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# EXTONPC.ORG NEWS

Volume 24, Issue 11

November 2009

**THE EXTON PC COUNCIL** [www.ExtonPC.org](http://www.ExtonPC.org)

*All meetings are free and open to the public == Bring a friend*



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## Help Help Help

Yes, your computer club needs your help. The group is in need of a member who would like to help out by being the groups **Newsletter Editor**. Contact any of the directors for more information. It does not take a lot of time and can be fun, why not give it a try!! The Exton PC Council could not exist without your help and support.v

< - - Next Meeting - - >

**November 11**  
**Board meeting**

**November 16**  
**Digital Cameras Revisited**  
With "Best Buy" of Downingtown

Digital cameras continue to be refined and improved as new technology becomes practical and affordable. When only the best will do, EPCC presents "Best Buy" of Downingtown to tell us of the latest digital cameras and computer items available for the upcoming holidays.

As time allows, programs - Picasa by Google and Photo Story 3 for Windows by Microsoft - will be explored to change pictures into masterpieces. Attend this digital imaging meeting before buying a digital camera or upgrading your current ownership - this meeting will be in valuable.v

## Meetings Notice



We are limited to one meeting a month for 2010 by the library. There were no dates available in July and November.

Therefore EPCC will have 10 main meetings in 2010.

All meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month except September which will be the second Monday because of the holiday.v

**Need Computer Help?**

Visit our Help Desk and Discussion Group at  
<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/epcc/>

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< - - Future Meetings - - >

**November 30**

With Charlie Eisenfelder

## **Kandid Kamera Camcorders Step Up**

Camcorders offer the greatest product changes in the digital array. These will be fully discussed with emphasis on both the camera itself and the programs available to edit and burn to DVD. Here's what to expect:

- Evaluation of the saving mediums – mini-disc, HD, compact card
- Compact size – any loss in quality?
- Still camera functionality – now up to 5MP
- Shake compensation
- High Definition availability – is it worth it?
- Touch screen – practical or not
- CCD – how large is large enough
- Ergonomics – caveats
- Ease and quality of transfer for editing

The presentation will deal with current free and/or included software for simple production of fully entertaining movies. v

**December 7**

**Open House**

## **Six Stations of Excellence**

**Light Refreshments will be served**

1. First Release of “Be a Novice No More” - a CD devoted to the Computer Literacy Initiative to take the fear out using a computer. Pick up your disc from Izzi Bourrie.
2. Live Skype Demo – Remote visual and audio communication.
3. Windows 7 – Hands on familiarization of the workings of this new Operating System.
4. Portabilization – Experience using a Netbook, run portable apps from flash drives, experience the convenience of a portable HD.
5. Building the “Ultimate Security” for shopping and banking on line – Linux Plus.
6. Hands on transferring 8mm films to DVD. Bring a 50 foot reel to see for yourself.v

**January 4**

## **Super Fast Mobile Internet**

With Adam Weinstein

**&**

## **Google Earth - Vacation Planning**

With Charlie Eisenfelder

**Part 1** - Clear, using 4G WiMax technology has come to West Chester giving full internet experience all over town. Come hear the details presented by Adam Weinstein of Computer Doctor of West Chester.

**Part 2** – See where you going before you get there using Google Earth and Bing to see 3d views of vacation areas. v

**January 13**

**Board meeting**

**February 1**

## **Protecting your computer from**

## **Spyware**

With Izzi Bourrie

Learn how to clean out the spyware on your computer with the best free software.v

**February 10**

**Board meeting**

**March 1**

## **Bring your memories to life**

With Charlie Eisenfelder

Learn how to turn your photos into a DVD presentation.v

**March 10**

**Board meeting**

**April 5**

## **Getting the most out of your GPS**

With Jim McKittrick

Jim will demo how to update your GPS software.v

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**April 21**  
**Board meeting**

Watch this newsletter for more informationv

**May 3**  
**Board meeting**

Watch this newsletter for more informationv

**May 12**  
**Board meeting**

**June 7**  
**Board meeting**

**June 9**  
**Board meeting**

**July**  
**No Monday Meeting**  
**and**  
**No Board meeting**

Watch this newsletter for more informationv

**August 2**  
**Board meeting**

**August 11**  
**Board meeting**

**September 8**  
**Board meeting**

Watch this newsletter for more informationv

**September 13**

Watch this newsletter for more informationv

**October 4**  
**Board meeting**

**October 13**  
**Board meeting**

**November**  
**No Monday Meeting**

**November 10**  
**Board meeting**

**December 6**

Watch this newsletter for more informationv

**December**  
**No Board meeting**

## Notes from a Member

Contributed by EPCC Member  
Charlie Eisenfelder from ZDNet's Adrian Kingsley-Hughes

### Time to ditch Windows for online banking and shopping



It's time to ditch Windows for online banking and shopping. There, I've said it.

Last week, FBI Director Robert Mueller told an audience in San Francisco how he nearly fell for a bank phishing email. As a result of this Mueller now doesn't do any banking on line. Then Washington Post "Security Fix" columnist Brian Krebs advises businesses not to carry out online banking on Windows-based machines and to use a Linux-based LiveCD.

I'm going one step further, and suggest that no one use Windows for either banking or online shopping. So, am I saying this to be controversial? No. Am I attacking Windows or Microsoft? Am I trying to start a flame war? No.

So why am I saying this? Simply because I believe that the risk of using Windows outweighs the convenience. Sure, the overall risk of financial loss to a consumer is small given that federal law limits the consumer's liability to \$50, but having you bank details or credit card information compromised is a huge time-consuming hassle that people can do without.

It couldn't be simpler.

- Download a Linux ISO Burn the ISO to CD (I recommend [ImgBurn](#)).
- Pop the CD into your drive and boot up from the CD when you want to bank or shop. Take a couple of minutes and it's 100% safe since nothing can write to the CD).

This way not only are you protected from malware and Windows-based vulnerabilities, you also protect yourself from phishing attacks by not using the Live CD for anything other than banking and shopping (no

email, no Facebook/MySpace ...). You boot into the Live CD, do what you want to do, and close the OS when you're done.

**Note:** I recommend that you burn a new CD every six months or so just to you keep on top of new releases and updates.

What about passwords? Simple! Grab yourself a USB key and a copy of an app such as TrueCrypt and encrypt a text file containing your passwords (if you want you can create an encrypted partition on the USB key to store more data if you want).

Think this is too much hassle? I thought it would be, but I've been doing this for a few days now and it's quick and simple and offers a great deal of peace-of-mind. ▽

## Have You Heard

Contributed by EPCC Member  
Charlie Eisenfelder from ZDNet's Larry Dignan

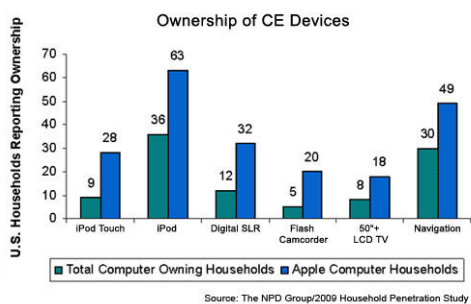
### PC vs. Mac: It's not zero sum

You're a Mac. And you're a PC. You're both. Welcome to the reality that isn't what the zero summers—folks that think you need to be all Mac or all PC—portray.

According to research firm NPD Group, 12 percent of computer owning households own a Mac, up from 9 percent a year ago. However, the U.S. is all about mixed hardware environments. Of the 12 percent of households that own a Mac, 85 percent of them also own a Windows PC.

In fact, 66 percent of Apple households own three or more computers. In Windows households, only 29 percent own three or more PCs.

The big takeaway: Apple households are affluent. They own more of everything—iPods, cameras, TVs and GPS devices.



## MEMBERSHIP 2009

Thank you to those who have renewed and **Welcome** to new members who have recently joined. ▽

Presentation meetings - Struble Room  
Board meetings - Board Room  
All meetings start at 6:30 pm

### Contribute a Newsletter Article

All members are encouraged to submit articles or other items of interest for possible Newsletter publication.

Deadline for articles to appear in the next issue is the 1st Monday of the month. All articles gladly accepted at anytime for future publication.

When sending as an attachment in E-mail please save your text file in text (\*.txt), or MS Word Format (\*.doc) and pictures in Jpeg Format. ▽

Send to: Charlie Fote  
[CharlieFote@Hotmail.com](mailto:CharlieFote@Hotmail.com)

### Who's Who at EPCC

#### Directors

<b>Isabelle Bourrie</b>	(484) 995-5012	ibourrie@voicenet.com
<b>Bob Linaberry</b>	(610) 873-0204	rl55@verizon.net
<b>Jim McKittrick</b>	(610) 647-8188	JMcKit@ccil.org
<b>Gabe Preston</b>	(610) 436-0311	GabePreston@erols.com
<b>Salvatore Sano</b>	(610) 269-5096	SalvatoreSano@yahoo.com
<b>Michael Shephard</b>	(601) 857-2193	joelisester@verizon.net

#### Program Contacts

<b>Digital Imaging</b>	Bob Linaberry	
<b>Microsoft Windows</b>	Doug Fairchild	(610) 696-8223 dbfair@verizon.net
<b>Microsoft Publisher</b>	Jack Stretch	(610) 363-6328 JLStretch@comcast.net
<b>Linux</b>	Nate Rosenthal	(610) 970-5122 n2add@arrl.net
<b>Microsoft Office/Works</b>	Salvatore Sano	

#### Staff Positions

<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Open	
<b>Newsletter Mailing</b>	Sal Sano	
<b>Communications</b>	Charlie Eisenfelder	Caeilop@aol.com
<b>Membership</b>	Joseph Holzman	m28@verizon.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nate Rosenthal	
<b>Webmaster</b>	Bob Linaberry	
<b>CHESCO Library Liaison</b>	Diane Gring	

**Exton PC Council**  
310 North High Street  
West Chester, PA 19380  
<http://www.extonpc.org>

Place  
Postage  
Here



**Mailing  
Address  
Goes  
Here**

### **Your Membership Is Welcome!**

Non-members and former members are encouraged to join.  
Please fill in the Membership Application below and mail it with your check now!

#### **EXTON PC COUNCIL (EPCC) 2010 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL**

Membership includes email notices, privilege to post on EPCC's Yahoo Groups, privilege to participate in special prize give away raffles at various meetings and affords additional benefits of special offers through the national APCUG (Association of Personal Computer User Groups).

New Member: \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Notice of downloadable ExtonPC.Org News will be emailed monthly** – Add \$5.00 to above fees to receive copy by postal mail and mark here. \_\_\_\_\_ (To cover cost of postage and mailing)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a current member and renewing, fill in all changes only below. Otherwise fill in all information.

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ (Optional)

EMAIL (please update and print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay at the next main meeting, or mail this form with your check made payable to **EPCC**.

Mail To: EPCC, 310 North High Street, West Chester, PA. 19380