

ACPCUG Newsletter

**Stark Tech
Auditorium**

May 5, 2003

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next meeting highlights**

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problems—testimony**

May 2003

Akron-Canton PC Users Group



**MrExcel
tells All!**



Monday, May 5th Meeting Topics

Early: ca 6:00 pm

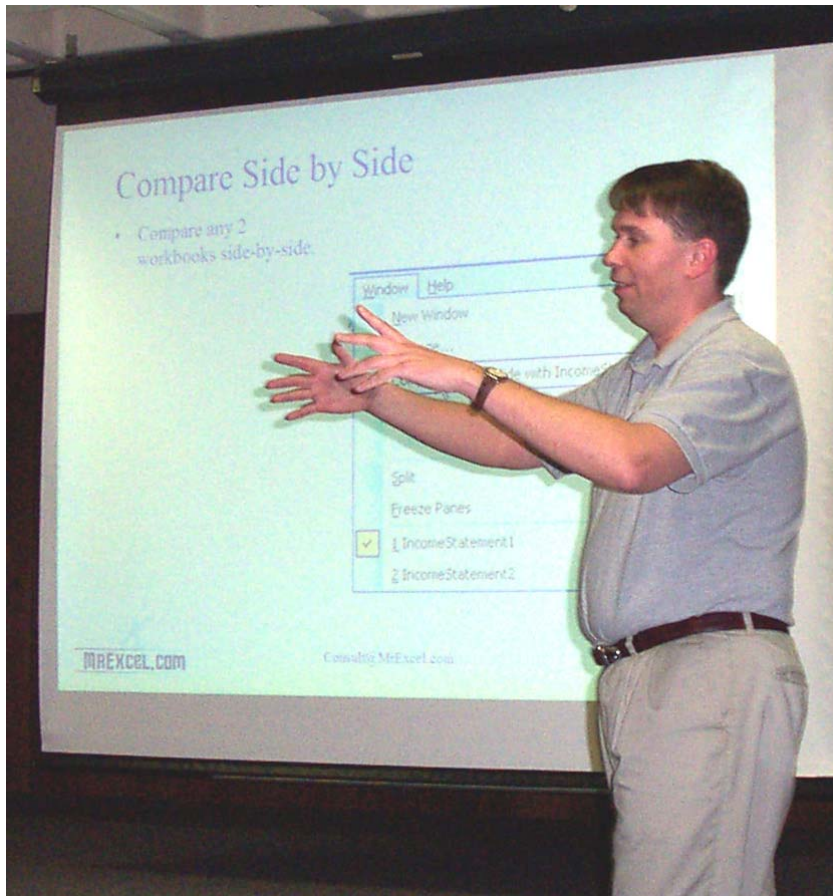
Membership survey of hardware and software. What are your interests? *By Board Q&A*

Main Program, with fast Internet available: *Google, Tips and Tricks, inspired by Hackers Guide to Google, by Frank Ramsey (not the book!)* Bring problems with examples, your own tips, etc.!

No Deals Guy this month, last newsletter had two editions. No new one, since.

Mr Excel repeats! A great meeting! A good review of Excel 2003 beta.

While there are some interesting new things, there is NO compelling reason to upgrade UNLESS you need the XMLS additions for special purposes like WEB publishing.



As everyone can see, Mr. Excel, Bill Jelen, is very expressive in both face and hands. His wide knowledge is well transferred with his expressiveness.

His books, older and newest, Mr Excel on Excel are reasonably priced and well written. Your editor can testify. Good Meeting!

Burning CD's and CD-RW's

Art McRowe, ACPCUG

At a recent meeting, both Rick Lubinski and I reported problems using our respective CD burners. Rick was using CD-R's. He reported his problems were solved using new (almost free) CD-R's.

My problem stemmed from upgrading to Windows XP Pro. My good old SCSI Yamaha 4X2X1 wasn't recognized by XP and Yamaha was no help. So I sprung \$20 for a Cendyne (by Samsung) IDE from OfficeMax. Worked like a charm except I couldn't use my CD-RW's for my normal, somewhat delinquent backups. After Rick reported his solution, I went out and sprung for some rebating five-pack Memorex CD-RW's which were rated at 24X (down to 4X). Worked like a charm! Not only working, but so-o-o much faster. Makes me wonder why I waited so long to upgrade both hardware and disks! (Of course, the next week OfficeMax was offering same brand, different manufacturer for only \$10, after rebate. Well, I'm still happy.

Moral of this story: Investigate upgrades and follow through. You may be very pleasantly surprised!

USB (2.0) Removable Drives

By Art McRowe, ACPCUG

Last month (April) I rhetorically asked if floppy drives were dead. I reported that USB 2.0 drives were just coming on the market.

Wow! **DO NOT BUY USB 1.1!** USB 2.0 is now available at no premium and is much faster! Well, you won't see much speed-up in the smaller memory drives, but with 256 Mb and bigger, it's significant.

Just this last weekend, CompUSA had 64 Mb, 128 Mb and 256 Mb Lexar branded USB 2.0 memory drives for less than I then happily paid for my USB 1.1 128 Mb drive. So I would expect to see the older memory drives getting downright cheap and am already drooling over a faster USB 2.0 memory drive! Ain't progress nice?!

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Software Evaluation			

**Upcoming Computer Shows:
There will be no Trapp show in May!
Next scheduled show is Sunday, July 13th.**