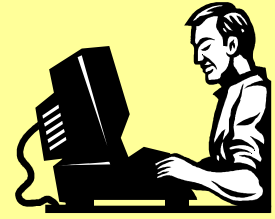




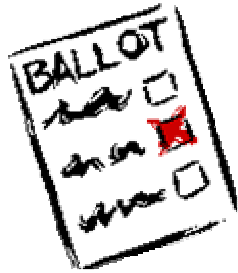
# Kokomo PC Users Group



A great Users Group is the most important accessory you can have for your computer !

## Presidents Message

by: Mark Pendergast - Da Prez



November - the heart of PC computing season. Time to snuggle up for a long winter's nap with my computer.

We are thinking of changing our name to the Kokomo Computer Club. This might encourage more people to join. Be prepared to talk about it at the next meeting.

If you have a computer passion you would like to share with the Group, we would love to have you present it at one of our regular meetings. Some of our best presentations come from our own Group members talking about the programs and hardware they love. Just let one of the officers know that you would like to present and what topic you will be presenting. This is a great way to provide a service to the Group. You can also earn User Bux for providing a presentation.



If you feel that you would like to become involved in the leadership of the Group, please volunteer to be an officer. We are looking for warm bodies ... I mean visionary leaders to participate in the leadership of the Group. Just contact one of the current officers and we will put you to work changing the destiny of the Group.

We continue to offer warm hospitality and engaging meetings. Please take a moment to invite a friend (or enemy for that matter) to one of our regular meetings. We offer first class presentations, good fellowship and an informative question and answer period. If they join our group they will also receive our wonderful newsletter, mailed directly to their home or office. A good Users Group is the most important accessory you can get for your computer.



If you have any tips or tricks for improving our enjoyment of our PCs, please write them up in a short article for the newsletter. We would love to hear how clever you are and would like to learn your secrets. This is a great way to provide a service to the Group. You can also earn User Bux for each full page of original text.



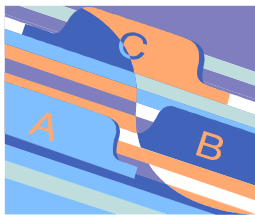
I just downloaded Internet Explorer 7. I have heard nothing but good reviews about it. My initial reaction was mildly positive. The browser looks almost identical to Internet Explorer 6. A few of the features I like were hidden in the upgrade. So it took a little poking around to figure out what had changed and what was better or worse.

The download was pretty easy. I remembered to back up my files to CD and set a restore point before I got started. The size of the download was no problem with my broadband Ethernet connection. (It might be a chore for dial-up connections.) The install was quick and painless. All my old settings and data were carried forward.

At some point during the install I was asked if I wanted to participate in some sort of Microsoft Internet Explorer Improvement Program. The thought of sending all my browser traffic back to Bill for analysis didn't seem like a good idea, so I said thanks, but no thanks.

The new interface is similar to the old one. The icons are more integrated into the interface - so they don't take up as much room as they did in IE6. It takes a little getting used to, but it is a reasonable layout.

I had to hunt around to find out how to change the internet options. My install defaulted to hiding the links and the menu bar. It was not obvious what to do to get to the options until I remembered my own advise - just start right clicking on stuff till you get what you want. I clicked on the browser header until I got the toolbar menu. Then I made the menu bar and the links bar visible. (I also unlocked the toolbars and moved them around a little. Then locked them back in place.)



Well, once I got everything fixed the way I wanted it, I had a chance to look at all the new stuff. And there is plenty of new stuff.

The most obvious addition is the tabs. This is the "catch-up" feature to get even with the Firefox browser. The tabs are pretty neat and I used them for a while in Firefox (before they released an unstable release and I switched back to IE.) The tabs act line the separate windows you could bring up in IE, but they are managed on the same screen so It is easier to keep track of them. They look a lot like the icons in the Windows Taskbar on the bottom of your screen.

To add a tab you can just click on the add new tab button on the end of the last tab that is displayed. You can also right click and say

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open in new tab, just like you used to say open in new window. To close a tab you are on you can click the “X” that appears on the tab. You can right click on any tab and select close as well.

Once you have a page open in a tab, it acts like any browser . You can navigate between pages and scroll up and down on the page.

After you get 13 tabs open they begin to disappear - similar to Excel workbook tabs when you get too many. You get little arrows to move to the right or to the left to get to the tab you want.

To improve tab navigation there are two features. One is a drop-down arrow that shows a list with the full name of each tab. You can then go right to the one you want. The second is a feature called quick tabs. This displays a page that shows a thumbnail of each page so you can select between pages with similar names.

Tabs impact some other areas of the browser as well. Once you get the concept of multiple pages open at once - several other options present themselves as being obvious.

First, you can have multiple home pages. Just define a list of multiple URLs in the home page field in the Internet Options. Then when you open the browser , or hit the home icon, all the pages you specified open in a separate tab. I have gone ahead and defined the five pages I go to most often to be my home pages. Then they load right away when I open the browser. I can just go tab to tab to see them all. (I suspect this might be an annoyance if I wanted to see something very fast and they were slow to load, but this has not been a problem with broadband.



Second, in a similar manner you can select favorites that are multiple tabs. Then when you select the favorite you get all the tabs loaded the way you want them. I will have to experiment to see what this means if you already have several tabs filled and select a multi-tabbed favorite.

In addition to tabs the Microsoft web site describes other improvements that are available.

Improved printing will make sure that all the web page text is displayed when you press print. (In the past half the web pages I printed were cut off on the right side.) The print preview should be “What you see is what you get.”

The IE7 browser allows much tighter integration of search engines

## Internet Explorer

by: Mark Pendergast

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other than Microsoft. In fact when I was setting up the software it asked me what my default search engine was. In theory the browser will use this as the default search engine when I ask for something.

IE7 provides improved support for RSS feed content. I will have to take their word for it because I do not use this feature.

The last major feature of IE7 is improved security. The guts of the browser have been redone to provide better security against technical attacks. The browser also does a better check of sites that misrepresent who they are - both through data consistency checks and lookups of known bad sites.

There is a new feature that allows you to manage all the 'junk' that is added to your browser. I have not had time to look at this, but it seems like fertile ground to improve security and performance. If you go to Tools > Manage Add-ons you get a dialog window that allows you to look at all the browser add-ons that you have loaded and well as active-X controls. First, you can actually see all the 'junk' that is loaded on your computer. Next, you have the ability to enable and disable these things to see if they affect your performance. I suspect that if you see something called hack-o-master-2006 in the list you can go investigate what the heck it is and what to do about it. (Wouldn't it be nice if security was that easy.)

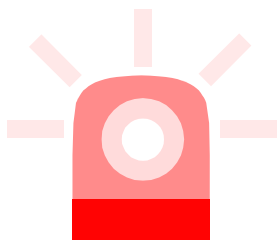


With these improvements I am pretty happy with IE7. It is surely not a technological marvel, but at least it is now keeping pace with the competition.

I was expected an Outlook Express upgrade as well - no such luck.

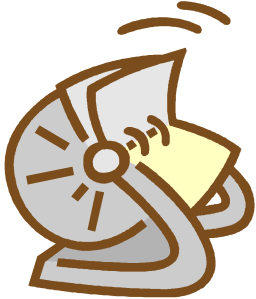
## IE7 Alert

by Jay Eitelman



If you have your Windows Automatic updates turned on ... You will get the M\$ update to Internet Explorer version 7.

If you use HP Director to Scan from a HP Scanner .. It will quit working. There are a couple of workarounds, but you might want to wait to upgrade to IE7 .. Till someone fixes this.



I have gotten to the point where my Outlook Express address book is getting so full that I can not find anyone. It has a bunch of old addresses that I no longer use and also a bunch that I got for free when I responded to a big group email - while I had add everyone that I respond to option turned on. (By the way - if you are wondering where this pesky little option is located, it is on the Tools> Options... > Send tab of Outlook Express. It is a nice feature, but sometimes it can be annoying.)

So, back to the story - I have a ton of email addresses in my address book. They clutter things up and make me scroll forever to find anything.

Both these tips assume, of course, that you use your address book, rather than type in the address by hand every time. You do this by clicking on the TO button when you are addressing an email. This brings up the address book selector dialog window. Most of us just scroll down to the name we want and press the TO button to load it into the email.

The first tip is to use the find function on the address book. At first I didn't use this feature because it seemed like too much trouble to type in the last name. Then I found this tip. Just type in the first character of the last name you want and then scroll from there. This reduces most scrolls to something tolerable and does not require a lot of typing in the find window either. The best of both worlds.

The second tip is to use folders. I didn't even know these existed until I got so overloaded that I couldn't find anything. Just like you can create users and you can create groups, you can create folders. I created a folder called old. I dragged all my 'old' addresses into this folder and now they do not appear on my list. This has reduced my list in half, but has kept the addresses, just in case I need them some day. If I do need one, I can just drag it back, or I can go to the dropdown just below find and select the 'old' folder and select directly from the list.



I plan to look into using folders to group my addresses to easier access. I will keep all my main addresses in the main folder, but may add folders for School, Work, PC Club, Businesses, etc. I am not sure how this will work, but It will be interesting to try.

**MEETINGS: Second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at IVY Tech**, 1815 East Morgan Street. Look for a notice of the room assignment as you come in the main East entrance. If the meeting location is changed, it will be announced on Page 1 of the newsletter. If a meeting is canceled due to inclement weather, radio stations WIOU and WWKI will be notified by 5:00 PM on the day of the meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Annual membership fee is \$10. Checks should be made payable to the Kokomo -PC Users Group and mailed to: Rodney Malkoff, 3209 Janice Dr., Kokomo, IN 46902 (or pay at the meeting). Persons interested in joining the Group may receive two free issues of the newsletter. Contact the editor at [kpcc@insightbb.com](mailto:kpcc@insightbb.com).

**BENEFITS:**

1. A one year subscription to the Group e-Newsletter.
2. Great presentations on interesting topics at each meeting.
3. Question and Answer session at each meeting.
4. HELP from other Group members who have been down the road before, and with whom you can share your experiences.

President	Mark Pendergast, 455-2229
Vice-President	Jay Eitelman, 455-2916
Vice-President	Jerry Henry 453-4144
Treasurer	Rodney Malkoff - acting
Membership Services	Rodney Malkoff, 453-1159
Newsletter Editor	Mark Pendergast, 455-2229
Newsletter Distribution	Jane Ober, 455-1583
Group WWW site	<a href="http://www.geocities.com/roood/pcusers">http://www.geocities.com/roood/pcusers</a>

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:** Articles may be submitted to [kpcc@insightbb.com](mailto:kpcc@insightbb.com) two weeks before the meeting.

**November 9th**

## **Google Sketchup**

**Our own Rodney Malkoff will show us the Google SketchUp program. This free program allows you to sketch up ideas and make presentations with some powerful features.**

**Hope to see you there!**

Join us on the 2nd  
Thursday of each month  
at Ivy Tech at 7:00 pm

Computer News & Reviews  
Questions and Answers  
Great Presentations  
Fun and Fellowship  
Monthly Newsletter

More details about the users group are published inside the back cover of this newsletter.

Or on the web at [www.geocities.com/roood/pcusers](http://www.geocities.com/roood/pcusers)