



Computer
Co-op

ENewsletter

May 2007 # 1

Visions New ideas, products, services

Hasta La , Baby

It's here, just like daylight savings time. There won't be many people updating to it as this new operating system from Microsoft basically requires the full power of a new computer system. It will come bundled onto new computer systems you order, unless you specifically search out a system with Windows XP instead. Vista does have a very cool look and feel to it, but they've reengineered the operating system so much, it will take XP users a while to get use to it. Starting with, How do I shut it down? Where is the red Turn Off Computer button? Where is Outlook Express? Oh Boy... And more versions to choose from. There's Vista Ultimate (all the features of all the versions), Business (strong on networking, mobility, backup), Enterprise (for the huge corporate environments), Home Premium (includes all the multimedia features), and Home Basic (the cheapest version with the least features). Each of these comes in a full version and an upgrade version.

Also Office 2007

For the full future shock disorientation experience, you would need to have Office 2007 on your new computer too. So here you open up your familiar Microsoft Word and...and...what is this? It looks completely different. Where is the menu bar? How do I find my files? How do I print? How do I save? Oh Boy... We wish us all the best of luck getting use to all this change. The original version of Word had 100 commands. By Word 2003 there were 1500 commands and the most requested new features to add were actually features the program already had but people couldn't find them. Office 2007 also comes in many different (8) versions, modeled somewhat like the offerings of Vista. The one that is most commonly bundled on new systems is Office Basic that includes Word, Excel and Outlook. One product you won't see on any Office 2007 version is Front Page, for designing websites. Microsoft will soon introduce a new product, Expression Web, to replace it.

There are some cases where you will need to download and install a file converter to view Office 2007 documents with an older version of Office, but Office prompts you to start the download of the converter. Instead of the familiar menu bar at the top of the screen (File, Edit, View...) you get what is called a ribbon with a lot of commands that use to be buried in the menu structure.

Here's a good hint: There is a round graphic at the top left corner of the screen, click on it to find how to Save, Print, Open, etc.

Climate Change Presentations

In January, Charlotte and Luke traveled to Nashville and took two days of intensive training from Al Gore and a group of science advisors on how to communicate scientific findings related to climate change. Since returning to Jackson, we have given several presentations. To see all the presentations that are scheduled, go to www.theclimateproject.org and click on Mississippi at the US Map. Here's the next one:

**GLOBAL WARMING
AND OUR
FOOD SUPPLY**

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

RAINBOW PLAZA, 2807 Old Canton Rd., Jackson

**A free multimedia presentation by
Luke Lundemo of The Climate Project**

601-981-6925 for more information

Co-op Report How are we doing?

Computer Co-op is really busy these days. We just have two technicians right now. We've been looking for a third technician. We've agreed to support the Fondren Trolley with some advertising on the side of the Trolley. Please give the Trolley a try if you get the chance. Leave the auto out of the congested area by parking behind St. Dominics or somewhere around Millsaps College. It runs about every 20-25 minutes. You can track

right where the trolley is at <http://fondrenexpress.com/site/index.php> It runs from 10am – 3pm Monday – Saturday.

Rentals – We have new lower prices on rentals of laptop computers and on presentation projectors. The new rental laptop has the Vista operating system. We now have two presentation projectors: Our regular one for groups under 50 in regulated lighting and now one that is twice as powerful for larger groups in brighter lighting.

Used Computers & Printers – Sometimes we have nothing used, but right now there are several good bargains. This list changes quickly so come by the shop or call to see if that you are interested in is still here:

Computers:

INTEGRA – An all-in-one system with a built-in 15: LCD screen. Windows XP Home, an 80gb hard drive, 383mb of RAM and a 1400mhz AMD processor. CD burner and DVD player. Built-in networking and modem. 2 USB ports. Office 2000 and non-expiring antivirus software. \$349

PC ETC – A Windows 2000 system with a 500mhz AMD processor, 384mb of RAM and a 10gb hard drive. CD burner and network card. 2 USB ports. Office 2000 and non-expiring antivirus software. \$134

HP BRIO1 – Windows 2000 with a 466mhz Celeron processor, 128mb RAM and a 20gb hard drive. CD-ROM drive, networking card, two USB ports. Office 2000 and non-expiring antivirus software. \$119

HP BRIO2 - Windows 2000 with a 466mhz Celeron processor, 256mb RAM and a 4gb hard drive. CD-burner, networking card, two USB ports. Office 2000 and non-expiring antivirus software. \$109

FNS MACHINE - Windows 2000 with a 400mhz Pentium II processor, 256mb RAM and a 37gb hard drive. CD-burner and player, networking card, two USB ports. Office 2000 and non-expiring antivirus software. \$109

Printers:

HP LASERJET 4000 - \$89.99

Speakers:

ALTEK – Subwoofer system with fine sound quality - \$25

GATEWAY – speaker set - \$10

Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs – We have these for just \$2.99. They are the first no-brainer step to energy efficiency, reducing the demand for electricity and keeping new coal fired, global warming power plants from being built. These bulbs last 10 years. You would be changing 13 burned out incandescent bulbs in that socket in that time. These compact fluorescents use only a third or a fourth of the electricity as the conventional bulb. They screw into the same socket. They shouldn't get used where they will get wet or are on a dimmer circuit.

LCD Monitors – We sell 17” and 19” models. We sell them at cost to promote the energy savings. They only use about a third as much energy as a conventional CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) monitor. Additionally they give out very little heat, while a CRT radiates a lot of heat, adding to your air conditioning bill. Additionally a LCD screen is brighter, has no flicker, no distortion in the image, lasts over twice as long, generates virtually no electric, X-ray or magnetic radiation and causes no electromechanical interference. You recover about a foot of desk space and it weights 25 pounds less. 17 inch = \$179. 19 inch = \$229

Rainbow Community TV – We keep developing the idea and researching the equipment we would need to put a large flat panel display in our corner of Rainbow Plaza and program it with a daily offering of video you couldn’t get anywhere else. We’ll keep you posted on progress here.

Sharing Info & Stuff

Comcast Switchover – Very soon now your @jam.rr.com email addresses will be going away. Word is that when this happened in Memphis recently it was chaos. Read all the emails Comcast sends you very carefully.

AVG 7.5 – This is the latest version of the free AVG antivirus software from Grisoft that we use on all of our computers and have been recommending over Norton and McAfee for the past two years. It works really well. If you have version 7.1 you need to upgrade. Get it at <http://free.grisoft.com> When you are installing over a 7.1 version, choose the Repair install option.

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