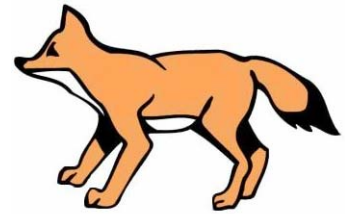


FOX TALES



Volume 20, Issue 5

Official Publication of the
Fox Valley PC Association
"Established January 1985"

May 2007

PRESIDENT'S POTPOURRI

Jon Jackman – President - FVPCA

The FVPCA Executive Committee meeting for May had a full agenda. We had a final discussion on our Constitution and Bylaws, which would have been e-mailed to all our members by now (in order to comply with the 30 day review period, as stipulated in the Bylaws. We also handed copies out to members at our last meeting.) The final drafts of both of those documents are included in this issue of *Fox Tales*. We will be voting on ratification at our meeting in June.

Also in June, we plan to have our second "Downloads of the Quarter" (DOQ) offering and are working on compiling numerous utilities and applications to be included. Also remember to bring your thumb drive at next month's (June) meeting. Have you had a chance to look over any of the offerings from the March DOQ? Please send along any comments, or post them on our message board. We will be starting a thread there which will begin to describe the offerings as well as offer members an opportunity to comment, adding their own experiences and a list of pros and cons, or even suggestions to improve our DOQ program. Alternately, if you have any suggestions, please forward them on to me.

Thanks to Tom Anzalone for his excellent program on "How to Build a Home Theater PC." For details on how he made it, please review the two articles in the February and March issues of the *Fox Tales* newsletter. Also at our April meeting Richard Chamberlain brought in his glass beaded projection screen to try out. It was quite an improvement over the silver vinyl screen we have been using for the past several years. Although smaller, Richard mentioned that it was the first time he could actually see the screen from the back of the room.

We also discussed ways to cut down on the ambient light to improve visibility. There was a discussion about looking into a new LCD or DLP projector. The quality of the newer projectors has improved and prices have dropped. This will be something of an ongoing discussion, and will be addressed in the survey. The CAEUG had recently purchased a new projector. Tom Anzalone had accumulated research for that purchase which we intend to review at a future Executive Committee meeting.

We also have been refining a new annual member survey. This will be available sometime in the near future. We will review the topics and questions at our May meeting.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

We hope to have fewer questions on this survey than we have in the prior two. If you have a topic that you think would be worth polling, please let us know.

As you know, we have sought locations for our meetings that offer Internet access. One new location is the new arrangement at the Yorkville Public Library. Bob Tuftee and Bill Powell have been looking into that, and the results are promising as an alternative location should the Civic Center location be unavailable for a meeting. We had asked Bob Tuftee to inquire as to the feasibility of a Wi-Fi connection at the Civic Center. It seems that something is in the works for that location! We will keep you apprised of developments in this newsletter and at our monthly meetings. It would be an improvement over Tom's Sprint wireless broadband card, and it would allow more than one person could be on the Internet at one time.

Bill Powell continues to work on our membership directory. He is waiting for the ratified copy of our Constitution and Bylaws before the final draft will be complete. If you need to submit your photo or want to update your old one, please contact Bill as soon as possible.

If you have any questions and answers regarding computers or anything digital, please submit them via the Fox Valley PC Association website (www.fvpca.org then go to the question mark.)

We continue to explore different program topics and have begun to look for outside vendors who might be able to put on a program as well.

On a personal note, I have been busy upgrading several friends PCs. More memory, bigger hard drives, better video cards, dual layer DVD drives and upgraded operating systems (Win2K to XP Pro.) I also installed a wireless connection at another friend's house. It is always a challenge and I am glad that I picked up a 160 GB external USB hard drive to move the data off the machines before doing the full reinstall. Once complete, I then will burn a backup image that they may use for recovery.

Have you been there recently? Tiger has revamped their floor plan. If you haven't been there in a while, check it out, although you might need to wait awhile at the pickup desk. There is now an overhead LCD that shows progress on picking orders placed by customers.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting this Saturday, May 19, 2007 at the Civic Center location.

Jon Jackman – President/FVPCA

Have you called J.U.L.I.E. lately? If not you should know that you no longer have to remember that long 800-892-0123 phone number. JULIE can now be contacted by dialing **811**, 24 hours a day, 7 seven days a week. If your not familiar with JULIE, it is a non-profit group that will arrange for utilities to come to your home to locate and mark any underground gas, water, sewer, electric and phone lines before you dig in your yard. You need to call two days in advance before digging. The call and the service is free!

Fox Valley PC Association Constitution
04/13/2007

ARTICLE I - Association Name

The name of this association shall be the Fox Valley PC Association. The common abbreviation of this name shall be the FVPCA.

ARTICLE II - Objective

The objective of the FVPCA is to provide an educational forum for members to share information and assist in the use of personal computers. The FVPCA is a State tax-exempt not-for-profit association as defined by State of Illinois Statutes.

ARTICLE III – Officers and Directors

Elected Officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who must be members in good standing. Other officers may be appointed to fill the needs of the association. Also, there shall be at least three Directors who shall also be members in good standing. It is desirable to have at least one Director who has served as a past Officer. Directors shall be appointed by the elected Officers with approval by simple majority of members present at a general meeting, preferably at the beginning of the year.

ARTICLE IV - Committees

Standing committees will include Newsletter, Publicity, Membership, Programs, and FVPCA Web Site Development. These committees will vary in size from one or more persons as responsibilities warrant.

ARTICLE V - By-Laws

The attached FVPCA By-Laws dated _____ define the Fox valley PC Association's procedures in detail.

ARTICLE VI – Amendments

This constitution may be amended by two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote at a regular meeting. Notification of such proposed changes shall have been reviewed by the Directors prior to a vote. All members shall be provided copies of the proposed changes and given time to comment. Notice shall be at least 30 days prior to the vote and shall be published in the group's newsletter.

The above Constitution has been voted upon and approved by a majority of the members present at the general meeting dated (tentatively: June 16, 2007) as witnessed by the following elected officers:

President: Jon Jackman

Vice-President: Tom Anzalone

Secretary: William Palmer

Treasurer: Richard W. Chamberlain

Fox Valley PC Association By-Laws

04/13/2007

ARTICLE I - Association Name

The name of this association shall be the **Fox Valley PC Association**. The common abbreviation of this name shall be FVPCA.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

Section 1.

The purpose of the FVPCA is to provide an educational forum for members to share information and assist in the use of personal computers.

Section 2.

The FVPCA is a tax-exempt not-for-profit association as defined by State of Illinois statutes.

Section 3.

Specific objectives and purposes shall be to hold regular meetings, engage in open forum discussions, provide educational programs, distribute newsletters, and provide other services and activities.

ARTICLE III – Membership

Membership is open to all persons who are interested in personal computers. A member is defined as a person in good standing who has paid membership dues for the current year.

ARTICLE IV – Officers

Section 1. Elected Officers

The elected officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who must be members in good standing. The term shall be one year or until their successors are elected, and shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected. Other officers may be elected or appointed to fill the needs of the association.

Section 2. Executive Board

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as members appointed to positions to manage supportive functions of the Association.

Section 3. Duties

President: The President shall act as chairman at all meetings at which he is present and ensure that the meeting is conducted according to Association rules. The President will call for Officer's meetings as required to conduct Association business and plan future general meetings. In addition, the President will decide questions of order. The President will also be a signing official for Association business.

Vice-President: The Vice President shall take the place of the President in the President's absence. The Vice-President will assist the President as necessary.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep a record of the attendance at all Membership and Officer's Meetings and record minutes of meetings so held. The Secretary will coordinate the preparation of the newsletter which shall be called "*Fox Tales*."

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive all monies, pay all bills, and keep a just and regular account of the same. The Treasurer shall submit a financial report to the general membership at each regular meeting. All checks written will be authorized by the elected Officers. The President may appoint an alternate individual who may sign checks in the Treasurer's absence.

Section 4. Election of Officers

General elections shall be held at the October general meeting. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee. Nominations for officers will be accepted and closed at the September general meeting. No member will nominate any member without first obtaining that member's assurance that he or she will serve if elected. A ballot will be distributed and collected at the meeting on the day of election. Election results will be announced at the end of the meeting and published in the next newsletter.

Section 5. Vacancies

Vacancies occurring between elections may be filled by special election or by appointment by the Executive Board with approval by the majority of members present at the next general meeting.

Section 6. Position Duties - Absence

A detailed list of responsibilities for each position shall be prepared and reviewed at the conclusion of each year. This is to facilitate a smooth transition in the event of either an elected or appointed Officer's absence due to resignation, illness, death or other cause which would result in a vacancy, either temporary or permanent.

Article V – Directors

Section 1.

There shall be at least 3 Directors who shall also be members in good standing. It is desirable to have at least one Director who has served as a past Officer. Directors shall be appointed by the Officers with approval by simple majority of members present at a general meeting.

FVPCA By-Laws (continued)

Section 2. Duties

The Directors will provide direction and guidance in achieving the goals and objectives of the Association. Directors shall also review and propose changes to the Constitution and ByLaws.

Section 3. Term

The Directors will serve a term of one year. Appointments shall be reviewed and renewed at the first meeting of each calendar year.

Article VI – Committees

The following committees will vary in size from one or more persons as responsibilities warrant:

Section 1. Newsletter

The *Fox Tales* newsletter will be produced and distributed to the members in written and / or electronic format.

Section 2. Membership

An Association membership list will be maintained and available to any member upon request.

Section 3. Programs

A program committee will arrange for speakers and presentations for the general meetings.

Section 4. Publicity

A publicity committee will disseminate meeting information to local newspapers or other media sources to encourage public awareness of the Association and announce meeting schedules to the general public. Visitors will be welcome to attend meetings.

Section 5. Web Site

The web site committee will develop and maintain a web site that will assist in the promotion of the FVPCA. Fees for any web services will be reviewed at the Officer's meetings.

Article VII - Dues

Annual dues shall be paid in the month that a member joins the Association. The amount of dues for the next calendar year shall be reviewed at the January general meeting. Dues will be set and approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership present.

Article VIII – Property and Income

All property and income of the Association will be used to promote the organization's objectives. No property or income will be used for the personal benefit of any members or Officers.

Article IX – Dissolution

The Association may elect to dissolve by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at the general meeting. Disbursement of assets shall be as follows: All real property (hardware and software) will be offered by silent auction to the general membership at the next general meeting. A mailer will be sent to all active members to notify them of the silent auction. Proceeds will be deposited into the Association's cash account. After all Association bills are paid, the cash balance and remaining real property will be donated to an area college, high school or charity.

Article X – Code of Ethics

The Association does not condone violation of copyright laws. No member of the Association shall represent the organization without the expressed consent of the elected officers. If a situation arises which cannot be resolved in normal discussion, Roberts Rules of Order will be followed to address the issue.

Article XI – Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote at a regular meeting. Notification of such proposed changes shall have been reviewed by the Directors prior to a vote. All members shall be provided copies of the proposed changes and given time to comment. Notice shall be at least 30 days prior to the vote and shall be published in the Association's newsletter.

The above By-Laws have been voted upon and approved by a majority of the members present at the general meeting dated [tentatively: June 16, 2007] as witnessed by the following elected officers:

President:	Jon Jackman
Vice-President:	Tom Anzalone
Secretary:	William Palmer
Treasurer:	Richard W. Chamberlain



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There are a growing number of locations that offer free Internet via a wireless WiFi connection! We would like to find a place where we could meet and have WiFi too!

*THE FOX VALLEY
PC ASSOCIATION*

The Fox Valley PC Association is dedicated to the task of providing computer information to our fellow members. We are a non-profit organization. The group has been active since January 1985. The dues are \$30 per year. Our meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month (except December.)

The meeting place this month (May) will be at the Oswegoland Civic Center at 5 Ashlawn Avenue, Montgomery, Illinois. The formal meeting starts at 9:15 A.M. Non-member visitors are always welcome. If you can, please come early & help with set-up. Thanks!

The following members have renewed their membership:

**David Chrestenson
Robert Greshaw
John Player
Chuck Swynenberg**

Thank You!

Please check the label on your newsletter to see when your subscription is due!

The "FOX TALES" Newsletter

The "Fox Tales" Newsletter is published monthly by the Fox Valley PC Association, Post Office Box 369, Oswego, IL 60543, a non-profit organization, established to provide information about IBM PCs and IBM Compatible personal computer systems (and almost anything "digital") to our members.

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Recycle Corner

If you have an old computer or other electronics you want to get rid of, check out these recycling websites...

www.mygreenelectronics.org

www.Earth911.org

www.computertakeback.com

www.dell.com/recycle

www.hp.com/hpinfo/globalcitizenship/environment

Kane County residents should check out:

www.co.kane.il.us/Environment/recycle/electronic.htm/recycle.doc



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2007

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Fox Tales

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The Fox Valley PC Association Web site is:

www.fvpca.org
Courtesy of APCUG



**Program for the May Meeting:
An Overview and Demonstration of
OCR—Optical Character Recognition**

**Presented by:
Jon Jackman**

The Next Meeting Will Be at 9:15 A.M.

May 19, 2007

**At the Civic Center location
5 Ashlawn Avenue, Montgomery, Illinois**