

## **Minutes of the December 12, 2007 New Jersey Computer Club General Membership Meeting**

The regular monthly meeting of the NJCC opened at 6:45 PM with 47 in attendance. There were 5 visitors attracted by notices in the local newspaper, The Courier-News.

President Fred Sabin explained how the Chinese Auction worked, and then the members-only auction of merchandise provided by Microsoft, Adobe, Acronis, and others. Also available were copies of Webroot Spysweeper for open sale of \$15, a value of \$30. Dues of \$25 for the year for all members are due at this time. Visitors wishing to join tonight would be eligible to bid in the members-only auction.

Vice President John Beck opened the Random Access portion of the meeting. He told of the availability of Office Suites, equaling MS Office in usefulness, which could be downloaded from the Net at no charge. Certainly less than MS's cost of \$700 or so. Open Office could be acquired from [www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org). Star Office is similarly free to home users. John proceeded to answer a question from a member about Style on Star Office. He also showed how Googling will answer most question. To eliminate unnecessary programs from Startup, John went to Run/msorg and demonstrated how to do this. This removes the selected programs from Startup, and is NOT an uninstall process.

January meeting program may be on Quicken, Turbo-tax, or a reverse Q and A session.

Tom Kehoe opened his presentation on Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) at 7:45 PM. He described how, after some difficulties with his landline provider, he decided to use a cell phone for incoming calls and VOIP for outgoing. Already using a high speed broad band system for internet access, he chose Skype for VOIP at a charge of \$3.00 a month. Yahoo Messenger is another VOIP system that charges \$0.01 per minute of use. CallVantage (by AT&T) and Vonage have a system that costs about \$25 a month basic price. Tom demonstrated how he made a call through his laptop computer using a headset and a microphone to conduct a conversation with Doug Beck on his cell phone not 10 feet away. Being able to hear both ends of the communication, it was interesting to note the apparent time lag as the sound traveled across the network.

Preparing to start the Auction portion of the meeting, Fred reminded those present that all the proceeds from the Auction and the Chinese Auction went into the NJCC Memorial Scholarship Fund. Bidding by NJCC members would be on the following and anything not sold would be offered on E-Bay.

Microsoft Office 2007 Ultimate (\$680 list price) Minimum Starting Bid (MSB) of \$150  
Microsoft Vista Home Premium (\$239 list price) MSB \$60  
Adobe Acrobat Pro (\$449 list price) MSB\$100  
Adobe GoLive CS2 (\$399 list price) MSB\$50  
Adobe Photoshop Elements (\$100 list price) MSB \$40  
Acronis True Image 11.0 Home (\$50 list price) MSB\$20  
Acronis Disk Director Suite 10.0 (\$50 list price) MSB \$20  
Numerous computer books  
Old NJCC OptiPlex GX1 350L+ Computer with Widows ME

Except for the old NJCC Computer, all the items were donated by the manufacturers and were new and never used.

Everything was sold.

The Chinese Auction began at 9:15 with much activity and interest. After cleanup and replacement of tables and chairs, the meeting was ended at about 9:45.

Respectfully submitted,  
Len Kopf Recording Secretary