



PC USER GROUP Meeting

WEDNESDAY

Feb 8

7:15 PM

Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

Hosted by: SPAUG (Stanford Palo Alto User Group for PC)

Topic: Organizing, Protecting and Sharing your Hard Drive

Speaker: Gene Barlow, User Group Relations, www.ugr.com/

Gene will describe why you may want more than one hard drive **partition**, and show how to set up partitions with Acronis Disk Director 11.

Regular backups of your hard drive are the most important thing you can do to **protect** the content of your computer. Gene will describe the backup approach that will give the best protection for your computer, and demonstrate Acronis True Image Home 2012.

Acronis True Image 2012 allows you to **share** certain files with your other computers and with friends across the internet. Gene will demonstrate how to use the new **Synchronization** feature of True Image 2012.

At the end of the meeting, Gene will offer a free software product to each attendee to monitor the well being of their own hard drive.

Gene Barlow has worked with computers for 50 years in technical, marketing, and management positions. He had a long career (34 years) with IBM and managed their User Group Support organization when the IBM PC was introduced in 1980. When he retired from IBM, he set up his own consulting firm, **User Group Relations**, to continue to represent various software companies to user groups. He is an interesting speaker and has the ability to make complex topics easy for his audience to understand.

You are invited to join us for an optional no-host dinner
before our meeting, at **5:45 pm**, at
The Bistro—Elks Lodge, Ground Floor

Upcoming meetings (2012): 2/8, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12, 10/10,

11/14

SPAUG — Stanford Palo Alto Users Group for PC

PO Box 20161, STANFORD CA 94309-0161

<http://www.pa-spaug.org> OR <http://svuga.org/>

Jim Dinkey, President, 650-493-9307 [jimdinkey at jimdinkey.com](mailto:jimdinkey@jimdinkey.com)

Dues: \$30 for 12 months

**STANFORD PALO ALTO USER GROUP FOR PC
(SPAUG)**

MEMBERSHIP FORM

To become a member of SPAUG—

1. Provide the information requested on this form.
2. Send this form and a check for **\$30.00**, payable to **SPAUG**, to the address on the right:

**SPAUG
PO BOX 20161
Stanford, CA 94309-0161**

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Your Name _____
Last, First

Your mailing address: _____
Number and Street, PO Box, etc.

City, State, ZIP (All Nine Digits—xxxxx-xxxx—Please) ZIP+4 _____

e-mail: _____

Phone: _____ (Area Code) Number Fax: _____ (Area Code) Number

Areas of expertise you would be willing to share with SPAUG:

Areas of special interest:

What are you hoping to find in SPAUG?

How did you learn about SPAUG? _____

Your Occupation: _____

SPAUG

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Notes from the Prez

by Jim Dinkey

With Gene Barlow (and Linda) being our speaker for February, and the possibility of the reaction of “Not Again!”, I assure you that the session will be very worthwhile and much different.

Acronis has come up with the implementation of “perpetuity” backups. Acronis doesn’t call it that, but that is the result. This means that the implementation permits the user to set up Acronis to create backups automatically, and to keep doing this forever!

Specifically, Acronis 2011 and Acronis 2012 both have the ability to make backups of a computer indefinitely. The backup action is automatically repeated. When the backup drive gets close to full, old backups are erased.

Of all of the restoring I have had to do or chosen to do on my computer, the vast majority of the restores have been to get me back to a prior state for some reason. Often, in anticipation of a problem piece of software or a condition that I know may turn out poorly,

rather than relying on the program’s ability to remove itself properly from the computer or the conditions are not thoroughly understood either by me or the software, it is a cleaner and faster operation to merely restore the computer to the state the computer was in a few minutes earlier – and know that the repair was effective and timely.

Get the latest update of Acronis 2011 or 2012 , via the internet, This updating will enable the program to keep your data for as long as it can and then delete older backups, as needed, to make room for the next batch of backups. This action is a definition of perpetuity as it never ends.

What follows is the recommendation I have been making for the past few months, because the technique solves a problem that has been plaguing the Clinic – no backups when the computer arrives for repair or old backups that are worthless.

As a result, when someone wants to bring their computer to the SPAUG Clinic, I try to ascertain the status of the backup. If deficient, I can assure success by setting up the com-

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General Meeting @ Elks Lodge—Wed. February 8 @ 7:15 PM
4249 El Camino Real - Palo Alto (directions on page 3)

Optional Dinner at Elks Lodge Bistro
Elks Lodge, Ground Floor, 5:45 pm (see page 3)

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puter for perpetual unattended backups. Then the client's data is secure.

The selection of what to ask the owner to bring is pretty straight-forward.

If the computer does not have a second drive in it and it is an older IDE-structured computer, then the maximum hard drive possible is an IDE 320 GB (or 500 GB in the case of Western Digital Corporation (WDC)) along with the required cabling.

If the computer is a late model SATA design, then usually a 1 terabyte drive is added. In the case of desktop computers, the drive is installed internally. In laptops, the drive has

to be an external USB drive. The USB interface throttles to about one-third speed. Being slow is not critical – it merely needs to be accounted for.

Because some computers need to have only right-angle molded connections, I sometimes have a few in inventory,

After installing the hard drives, Acronis 2011 or 2012 is then installed and brought current. Acronis being brought current after installation is critical for both versions because only the latest version of both has the proper working computer load. After updating, the two versions seem to be identical - both are sufficient for the perpetuity backups. None of the

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SPAUG Meeting Videos (DVD) and History Book Available

by Robert Mitchell

Available Videos: \$5 each

- **Video Editing** by Maurice Green 1.11.2012..... 4 Copies Available
- **SPAUG Experts Panel Part 1** 8.10.2011..... 3 Copies Available
- **SPAUG Experts Panel Part 2**..... 9.14.2011..... 3 Copies Available
- **Andy Marken**..... 7.13.2011..... 3 Copies Available

Club History Book: Hardcover: \$30 or Softcover: \$20

The History of SPAUG book describes how SPAUG was started at Stanford University in 1983, and how it evolved into what it is today. Chock full of information, pictures, personal remembrances, and more.

To reserve a Video or SPAUG History book, please email Robert Mitchell at rfmitch66@gmail.com.

The Videos and the book will be available at the Check-in Table at our February meeting. Please pay Beverly Altman for purchase.

Thank you

Meeting Day: Wednesday, February 8

General Meeting

**Palo Alto Elks Lodge,
4249 El Camino Real, Palo Alto**

Meeting time is 7:15 pm

Gene Barlow
Speaking about:
Acronis

The Elks Lodge is a light-colored two-story bldg on the North (bay) side of El Camino Real (ECR), just east (toward Los Altos) from the Charleston-Arastradero-ECR intersection. It's diagonally across ECR from the Crowne Plaza Cabaña hotel.

Park your car in the parking lot that wraps around the lodge, and proceed to the front door (on the West side of the bldg.). This is a keycarded door. If you cannot get in the front door because you are late, press the intercom button on the post to the left of the main entrance, identify why you're there (try "computer club"), and you should hear the door unlock. Pull handle and enter

Proceed to the Lodge Room—upstairs. An elevator is available behind the stairway.

Typical Meeting Agenda

- 7:15 "Boot up"
- 7:30 Announcements.
- 7:35 Guests introduction.
- 7:40 Random Access (Crosstalk)
- 7:50 Break
- 8:00 SPEAKER
- 9:15 SIG Reports
- 9:20 Raffle
- 9:30 Adjourn

Optional pre-meeting dinner

Join us for dinner before our General Meeting at —

The Bistro—at the Elks Lodge

There's no dining place closer to our meeting place than this. It's on the ground floor toward the back of the building,

Directions: It's on the ground floor toward the back of the lodge building.

Menu: <http://www.paloaltoelks.org/bistro-menu>

Review: <http://www.yelp.com/biz/palo-alto-elks-lodge-no-1471-palo-alto>

Note the **time** for
this month's
dinner.

Dinner time is 5:45 pm

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prior versions has the “perpetual” option implemented.

Gene Barlow recognized that Acronis had produced a good software product but that the human interface design was deficient. Gene wrote a monograph which he includes with his home-produced CDs and also provides on-line copies buried on his website with appropriate access codes.

While the document provided by Gene Barlow goes a great way to explaining how to set the interface so Acronis will create a “perpetuity backup”, it still takes an integration of all of the support factors to achieve the perpetuity goal. This is where I come in as learning the intricacies of the Acronis interface is long and painful. I don’t need to study and learn it all over again as you would. Any product that has over 200 pages of instructions is not going to be a “quick fix” product.

Filler by John Buck

How to Sign Up for a Google Account Without Being Forced into Google+ or Gmail—[Lifehacker]—“. . . [I]f you don't want to be shoved into having a Google+ account, prefer to keep your personal details/anonymity to yourself, or would just rather create an account using your own email address, there are two methods you could use.”—
<http://tinyurl.com/7wm8v3d>

Sign Into Your Google Account on Public Computers Without Typing Anything—[Lifehacker]—“. . . [T]here's now a simple solution. And it's from Google!”—
<http://tinyurl.com/7s69kbj>

How To Find Out Why Your Email Account Spammed Your Friends and Family—[Lifehacker]—“Is there a way to track the origin of a spam email so I can keep it from happening again?”—
<http://tinyurl.com/7gw9kwg>

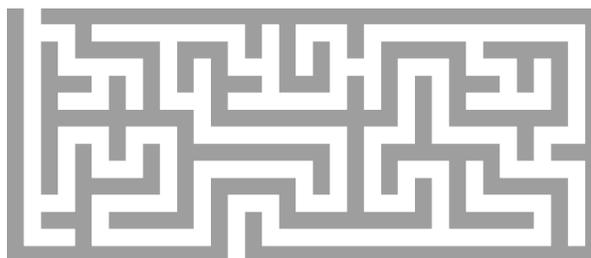
Doodles—google logos—“Doodles are the fun, surprising and sometimes spontaneous changes that are made to the Google logo to celebrate holidays, anniversaries and the lives of famous artists, pioneers and scientists”
<http://tinyurl.com/84kpm8y>

creative ads—<http://tinyurl.com/6vjlcya>

Simulators for Windows—Trains, Flying, Surgery, more—Search for ‘em.

- <http://www.edheads.org/>
- <http://www.railservice.com/Computers/>
- SF cable car—<http://www.sfcablecar.com/gripmans.html>
- Not Free, but also San Francisco—<http://tinyurl.com/7my2q5p>
 - Videos—<http://tinyurl.com/7aohorb>
 - Demo—<http://tinyurl.com/6op23fd>

Add Multiple Sites to a Site-Specific Google Search—[Lifehacker]—Basically, you create a personal metasearch string by using the Boolean OR between “site:<xxxxx.yyy>” parameters.—
<http://tinyurl.com/cskunno>



February 2012 SPAUG News

SPAUG CALENDAR							
Always subject to change; verify event with host or Jim Dinkey							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	30	<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Valentine's Day  </div>	1			4—Clinic, by appointment only	
	6 7–9 pm BIYSIG Micro Center		8 5:45 pm Dinner (Optional), Elks Lodge—Bistro 7:15 pm General Meeting Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino, PA Speaker: Gene Barlow			11—Clinic, by appointment only	
	13 7–9 pm WinSIG Micro Center		15 7:15 pm Planning Meeting, Bev Altman's			18—Clinic, by appointment only	
	20 7–9 pm DISIG  Micro Center		<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Presidents Day </div>	22			25—Clinic, by appointment only
	27 7–9 pm WebSIG Micro Center			29			3—Clinic, by appointment only

Saturday Clinic

Clinics usually are held when needed. **Call Jim Dinkey** to make a reservation. The clinics are to help you unscrew your Windows XP and Windows 7.

Email: jimdinkey at jimdinkey.com or call 650-493-9307 for an appointment.

Planning Meeting

Planning meetings are usually held on the **third Wednesday** of each month at Beverly Altman's home at 7:15 pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. **Please phone Jim Dinkey or Bev Altman to confirm venue.**

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7:15 pm, at **Bev Altman's home.**

SIGS

NOTE: SPAUG-member participation in any of these SIGS requires membership in SVCS, currently \$12/yr. SVCS is not a part of SPAUG.

- **Build It Yourself SIG**—1st Monday each month, at Micro Center, Santa Clara
- **WinSIG**—2nd Monday of the month, at Micro Center in Santa Clara
- **DISIG**—3rd Monday of the month, at Micro Center in Santa Clara
- **WebSIG**—4th Monday of each month, 7–9 pm, at Micro Center in Santa Clara

For more info about these SIGs, go to svuga.org

Listserver **spaug-list at svpal.org**

Any member on the spaug-list can send messages to all other members on the list automatically by sending e-mail to this address. This list is intended for announcements of interest to all SPAUG members. Please avoid excessive or trivial announcements, since some members are paying for connect time. Additions or corrections can be sent to:

info at pa-spaug.org

The SPAUG Web Page is available at

<http://www.pa-spaug.org>

hosted by
www.svpal.org/



Door Prize Tickets

Free

You get one ticket for free when you sign in at a general meeting.

Buy a Ticket

\$1 each

Buy More Tickets

Quantity discount: Six tickets for \$5

Must be present to win



Without-Whoms

SPAUG is an all-volunteer operation. Listed below is contact information for those who work to keep it happening.

You are invited to help.

President: *Jim Dinkey*

jimdinkey at jimdinkey.com

(650) 493-9307

Vice President: *John Sleeman*

sleemanjc at copperhouse.net

(650) 326-5603

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stan.hutchings at gmail.com

(650) 325-1359

Treasurer: *Nat Landes*

natlandes at gmail.com

(650) 851-2292

Membership: *Beverly Altman*

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(650) 329-8252

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- *Stan Hutchings (see above)*
- *John Sleeman (see above)*

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Computer Clinic: *Jim Dinkey (see above)*

►►► Positions Open:

- Program Chair
- Publicity