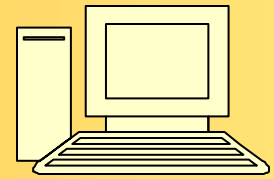


# BAY BYTES

Greater Tampa Bay Personal Computer User Group, Inc.



Newsletter

Issue 7

July 2010

23rd Year of People Helping People!

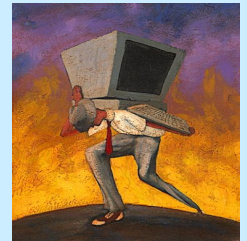


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Don't forget to visit our club's site at:  
<http://gtbpcug.org>

## Internet domain names bring in millions at Fort Lauderdale auction



BY BRIDGET CAREY

[bcarey@MiamiHerald.com](mailto:bcarey@MiamiHerald.com)

[Dating.com](http://Dating.com) sold for \$1.75 million at Thursday's domain name auction held at the W Fort Lauderdale Hotel. It was the highest bid accepted among the 120 names up for sale at DomainFest. Bidders at the hotel and online bought 35 of those names, spending a total of \$2,386,550.

All the names that were not sold Thursday, including [Jeans.com](http://Jeans.com), [WiFi.com](http://WiFi.com), [Safety.com](http://Safety.com) and [CommunityCollege.com](http://CommunityCollege.com) -- which are asking over \$1 million each -- will be added to an extended online auction that began Friday and ends May 20 at 3:15 p.m. Thursday's names are expected to be added to the auction by Saturday, according to an Overseer spokesman.

Thursday's live auction was organized by Moniker, based in Pompano Beach, owned by [Oversee.net](http://Oversee.net). The online extended auction is being held on [SnapNames.com](http://SnapNames.com), also a division of Overseer. [Jeans.com](http://Jeans.com) got an offer for \$2 million through a phone bid Thursday, but it wasn't high enough for the owner to sell. Some of the biggest sales happen outside the auction.

Moniker's Chief Executive Monte Cahn was part of the team that sold [Slots.com](http://Slots.com) privately this week for \$5.5 million, but did not disclose who the buyer was. Cahn said lately he's seeing more general topic names being sold to end users -- such as people or companies who already have a business and want to use the name to expand it -- rather than domain name investors hoping to build it up to resell it.

Cahn said Moniker has reached out to several jeans companies who have shown interest in the name. Cahn said jeans is more valuable now because customers are more comfortable with buying uniquely fitting items online. "You know your size and you just buy it," Cahn said. "People thought that would never happen with shoes, but look at Zappos."

Continued on the next page

Online shoe retailer [Zappos.com](http://Zappos.com), which is derived from the Spanish word for shoes, also owns [Clothes.com](http://Clothes.com)

It's common for major companies to own a generic domain name. Johnson & Johnson owns [Baby.com](http://Baby.com). Bank of America owns [Loans.com](http://Loans.com). Barnes & Noble owns [Books.com](http://Books.com). JCPenney owns [Gift.com](http://Gift.com). ToysRUs owns [Toys.com](http://Toys.com).

Most of the crowd at the auction were investors with several thousand names in their portfolios -- many have been playing the Internet real estate market since the mid 1990s.

The other top sellers Thursday were [BoardGames.com](http://BoardGames.com) for \$450,000, [Therapists.com](http://Therapists.com) for \$50,000, [Antidepressant.com](http://Antidepressant.com) for \$30,000 and [GolfResorts.com](http://GolfResorts.com) for \$22,500.

Palm Beach domain investor Patrick Ohannessian, head of executive accounts at the firm BTIA Inc., has owned [CommunityCollege.com](http://CommunityCollege.com) since 1997. Thursday was the first time he tried to sell it at an auction. He said he isn't disappointed that it didn't sell and plans to give it an extra boost to make it a more desired name -- adding a Facebook element and doing more, like blog posts, to get it to reach Page 1 of Google search results. It's currently on Page 2 when searching for the term "community college."

In the next five to six months, his company plans to make it easy to access on a mobile phone.

He said the owner of [Degree.com](http://Degree.com) found him at the auction and tried to negotiate a price privately, but it wasn't the \$1 million he wanted.

"I worked so hard on it, if I don't get what I want to sell it for, I won't sell it," Ohannessian said.

Read more: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/05/14/1629517/internet-domain-names-bring-in.html#ixzz0ogrMeAcq>

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### The quick tip:

<http://www9.admuncher.com/>

Ad Muncher Removes Ads. Period!

Do you hate banners that block your view and ads that appear on screen before content?

Ad Muncher blocks distracting ads, pop-ups, pop-unders, banners, floating and even video ads.

Ad Muncher updates its filters daily; it works with all Windows versions and all browsers.

If you've had enough of clicking a full-page ad before entering a Web site, download a free trial of Ad Muncher.

[Note: Ad Muncher is virus- and spyware-free, but some anti-virus apps flag it with a false-positive report.]

**No meeting on June 1st due to Memorial Day Weekend****The minutes of the meeting June 8 , 2010**

Gary Staley's Treasurer's Report was accepted as read. Your NL editor made a motion to discontinue the picture drawing contest due to the lack of interest by the members. The motion was seconded and carried. Sorry, we tried.

However, if any member has a picture that can be used in the newsletter, please send it.

newslettereditor@gmail.com So far, Dick and Emi were the only ones to send me some for the newsletter. I know you have some good ones.

Gary, in his 2nd appearance as a "Presenter," provided handouts outlining the procedures for transferring music from any vinyl record to your PC and then onto a CD, DVD or any MP3 device. Before he started his presentation, he briefly showed how to rip music files from a music CD. To do this, Gary prefers to use "AudioGrabber," after adding "Lame" as an encoder. To transfer the music from a turntable, a preamp and appropriate cables are needed, which come in a range of prices and attachments. Gary recommended getting a preamp with a built-in volume control. After completing the foregoing transfers, slide your new recording into any CD player and enjoy listening to it.

**Minutes of the meeting June 15, 2010**

For the first time as long as I can remember, a meeting went into overtime. as Dave Palmer, a member and an Internet Security expert employed by the University of Florida, presented his "condensed" version of: "How to protect yourself browsing the Internet." His detailed and extensive handout materials certainly will help everybody long after this meeting to set up and improve their Internet security.

"There is no safe Website," Dave said, and he considers all that unwanted and potentially dangerous stuff that can reach, infiltrate and infect your PC as Malware, which comes from **MALicious SoftWARE**. Its main objective is getting hold of one's very sensitive personal information, with bank account, credit card and social security numbers being at the top of their list. How to read and identify URLs and fake e-mail addresses was just one of the many tips Dave had to offer. To everybody's surprise, Dave also informed the members about "Do it yourself" kits available on the Internet to help to create and distribute Malware over the Internet, with the more expensive kits available even with 24/7 tech support! Is this the way the Internet is heading? We hope not.

**Minutes of the meeting June 22, 2010**

During Jerry Harris' Internet SIG and Q&A session, a member complained about the tiny print in an e-mail letter, a problem Jerry had researched some time ago and had not found an answer for; as there were too many factors that could be involved.

For the question about how to move the Contact list from XP Outlook Express into Windows Live Mail, Google was consulted and provided an answer.

Having Windows XP as a virtual machine under Windows 7 (See: "Some things to look into...page 10) versus dual booting, using Try & Decide in Acronis' True Image Home, and what are the advantages of Google's Chrome browser, were among topics and questions raised during the rest of the meeting.

**Minutes of the meeting June 29. 2010**

Prospective buyers for a new computer, desktop or laptop, are often confused when it comes to making sense out of all the technical data, acronyms, and information they see when looking at ads in newspapers and magazines. Parker Monroe, with added comments from several members, used the total time of his Fundamentals SIG to shed some light on all that. From CPU (Central Processing Unit) speeds in GHz (Gigahertz), memory types, and hard drive sizes and speeds, in GB (Gigabytes) and what some of the abbreviations mean, to monitor resolutions, sizes and uses.

Printers, both inkjet and laser, with all their options and features, also were discussed and explained. Members in the market for a new PC should now know more about what to look for.

*This article submitted by member Parker Monroe*

## **Data explosion: enough to fill DVDs stretching to the moon and back**

By [Joe McKendrick](#)

**IDC has just released estimates that this year, the Digital Universe — meaning every electronically stored piece of data or file out there — will reach 1.2 million [petabytes](#), or 1.2 [zettabytes](#), this year**

That's up from a measly 800,000 petabytes in 2009. Despite an economic slowdown or meltdown in some quarters, the total amount of data still grew by 62%, IDC reports. To illustrate how much data this is, write John Gantz and David Reinsel, authors of the latest IDC [report on the size of the Digital Universe](#), "picture a stack of DVDs reaching from the earth to the moon and back." (About 240,000 miles each way.)

Still, this is only the beginning of a data explosion, Gantz and Reinsel observe — by 2020, the amount of data will have grown 44-fold from 2009, to 35 trillion gigabytes. Fueling the growth will be the evolution of all major forms of media – voice, TV, radio, print – from analog to digital.

"Our stack of DVDs would now reach halfway to Mars," Gantz and Reinsel note. Most of this digital content is not unique — in fact, Gantz and Reinsel relate, "nearly 75% of our digital world is a copy – in other words, only 25% is unique."

Of course, each and everyone of us contributes to the pile every day. Len Devanna, executive with EMC, sponsor of the study, puts it in perspective:

"In the past four weeks, I've personally generated about 5.3 GB in video, 1.6 GB in photos, 3 GB in audio and let's say another 1 GB for emails, documents, Tweets, etc;. That's about 11 GB of new information that did not exist a short month ago. That's about 500 times larger than my first hard drive. Of course, these numbers represent just the stuff I know about. There's also the information inherently created as I simply go through life... Every time I make an online purchase, swipe my badge to enter work, get processed going through a toll booth with my EZ Pass, etc;. Each of these things leaves behind some digital footprint, and generates new information in the process."

*Continued on the next page*

IDC also estimates that at least 15% of the Digital Universe by 2020 will be managed or stored in the cloud — that is, “created in the cloud, delivered to the cloud, stored and manipulated in the cloud.” Gantz and Reinsel add that at least a third of all this data will “pass through the cloud” at some point in the lifecycle.

With all this data comes security headaches, of course. “By 2020, almost 50% of the information in the Digital Universe will require a level of IT-based security beyond a baseline level of virus protection and physical protection. That’s up from about 30% this year,” Gantz and Reinsel caution. “And while the portion of that part of the Digital Universe that needs the highest level of security is small – in gigabytes and total files – that portion will grow by a factor of 100.”

And, they add: “Not all data needs to be protected equally. A YouTube video of a cat doing tricks would seem to need less protection against hacking or corruption than a home-banking customer’s account balances.”

One bit of good news is the staffing and investment to manage this Digital Universe will only grow by a factor of 1.4. IDC estimates that in 2009, the world spent nearly \$4 trillion on hardware, software, services, networks, and IT staff to manage the Digital Universe. “That spending is expected to grow modestly between now and 2020, which means the cost of managing each byte in the Digital Universe will drop steadily – an incentive to create even more information,” Gantz and Reinsel say.



*Editor's note*

*Any one interested in reading more about this and other interesting subjects will find them here:*

<http://www.smartplanet.com/business/blog/business-brains/data-explosion-enough-to-fill-dvds-stretching-to-the-moon-and-back/7010/>

*This article submitted by Charlie Vanderford*

## Make Your New PC Hassle-Free

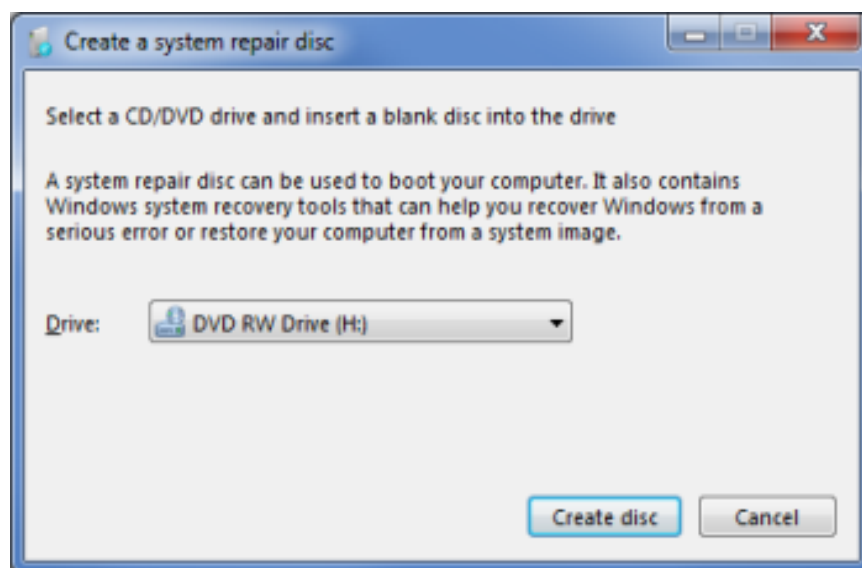
Follow these three steps to head off most computing problems before they have a chance.

Rick Broida, PCWorld

Did you purchase a new PC ? If so, there are steps you should take to make it as hassle-free as possible. If you want even more tips, read my recent "[Essential Windows Tricks](#)" collection.

### Step One: Create a System Repair Disc

You never know when some catastrophe will strike your PC, rendering it unable to boot. And because few vendors these days bundle actual operating-system discs, it's up to you to build a bootable CD or DVD that can help save the day.



Thankfully, Windows 7 makes this quite easy. Just click Start, type **repair**, and then click Create a System Repair Disc. Pop a blank CD or DVD into your drive (netbook users will need to connect an external one), click Create disc, and then sit back while Windows gets to work.

When it's done, label the disc, file it away, and hope you never need it. If you do, you can boot the disc to load a basic repair environment with diagnostic tools and System Restore.

The important thing to remember is that you can't do this after a problem has occurred; you need to create your repair disc ahead of time. So take 10 minutes and do it right now. At some point in the future, you may be awfully glad you did.

*Continued on the next page*

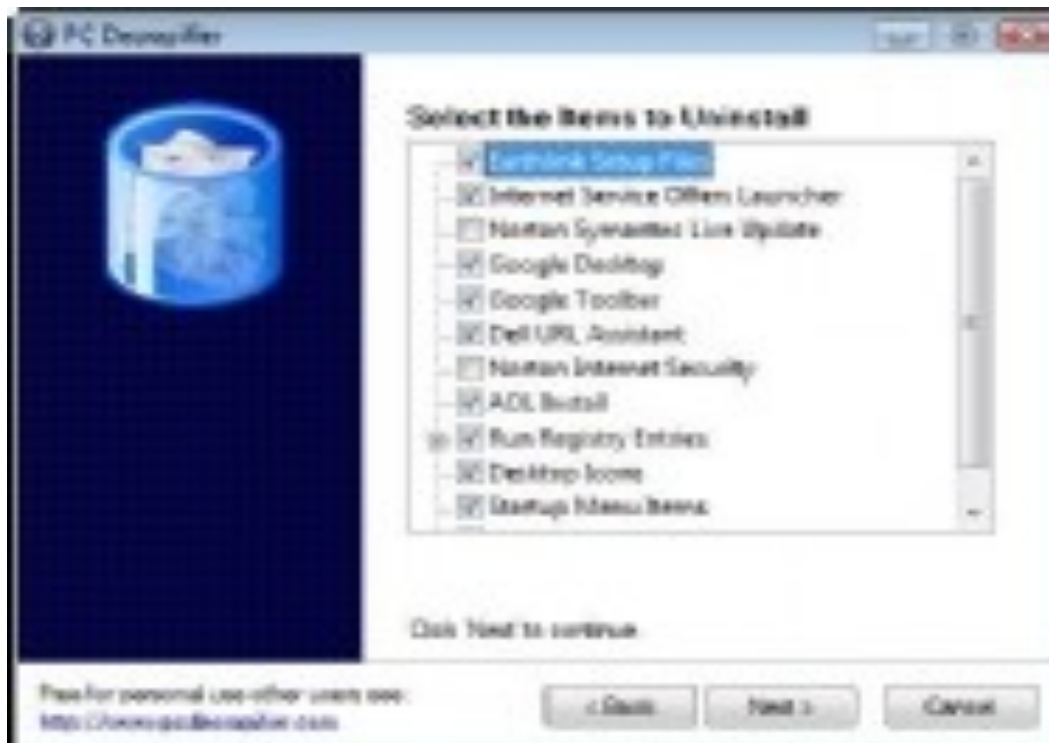
## Step Two: Remove the Crapware

Now that you've created a system-repair disc for your new PC, let's get it running at peak performance. That means removing some, if not all, of the software that was preloaded by the system maker. Some call it shovelware; I call it crapware.

Why the derogatory moniker? Simple: The proprietary and/or third-party software that many vendors preload on their PCs is mostly junk. It consumes space on your hard drive, causes your system to boot slower than it should, and just generally gets in the way.

Yes, I'm looking at you, McAfee Internet Security 90-day trial. And Google Desktop. And Roxio everything. You're not bad products, but I didn't ask for you, and I don't want you unless I want you. Get it?

There are two ways to go about shoveling out the shovelware. First, you can install one of my long-time favorite utilities, Revo Uninstaller, then manually remove unwanted apps one by one.



Second, you can take advantage of the aptly named PC [Decrapifier](#), which was created for the sole purpose of removing crapware. The latest version (2.1) can kick nearly 100 crap apps to the curb, everything from AOL to Yahoo Toolbar. Of course, it's not an all-or-nothing proposition: You can choose which programs it uninstalls.

Yes, I recognize the irony of installing software to remove software. But [Revo Uninstaller](#) is worth having anyway, and you can dump PC Decrapifier when you're done with.

As to the question of what programs you should keep and what you should pitch, tread carefully. For example, if your system came with a Blu-ray drive and you remove a bundled program like Arcsoft TotalMedia Theater, you may lose the ability to watch Blu-ray movies. When in doubt, keep the app.

In most cases, however, if there's a program you don't recognize or don't think you want (a Web search can answer most questions), get rid of it.

## Step Three: Keep It Secure

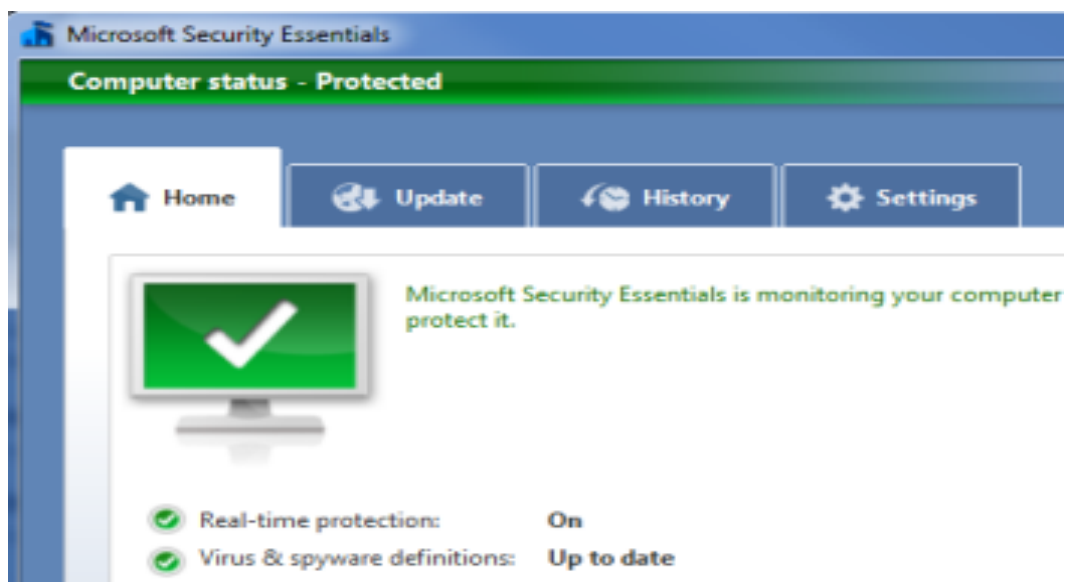
Now let's talk security. As any regular PCWorld reader knows, computers and their users are vulnerable to all manner of threats, from hackers to phishing to viruses. That's why it's critical that you bat-ten down your new machine's hatches right from the get-go.

Psst! Guess what? Right out of the box, Windows 7 is already pretty darn secure. Its firewall and built-in anti-malware tool (Windows Defender) offer robust protection from everyday threats.

Meanwhile, the latest versions of Firefox (3.5) and Internet Explorer (8) help keep you safe from pop-ups, phishing attempts, browser hijacking, and the like.

As for e-mail, both Gmail and Yahoo employ Norton antivirus software at the server level (meaning there's nothing you have to install), along with anti-spam and anti-phishing tools. If you happen to use either one, well, you've got clean mail.

There are a couple tools of your own to consider adding to the mix. The first is a router, which has a built-in firewall that effectively renders your PC(s) invisible to the Internet at large--so no hackers will be able to break in.



Second, for that little bit of extra protection, install Microsoft's widely acclaimed--and free--[Security Essentials antivirus software](#).

I also highly recommend Web of Trust, a free browser plug-in that shows you if Web links are safe--before you click them.

And that's it! I firmly believe that you can dispense with pricey, intrusive, performance-sapping third-party security software and rely on Windows' own tools (and a few extras). That's what I've done for years and years, and I haven't encountered a single problem. Not one. (You can read more about this in [Security Software: Protection or Extortion?](#))

Rick Broida writes PC World's Hassle-Free PC blog . Sign up to have [Rick's newsletter](#) e-mailed to you each week .

1998-2010, PCWorld Communications, Inc.

## Is Your Internet Security up to Date?

**Antivirus up to date?**

**Firewall?**

**Windows up to date?**

**Spy Ware?**

**See how to protect your computer at:**

<http://www.gtbpcug.org/protect/>



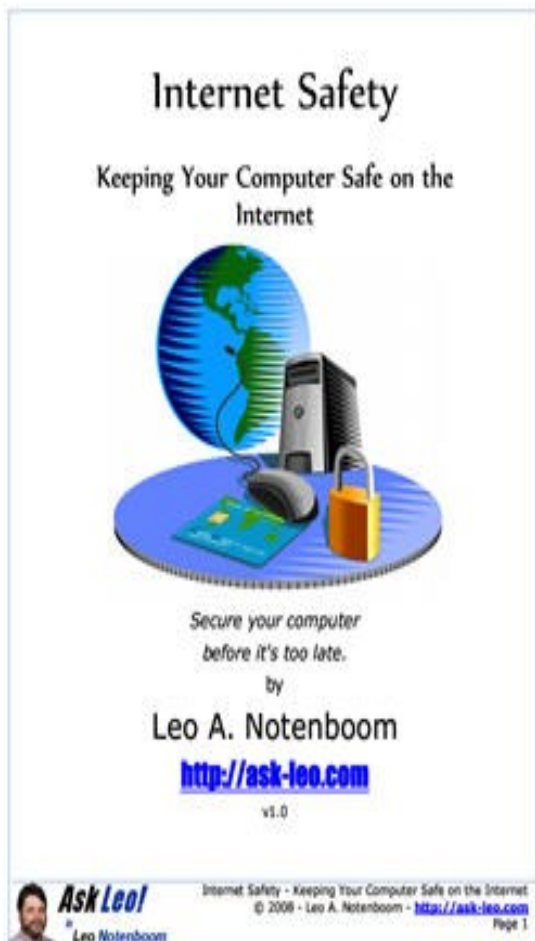
### More about Internet Threats

*Submitted by member Gary Staley*

These days the very concept of "Internet Safety" seems like an oxymoron.

In this **FREE** 40 page ebook I summarize popular articles from Ask Leo! covering the basics

- the things you must do, the software you must run and the concepts you need to be aware of
- to keep your computer and your data safe as you use the



- Firewalls
- Viruses
- Spyware
- Staying Up To Date
- Education
- Mobile Security

internet. It's not hard, and once things are in place it's not even time consuming. But it is necessary.

Yes, FREE. No strings attached.

Adobe Reader required.

<http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/because-every-country-is-the-best-at-something/>

This shows you what each country listed here is good at, according whoever compiled the list.

<http://projects.flowingdata.com/walmart/>

Very interesting video showing the growth of WalMart/Sam's Club in the USA since 1962.

[http://www.goodsync.com/php/pums/rfprepay.php?lic=sbelt\\_gs&buydirect=](http://www.goodsync.com/php/pums/rfprepay.php?lic=sbelt_gs&buydirect=)

Copying data in real time to another hard drive might be the way to go for backups.

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860\\_3-20005637-56.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13860_3-20005637-56.html)

Microsoft releases the final edition of its "Money" program. Read all about it.

<http://www.wxpnews.com/archives/wxpnews-423-20100329.htm>

Can your PC help you save on your phone bill? This link will give you some tips and options how to go about it what kind of phone service to use. (*Scroll down to the article*)

<http://iographica.com/>

Not everyone is an artist, but this is not an excuse to give it a try. This program lets you create whatever your heart desires. If you don't want to print it, you can use it as your desktop wallpaper.

<http://techteachtoo.com/>

This is the site of Dave Palmer who was the presenter at the meeting on June 15 and talked about Internet Security. Take a look at it and you'll be surprised what is waiting out there for you!

<http://blogs.techrepublic.com.com/window-on-windows/?p=1728>

Read all about how to create a dual boot system for XP and Windows 7

#### **The quick tip:**

For XP users who don't want to type in User name and password at start-up try this setup;

In RUN type in:

**control userpasswords2**

In the User Accounts dialog box click the **Users** tab. Uncheck the box that says:

**Users must enter user a name and password to use this computer**

However, for more security from intruders, it might not be a bad idea to use a user name and password.

*Submitted by Charlie Vanderford*

Can you guess what they are loading onto the aircraft ? Hint: The picture was taken in 1956.  
Don't read on below until you look at the picture.



It is a 5 MB Hard Disk Drive for the IBM 305 RAMAC.  
The first IBM 'SUPER' computer released in September 1956.  
This HDD weighed over a ton and stored an 'astonishing' 5 MB of data.

Do you appreciate being able to reach into your pocket & pull out your 8 GB memory stick now?  
Or perhaps even your 3GS iPhone with 32 GB of memory!

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