

# Mother Board

Volume 25, Issue 5

May 2, 2007

## *This Month At NOPC*

### *Night of the Gray Gamers by Chad Dyle*

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## **APCUG GROUP OFFER**

Alpha Software, one of the original software companies, has been developing database software as an independent software company for 25 years.

We have a customer base of over 1 million customers and have always worked closely with user groups. In fact, the original Boston Computer Society was where we got our start!

To celebrate 25 years of building powerful, yet easy and productive database software, we would like to do something special for user group members.

We have just launched Alpha Five Version 8 – which is the most exciting new product we have ever released.

[http://www.alphasoftware.com/AlphaFive/ProductTour/Features\\_00.asp](http://www.alphasoftware.com/AlphaFive/ProductTour/Features_00.asp)

In conjunction with our exhibiting at the upcoming SW Computer User Group Con-

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## **May Meeting Presentation**

Get ready for a fun night at the NOPC Club. If you are like me, a little gray on top (at least for the hair that's left) the only computer games you know are solitaire and free cell. Well, get ready to learn a lot more.

We are going to discuss the current trends in video games across consoles and PC's. We will cover the most popular types of games including First Person Shooters (FPS), Real-time Strategies (RTS) and Massive Multiplayer Online Role Playing Games (MMORPG).

This presentation will include images, video and a hands-on look at some of today's most popular games as well as a question and answer session.

Our speaker for the meeting will be Chad Dyle. Mr. Dyle works in sales for a local company and on weekends works as a cinematographer for weddings. One of his many interests is computer games. From the Atari games to the latest technology, Mr. Dyle has played them all. He is also the webmaster for the New Orleans FragFest.

Mark your calendars, create an entry in your Palm Treo 700wx, practice your quick draw, update Outlook and join us on Wednesday, May 2, 2007. The monthly meeting of the NOPC club starts at 6:30pm on the first Wednesday of every month. Location of the meeting is the J.D. Meisler school cafeteria at 3700 Cleary Ave. Metairie. Use the entrance through the breezeway on Pharr Street. For more information please visit our club's web site at <http://www.nopc.org>.

Also mark your calendars for our July meeting. The first Wednesday is July 4th therefore we will be holding our July meeting on a different day, time and at a new location. Our July meeting will be on Saturday morning, July 7th at the Jefferson Parish Library East Bank Regional location. The meeting will start at 9:30AM. The address is 4747 W. Napoleon Ave., Metairie, LA 70001. More details will be coming.

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ference, we are making 1,000 copies available at very special pricing to User Group members to thank you for the role that User Groups have played in our history and growth.

Alpha Five Version 8 is the first all-in-one solution that lets anyone build both web 2.0 and desktop database applications with full reporting, security and connectivity to any SQL backend or to the built-in Alpha database engine.

Alpha Five Version 8 comes in three editions

Desktop – SRP \$199, User Group Members Only Pricing - \$29.95

(Builds Windows desktop single user applications)

Professional – SRP \$249 User Group Members Only Pricing - \$39.95

(Builds Windows desktop multi user applications and web applications using Alpha Five's DBF database engine)

Enterprise - SRP \$349 User Group Members Only Pricing - \$49.95

Builds Windows desktop multi user applications and web applications using Alpha Five's DBF database engine or against any SQL database)

To take advantage of this special opportunity:

Please email [marketing@alphasoft.com](mailto:marketing@alphasoft.com) with the words Alpha User Group Special in the subject line (we will then get back to you with a secure ordering URL dedicated to this special "thank you to User Groups" offer). This offer is only valid for user groups. We must have all the information shown below.

Please sure to include:

Full Name,

Address,

Telephone,

Email Address,

Street Address,

City,

State,

ZIP,

User Group Name,

President's or Chairman's Name,

Please include which edition of Alpha Five Version 8 you want.

Hope to see you in San Diego!

Sincerely

Richard Rabins

Co Chairman and Co Founder

Alpha Software Inc.

[www.alphasoftware.com](http://www.alphasoftware.com)

*NOPCC does not endorse any company offering discounts, but makes these offers available as a service to our members.*

*Editor: Back in Win 95, I used ALPHA 5 Version 4 and found it to be one of the better (if not the best) Data Base Managers. It allowed you to modify your fields at any time in the data record design. If you need a DBM, then consider ALPHA 5.*

## Using Even New PCs Is Ruined by a Tangle of Trial Programs, Ads

by Walter S. Mossberg

[mossberg@wsj.com](mailto:mossberg@wsj.com)

April 5, 2007

When you buy a gleaming, new personal computer, the first thing you want to do is to try out its cool new features and make it your own. You want to savor how quickly it starts up and runs, and arrange the desktop icons to suit your tastes and habits.

But as I rediscovered recently, often what you're forced to do instead is to spend hours as a digital maintenance man wading through annoying and confusing chores.

I have set up many computers over the years, so I wasn't shocked that the out-of-box experience was less than ideal. Still, I was struck by just how irritating it was to get going with the new Sony Vaio SZ laptop I bought about 10 days ago. It was the first new Windows machine I'd bought in a few years, because I had been waiting for Microsoft's new Windows Vista operating system. I was amazed that the initial experience is still a big hassle.

I'm not even referring to the most time-consuming setup processes — transferring all your files and settings, reinstalling your favorite programs and learning the new features. Vista has actually made moving files and settings easier, and it isn't different enough from Windows XP to make for a steep learning curve.

Walt discusses the frustrations of setting up a new Windows PC, including wading through ads and trial software.

Instead, I'm talking about two main problems. One is the plethora of teaser software and advertisements for products that must be cleared and uninstalled to make way for your own stuff. The second is the confusing welter of security programs you have to master and update, even on a virgin machine.

I'm also referring to how slowly a new Windows Vista machine starts and restarts, even if you haven't yet loaded or launched any of your own software.

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I am not singling out Sony here. I would have had a similar experience if I had chosen, say, a Hewlett-Packard laptop. Most major PC makers feature the security programs and trial software and offers I encountered on my new Sony. They are not part of Vista itself.

The problem is a lack of respect for the consumer. The manufacturers don't act as if the computer belongs to you. They act as if it is a billboard for restricted trial versions of software and ads for Web sites and services that they can sell to third-party companies who want you to buy these products.

I'm distinguishing these programs, sometimes called "craplets," from the full-featured, built-in Sony software meant to enhance the computer, or from entire, useful programs Microsoft builds into Windows, such as music and photo organizers.

On my new Sony, there were two dozen trial programs and free offers. The desktop alone contained four icons representing come-ons for various America Online services, and two for Microsoft. The start menu and program menu had more items that I neither chose nor wanted. Napster, a music service I don't use, was lodged at the lower right of the screen.

The worst was a desktop icon called "Watch Hit Movies Now!" This turned out to be four full-length films from Sony's movie studios, which the company had preloaded onto my computer at the cost of more than four gigabytes of precious hard-disk space. But they aren't a gift. If you want to play them, you have to pay Sony.

Then there was the security-software mess. I signed up for a 60-day free trial of Symantec software that Sony offered. This required multiple rounds of scary warnings, scans and updates — on the first day of using a new machine. Plus, when I tried to use a feature that stopped some unwanted programs from loading, I was forced to launch a second, somewhat redundant, security program from Microsoft.

On top of this, Sony informed me it had 21 different software updates available for my brand new laptop.

I also was shocked at how long this machine took to restart and to do a cold start after being completely shut down. Restarting took over three minutes, and a cold start took more than two minutes. That suggests the computer is loading a bunch of stuff I neither know about nor want. By contrast, a brand new Apple MacBook laptop, under the same test conditions, restarted in 34 seconds and did a cold start in 29 seconds.

I asked Sony about all this, and the company, while acknowledging it is paid to bundle the trial programs, said the programs are carefully selected and "provide benefits

to many consumers," up to 30% of whom act on the offers. Sony said the preloaded movies are "a key differentiator for our products in the marketplace, which we have found that many VAIO customers greatly appreciate."

Sony also said the boot-up times I recorded are "not at all uncommon with Vista-loaded PCs" and are faster than on some competing computer brands. It defended the 21 updates on the grounds that Vista is so new that, in many cases, compatible software wasn't available when the computer shipped.

Still, I wish computer makers would stop loading all these trial programs and offers on computers and that security precautions could be much less disruptive and more automatic. The first day of owning an expensive new gadget should be a pleasure, not a hassle.

*Continuing on this topic:*

## **Ways You Can Avoid Getting Junk Programs on Your New Computer**

by Walter S. Mossberg

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April 12, 2007

Last week, when I condemned the flood of crippled trial software, ads and offers that come loaded on new Windows Vista computers, readers reacted strongly. I received roughly 700 emails, all but a handful agreeing with me. The column was the most popular article that day on [WSJ.com](http://WSJ.com) and was cited on numerous other Web sites.

Clearly, many people are furious about these unwanted programs and icons, which are sometimes called craplets. Many would like to smite them without going through the laborious process of uninstalling them manually, one at a time. Some readers suggested strategies. The following are some options.

One ray of hope is a free program called PC Decrapifier. It can be downloaded at [pcdecrapifier.com](http://pcdecrapifier.com). This software automates the process of uninstalling craplets. It was written originally to clean up Dell computers, but its author says it will work on other brands, too. Before PC Decrapifier runs, it allows you to remove from its proposed deletion list any programs it considers junk, but which you might prefer to retain.

Walt discusses a variety of options for getting rid of unwanted ads and trial software that comes on most new Windows Vista computers.

I haven't tested PC Decrapifier, but even assuming it works well there are a couple of downsides. First, it may not remove every craplet from every manufacturer. Also, unless you carefully tweak the deletions list, PC Decrapifier might remove some full working copies of prein-

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stalled software that you want; it can't easily differentiate between trial and real versions of some commonly bundled programs.

Another option is to order a PC without the craplets in the first place. Some high-end Dell gaming machines are sold this way. Dell says you can also opt out of some third-party software on other models. Certain business models from various makers can be purchased clean, as well. But even business machines sometimes come with unwanted trial software, like limited versions of accounting programs, and may not be configured for consumers.

Dell, Sony and others say they are moving toward a new scenario in which all of this stuff will be easily refused on all models.

An alternate strategy is to avoid brand-name Windows computers and buy a Vista PC from a local shop that will construct it to your specs and leave off all the craplets. The catch is that you may pay more, and you must be certain that the shop will be around and willing to provide support for the life of the machine.

Some techies wrote me to say that the first thing they do with a new PC is to wipe out the hard disk and reinstall Windows so they start with a clean machine. But I can't recommend this for average users. For one thing, many new PCs no longer come with disks for reinstalling a full, clean version of Windows. Some have special sections of the hard disk from which you can perform a "recovery," but these recoveries may not be complete or may reload the craplets along with Windows. You could, of course, buy a fresh copy of Vista to reinstall, but that could cost hundreds of dollars.

Also, wiping out and rebuilding an operating system can be tricky for nontechies. Dell told me, "It is not advisable for nontechie consumers to wipe the hard drive and reinstall. ... This is intended as an emergency backup or for the technically sophisticated." Sony and Gateway sent me similar warnings.

Finally, an excellent way to avoid or minimize the craplet problem is to simply buy an Apple Macintosh computer. New Macs don't have any craplets displayed on their desktops. On a new Mac, no third-party software is automatically launched when you start the computer, and you don't need antivirus or antispyware programs because the Mac is essentially free from those menaces. So, even my year-old Mac laptop reboots roughly three times as fast as my three-week-old Sony.

Apple does include a few third-party programs on Macs, including one that, oddly, is for drawing comic-strip effects on photos. But these are tucked away in the applications folder and most are full working versions, not trials or offers. The main exception is a trial version of Micro-

soft Office. With some Mac models, you get trials of two Apple programs, iWork and FileMaker Pro. But these trials can be deleted simply by dragging the icons to the trash can.

Computer makers should stop dumping craplets on us. Until they do, you can find ways to avoid them.

Email me at [mossberg@wsj.com](mailto:mossberg@wsj.com). See video versions of my reviews at [wsj.com/mossbergvideo](http://wsj.com/mossbergvideo).

*Submitted by Tom Ford, President, NOPCC*

## Smart Computing Magazine's Daily Tips

*Editor: As a subscriber to this excellent magazine, I am eligible to receive daily email tips. Here are a few to catch your interest:*

**Email Attachments:** A fairly common problem people run into is the inability to save attached files to their PCs. This may happen to you if your email client is configured--for security reasons--to prevent you from opening file attachments of a certain size, content, or type. You can disable this setting in Outlook Express by opening the Tools menu and selecting Options. Click the Security tab, deselect the Do Not Allow Attachments To Be Saved Or Opened That Could Potentially Be A Virus option, and click OK. To avoid viruses, worms, spyware, and other types of nasty code, be sure to scan the saved file for malware before opening it.

### Wireless Networks

WinXP has an amazing ability to manage wireless connections. If there is more than one network present, the operating system will actually search for and connect to the strongest wireless signal. Problem is, you may not want to connect to the strongest signal. To control how you connect, go to Start, Connect To, and Show All Connections. Right-click the wireless network icon and select Properties. Click the Wireless Networks tab. If you see multiple wireless network names listed, click the one that's yours and click Move Up until it is listed first. NetStumbler is a powerful tool for discovering which channel your neighbors are using for their wireless networks. Another option is just to move your router closer to where you want to connect. That way, your router will emit the strongest signal and your laptop or desktop will connect first to that network.

### Access Web Sites

If you can't access certain Web sites from computers on your network, chances are good that your software firewall is the culprit, rather than your router. Software fire-

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walls might block your access to certain Web sites for a variety of reasons. If your computer runs a software firewall, start your troubleshooting by first disabling the software firewall and then visiting the Web site again. If you still can't access the site, enter your router's firmware menu and then navigate to its filtering settings. Anyone who can log into your router's firmware (via the username and password you defined) can use the router's filtering features to create a list of Web sites that the router will block access to. As we mentioned, this is a much less likely scenario than your software firewall detecting something on the Web site that triggers its own blocking features.

### **Cookies In Internet Explorer**

Depending on your Privacy settings in Internet Explorer, you might run into trouble with certain sites that require cookies to retain registration information and other settings. However, with a few tweaks, you can ensure that IE doesn't block any cookies you don't want it to block, all without compromising your overall privacy settings. In IE open the Tools menu, click Internet Options, and choose the Privacy tab. For good overall security, you should set the cookie slider to Medium High (or even High), but doing this could block certain cookies that you'd like the program to allow. By selecting the Sites option (or Per Sites Privacy Option in some Internet Explorer versions), you can specify sites whose cookies IE should allow. Click the Edit button, type the site's URL in the Address Of Web Site field, click Allow, and click OK. (If you ever want to remove a site from the list of allowed sites, simply select the site in the Managed Web Sites list, click Remove, and click OK.)

### **Inkjet Printers**

Inkjet printers can output some incredible images, but they use so many ink nozzles that things can easily go wrong, leading to smeared images. The solution in many cases is maintenance. When inkjets sit idle for long periods of time, ink in the nozzles dries out, and the plugged nozzles either don't work or they spray ink wildly, making printouts look terrible. In many cases it's possible to use software that came with the printer to run a cleaning utility that's designed to blast the caked ink out of the nozzles. To access this feature (assuming it's available; software varies from printer to printer), open Internet Explorer (or any other application with a print feature), click Print from the File menu, select the problematic printer, and click Preferences. In the resulting dialog box, find the tab containing the cleaning utility (often marked Maintenance) and run the cleaning utility. If your printer has a Print Head Alignment utility, which

lines up the separate layers of color, run this software, too, and your printer should be good as new. If not, use the printer's cleaning utility to clean it again a few times. If those attempts fail, you may have to purchase new ink cartridges. Be aware that the cleaning procedure blasts a stream of ink through all of the nozzles, so the process does consume a lot of ink.

*Editor: This next Daily Tip is especially important if you are transiting to Vista. Most, if not all, of your peripherals will require updated drivers. You will most likely have to call the equipment's Tech Support, identify your problem as UPDATEING TO MS VISTA as that will expedite your support.*

### **Drivers**

Whether you need to call tech support or simply want to search for drivers on the manufacturer's Web site, you'll need to know your device's model number. In most cases, finding the model number is a snap: If you don't see the model number on the device itself, you can find it via your computer's Device Manager. Click Start, Control Panel, and then open System. Click Device Manager and then click the plus (+) sign next to Network Adapters. Your adapter's name will appear and will most likely include a model number. The adapter's software will also generally display its model number.

*"Smart Computing" magazine, Daily Tips emailed to subscribers..*

## **SMART COMPUTING DAILY FUN SITE**

*An additional part of the daily email to subscribers is the "Daily Fun Site", an assortment of links that cover many interesting topics...not all just funny, some informative. Try them on for size.....*

### **Baby Toupee**

The phrase 'Get Wiggy With it!' has never sounded so cute and is sure to bring tons of laughs at the next family gathering. If your baby wasn't born with a full head of hair, don't fret. BabyToupee can help you find that perfect wig for your little darling. In a variety of colors and styles, your baby's personality can show through, whether it's a sleek coif or a head full of pink hair, it will definitely bring a smile to your face. Don't think it's the best idea for your baby? No worries; check out the site for a good giggle, and you won't be disappointed.

[Baby Toupee](#)

### **AmazingFun.com**

Are you trying to find the right way to keep in touch with a loved one, or are you just wanting to have some fun?

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Either way, if you check out [AmazingFun.com](http://AmazingFun.com), you're sure to be satisfied. This site is filled with links to virtual flowers, hugs, insults, awards . . . and the list goes on and on. Send them for free to your friends, or if you are feeling down in the dumps yourself, you can check out the Virtual Ego Booster, and you'll be bombarded with self-esteem-improving compliments.

[AmazingFun.com](http://AmazingFun.com)

### A Sticky Situation

Who knew that using the wrong type of glue could create big problems? The glue experts at [ThisToThat.com](http://ThisToThat.com) know this because they've seen their fair share of gluing mishaps. To prevent further glue catastrophes, [ThisToThat.com](http://ThisToThat.com) offers advice for different gluing situations you might find yourself stuck with. Simply select a common household material from one drop-down menu, select the second material from another drop-down menu, and presto, you've got your glue query answered.

[A Sticky Situation](http://ThisToThat.com)

### TV Party

As everyone knows, the life of a director isn't easy. There are first takes, second takes, and third takes. And then there are outtakes. Here are highlights of some of the most outrageous bloopers to ever not appear on network television, from a newsman with too much time on his hands, to an inebriated diva.

[TV Party](http://TVParty.com)

### 4Literature

If you're feeling like you need a little down time, 4Literature has more than 2,000 books, stories, poems, plays, and religious and historical documents that you can look through. Browse by title, author, or do your own search. Write about or discuss your favorite authors with other literature junkies.

[4Literature](http://4Literature.com)

### QuoteGarden

Graduation is drawing near, and there are lots of nervous and anxious students preparing for their next step towards college or their plunge into the real world and finding a career. Either way, good advice is always needed. Check out [QuoteGarden.com](http://QuoteGarden.com) for great quotes about graduation from Theodore Roosevelt, Woody Allen, Billy Cosby, and more. If you've got other occasions in mind, check out the Quote Garden home page for an extensive list of other events, holidays, and topics.

[QuoteGarden](http://QuoteGarden.com)

*Since the presentation for the May General Membership Meeting is about gaming, this last link may be of particu-*

*lar interest to the group. A bit of caution, some gaming sites, especially the "free" ones can create spam. That is the "price" for being "free". So it is best if you create a special email address especially for spammers.*

### Free Games

If you like computer games, this is one site you'll want to check out. They include action, adventure, arcade, puzzle, strategy and sports, among others, hundreds in all for any age. But they can be addictive, so it would be best to visit during non-work hours.

[Free Games](http://FreeGames.com)

*"Smart Computing" Daily Fun Tips emailed to subscribers*

*Editor: When you subscribe (notice I said "when" not "if"), be sure to let them know that you are a member of the NOPCC. For a certain number of member subscription, the club gets "free" subscriptions to be used as Door Prizes. So help yourself and the NOPCC and subscribe.*

## Symantec Security

Symantec has generously donated to the New Orleans Personal Computer Club (NOPCC) several copies of its renown Norton's Security Software.. NOPCC has used these applications as Door Prizes for our members. If you weren't one of the lucky winners, here is what you missed:

### NORTON ANTIVIRUS™ 2007

A winner of 27 consecutive Virus Bulletin awards, Norton AntiVirus blocks virus and spyware with advanced protection. Norton AntiVirus 2007 safeguards users against viruses, spyware, and other security risks with pre-install scan and removal capabilities as well as ongoing protection after installation. It also blocks attacks from entire worm and virus families without requiring individual virus and worm signatures. And it protects against known and emerging hidden threats located at the deepest level of the operating system. In addition, Norton AntiVirus 2007 has been reengineered with a new user interface to provide an optimal balance of simplicity, security, and performance. Customers of Norton AntiVirus 2007 continue to be protected through Symantec's Global Intelligence Network that includes more than 40,000 sensors monitoring network activity in more than 180 countries and comprehensively tracks attack activity across the entire Internet.

**Block, detect, and remove existing and emerging threats**

**Stay protected without making complex security**

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### **decisions—simply install it and forget it**

Norton AntiVirus 2007 automatically handles low security risks without user interaction. Users who want more control over their security settings can configure Norton AntiVirus to alert them when these items are detected.

Norton Protection Center has been completely redesigned to communicate security status simply and efficiently. Users can browse easily through each drop-down category to see the status of the category's security features. Overall computer status is always visible via the Norton Status icon on the taskbar or the Windows system tray icon.

Current subscribers of Symantec products who are eligible for Norton AntiVirus 2007 upgrades will be notified via in-product notification.

## **NORTON CONFIDENTIAL**

Norton Confidential is the first complete online transaction security solution that allows consumers to safely conduct hosing, Norton Confidential, the only available solution designed to protect consumers at the moment they are transacting, features unmatched zero-hour protection against fraudulent Web sites and crimeware. In addition, Notion Confidential includes Web site Authentication and password security capabilities.

Separate versions of Norton Confidential are available for both the Windows XP and Macintosh operating systems.

Norton Confidential protects consumers at the moment they are most vulnerable—while banking, shopping or about to submit passwords, account numbers or other confidential information.

### **Phishing Site Protection**

Utilizes block lists and advanced heuristic technologies to assess Web pages and protect consumers from known or suspected phishing sites

Browser plug-in provides immediate and easy-to-mad feedback on the safety of the Web page

### **Web Site Authentication**

Validates the authenticity of Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) certificates for many popular Web sites that require personal financial data. login credentials or other confidential information

§Browser plug-in provides an easily identifiable visual cue to let era know that the site is legitimate and there is no active crimeware monitoring their

activities

### **Crimeware Protection**

Protects users from known and unknown crimeware when they care the menu—prior to sharing personal financial or other confidential information online

Leverages both definition- and heuristic-based technologies to remove & Mink crimeware automatically.

Stops crimeware from capturing personal] information, interruption, wink allowing the user to safely conduct business

### **Confidential Information Management Protection**

Secures and manages login and password credentials for Web sites and Windows applications

Alerts consumers when their login and password credentials are being submitted to unapproved sites

Provides password strength feedback

Conveniently auto-fills login and password credentials on previously approved or authenticated sites

### **Users Automatically Receive the Latest Security Updates**

Consumers will receive the latest protection updates and new product features as soon as they become available, helping ensure that users are always running the most up-to-date protection

Norton Confidential for the Macintosh protects Mac users from transaction fraud by offering:

Web protection – utilizes both block list and advanced heuristic analysis of Web pages to help determine safe sites, suspicious sites, and bad sites

Confidential information management and blocking

Vulnerability protection – securing Macintosh systems from zero-hour threats as well as worms, hackers, and bots

Confidential File Guard – protects users by locking down critical files to prevent tampering

## **NORTON INTERNET SECURITY™ 2007**

Norton Internet Security 2007 is an innovative, security suite that delivers essential protection against the latest online threats. Norton Internet Security 2007 stops spy-

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ware, viruses, worms and hackers from entering a user's system while also leveraging antiphishing tools to safeguard against visiting fraudulent Web sites. Norton Internet Security 2007 provides zero-hour protection against new attacks by identifying and blocking threats before they enter the user's system. In addition, Norton Internet Security 2007 safeguards against the latest online dangers such as crimeware and other risks that camouflage themselves by using rootkits or packers to hide from security software. Norton Internet Security 2007 offers more up-to-date protection by employing new proactive security technologies while continually being updated with security information automatically delivered by Symantec.

### Protection against the latest threats

**New**—Phishing Protection identifies and blocks fraudulent Web sites attempting to steal the user's personal information

**Enhanced**—Intrusion Prevention stops spyware, worms, viruses and hackers from exploiting system vulnerabilities and security holes inside the user's computer

**Enhanced**—Smart Firewall Protection automatically configures itself to allow good applications and block spyware, worms, viruses, crimeware and hackers from stealing sensitive information from the user's computer

**Enhanced**—Rootkit protection guards against hidden threats that conceal themselves in the deepest levels within the operating system in order to evade detection by security software

**Enhanced**—Norton Internet Security 2007 delivers significant performance enhancements in year-over-year product comparisons; outpaces industry average results in performance tests against nine competitive Internet Security products in: memory usage, boot time, scan speed, user interface (UI) launch speed, and HTTP download speed.

**Enhanced**—Packer support allows detection of threats that disguise themselves using packing and compression techniques

**Enhanced**—**Auto-Protect** detects and blocks incoming viruses, spyware, and unwanted adware risks before they attempt to install and execute on the system

**Enhanced**—Network Detection automatically optimizes protection using different security settings when connecting to various types of networks. Norton

Internet Security 2007 is able to automatically block unknown computers from connecting to the user's computer while on wireless public networks

Removal and repair recommendations are based on analysis of individual security risks by Symantec™ Security Response, a leading team of worldwide information security experts

Flexibility and Ease-of-Use

**Enhanced**—Norton™ Protection Center enables the user to see how well he or she is protected from one easy-to-understand, centralized page

**Enhanced**—Home network protection works in concert with today's most popular home networking equipment, complimenting their security features to provide even greater levels of protection

**Enhanced**—Security information from Symantec is continuously updated on a daily basis, then automatically delivered without the customer having to take any action

**Enhanced**—**Pre-install** scan now detects and removes high-risk spyware. QuickScan searches commonly infected files and automatically runs upon receipt of new definitions. Full system scan includes foreground and background throttling mode to improve scan times. Scan Summary results offer more detail to better identify threats that are detected and items that are found

Protect multiple computers in your household. Norton Internet Security 2007 can now be installed on up to three computers

An optional add-on pack with AntiSpam and Parental Controls will be available for Norton Internet Security 2007 customers who desire these features.

Smart Risk Assessment Model—Provides easy-to-follow steps to help the user determine how to handle low-risk programs.

These products are designed for Windows® XP Home/XP Pro users and are eligible for a free Windows Vista™ compatibility update.

### Norton Update Center for Windows Vista™

Allow us to help you download and install the update available for your Norton product. To assist you during this upgrade process, we strongly recommend you use Internet Explorer 5.5 or higher to allow our digitally signed browser application to automate the upgrade process. <http://www.symantec.com/windowsvistasupport>



# CLUB SUPPORTERS

## THE SECRET GUIDE TO COMPUTERS

The Secret Guide is available at every New Orleans Personal Computer Club General Meeting. The latest printing is available for only \$15.00. Or contact Mary Prinz either at: [secretary@nopc.org](mailto:secretary@nopc.org) or (504) 455-1412.

### The Coins & Collectibles Shop

Coins - Coin Supplies  
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### ERRATA:

The information published in the April, 2007 Motherboard is incorrect. "CELL PHONE TIPS UPDATE 01: It was called to my attention that the previous article on this subject was mostly urban legend.

At [www.snopes.com/inboxer/household/cellphones.asp](http://www.snopes.com/inboxer/household/cellphones.asp) I was able to confirm this. Looks like both myself and my source were duped as many other have been. Please go to this link to find out the TRUE information on these tips.

# May 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 <b>NOPC Gen Mtg</b> J.D. Meisler School 6:30p-8:30p	3	4	5 Living with Home Electronics WIST 690AM 10a-11a
6	7	8	9 <b>NOPC BOD</b> @ McCann's 6:30p-8:30p	10	11	12 Living with Home Electronics WIST 690AM 10a-11a
13	14	15 <b>Genealogy SIG</b> 7:00 pm Call 887.5746 for meeting location	16	17 <b>New-Inter- mediate User SIG</b> Old Metairie Library 6:30p-8:30p	18	19 Living with Home Electronics WIST 690AM 10a-11a
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Living with Home Electronics WIST 690AM 10a-11a
27	28	29	30	31		

The New Orleans Personal Computer Club (NOPCC) is a private non-profit organization chartered under the State of Louisiana. Its purpose is to provide an open forum for discussion and education of the membership in the use and application of PCs, peripheral equipment and software. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author (s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the NOPCC, its members or its officers. The club does not verify for accuracy the articles in this newsletter and leaves verification of accuracy to its readers. Articles in this newsletter may be duplicated as long as credit is given to the author (s) and the NOPCC. Annual Dues Schedule: Regular Member, \$40/yr.; Family Membership, \$60/yr.;

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### Other Important Numbers / Addresses

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