Meeting Notes
Washington Area Computer User Group? WACUG
August 18, 2007

1. See http://askwoody.com/ for "Woody's no-bull news, tips and help for Windows and Office" as recommended by Paul Howard.

2. Paul Howard suggests three anti-spyware programs be used. These apparently can be run simultaneously (or at least sequentially) and provide overlapping coverage.

   - AdAware 2007. See http://www.lavasoft.com/products/ad_aware_free.php.

   - SpywareBlaster (3.5.1). See http://www.javacoolsoftware.com/spywareblaster.html.

   - Spybot Search & Destroy[1]. See http://www.safer-networking.org/en/download/.

3. Chuck Roberts made a presentation on two Acronis products: (a) Acronis Disk Director Suite 10 and (b) Acronis True Image 10.

   - Regarding Acronis Disk Director Suite…

     ✓ See http://www.acronis.com/promo/ADD/disk-director-012.html?source=google&keyword=adds&s_scid=acronis%20disk%20director|693380177&gclid=CMHMlZCnhI4CFRIXZAodgz_YKw for manufacturer-provided information on the functions of this product.

     ✓ Chuck opined that users should separate data from the operating system to facilitate recovery from a disk disaster, and presumably, to improve security by not using the standard "My Documents" folder[2]. This could be implemented by creating separate "virtual" disk drives on the "C" drive using this product.

     ✓ Chuck emphasized the disk partitioning function of this software.

   - Regarding Acronis True Image 10…

     ✓ See http://www.acronis.com/homecomputing/products/trueimage/index.html for manufacturer-provided detailed information on the functions of this product.

     ✓ This software provides sophisticated backup and recovery for PC systems. Functions include full, differential and incremental backups. A scheduling function is provided although backup can also be accomplished as a manual operation.

     ✓ The "Clone" function of this software provides for a complete backup of all data on a disk drive to another disk drive. For example, the complete "C:" drive can

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[1] **Caution**: Spybot Search & Destroy conflicts with Norton Internet Security products. Paul commented that Spybot Search & Destroy should be removed from one's computer before loading Norton, or don't load Spybot Search & Destroy until after Norton has been loaded and is up and running. When Norton is loaded first, then Spybot S 'n D, the programs co-exist without problems.

[2] The "My Documents" folder is often the target of viruses, worms and other nasty invasive programs. I believe, however, that the folder "My Documents" must be left on the "C" drive or "strange and wonderful" things will happen if it is removed.

be cloned to an external disk drive which could then be used to exchange and replace the "C:" drive.

✓ ***Important Note:*** Only one differential backup can be made with this software, which must then be followed by a full backup. That is, the sequence of backups using the differential mode would be: FULL, DIFFERENTIAL, FULL, DIFFERENTIAL, etc. If incremental backups are made, the sequence of backups would be FULL, INCREMENTAL-1, INCREMENTAL-2, INCREMENTAL-3, INCREMENTAL-n… In restoring incremental backups, the FULL backup is restored first followed by INCREMENTAL-1, INCREMANTAL-2, INCREMENTAL-3, INCREMENTAL-n in that order (oldest to the newest).

- Paul Howard recommended http://www.ugr.com/ (User Group Store) as a good place to purchase Acronis products, which can be bought at a significant discount.

4. Paul Howard made a presentation on RoboForm password manager.

- See http://www.siber.com/ (Siber Systems in Fairfax County!). Also see http://www.siber.com/rfindex.html for the three RoboForm products produced by Siber Systems: (a) RoboForm, (b) RoboForm2Go, and (C) RoboForm Enterprise[3].

- See http://www.siber.com/roboform.html for a description of RoboForm from the manufacturer. The software remembers and encrypts login IDs and passwords, provides "one-click" login, generates secure, random passwords, and does not submit IDs and passwords through the keyboard, thus foiling key-loggers. For the user's manual, see http://www.roboform.com/manual.html.

- See http://www.siber.com/roboform2go.html for a description of RoboForm2Go from the manufacturer. Data are stored on a thumb drive and can be used on any computer. See http://www.roboform.com/pass2go-manual.html for the user's manual for this product.

- The price of RoboForm is $29.95 with additional licenses priced at $9.95. RoboForm2Go is priced at $19.95. **A 20% discount is being arranged for these products – details will be sent to members via email.**

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[3] RoboForm Enterprise is a client-based, business-oriented product not germane to individual PC users.