at the end of May being \$5,051.61, with a \$95.00 room rent for meeting was paid to Comfort Inn and a miscellaneous amount of \$8.08 was paid leaving a balance at the end of June of \$4948.53.

Kay Hutchinson gave the membership report: no guests or new members this month. There were 49 members in attendance at today's meeting.

Jerry Wilcoxon said there would be no July or August Digital Sig. meeting and will announce at a later date the agenda for September.

Jerry Wilcoxon also announced that there is a Photo Contest for pictures of Cotter, entry fee is \$5 and information will be available on the TLCUG web site.

The Program given by Jerry Marr was on the Control Panel features for Vista and XP.

The drawing was held for computer wipes and was won by Ruth Kelly.

The meeting adjourned at 2:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Coulter
Secretary

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.

Members Photo Gallery

Click on the camera



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:

The views and/or recommendations of the program presenters and reviewers are just that. TLCUG does not endorse or sell software. From time to time publishers and software vendors have supplied (solicited) a copy of their product for a review or demonstration. They may include a special promo or discount to the club members. It is up to you to determine whether it is what you need or not. Unsolicited reviews by club members may be accepted for publication here if they are considered to be appropriate. And again, the authors comments are just that. Understand that unsolicited reviews are not to be used by the author for personal gains. Additional reviews of a product or book can always be found on the web by using a search engine such as Google (this is also just a recommendation).

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