

For Active  
People  
Ages 60+



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RECYCLE This  
Newsletter!

# Cyberspace News

## Windows 7

Microsoft has announced the dates on which “live” versions of Windows 7 will be available to the general public:

Independent hardware and software vendors will get W7 early in August, so presumably it could be in new machines soon thereafter. Retail stores will not begin to receive copies until mid October. There are (brace yourself) *six* flavors, five of which will be available in the U.S.

Unless you are aching to spend as much money as possible, you don't need Windows 7 Ultimate. Unless you're running a fair-size business, you don't need Enterprise, and unless you require significant mobile computing capability, you don't need Professional. In fact, for most of us (including many “power users”), the second-to-lowest-level version that will be available in the US, Windows 7 Home Premium, will be quite adequate. It will be priced about sixty dollars lower than Ultimate, and forty dollars lower than Professional.

If you have any trouble choosing between Home Premium and Professional, consult an expert. We repeat the advice we give regarding most software, *especially* that sold by Microsoft: Avoid any new product for at least the first year, during which most of the major defects are usually just being corrected.

*Note: Thanks for Bill Shapiro for this article!*



## Free And Fun



**Come to our Computer Fun**

**Meetings, which are free and open to everyone, whether you're a WACC member or not. Learn more about computers in an informal, friendly environment.**

**Meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 11:30AM to 1PM.**

## Just For You

**Cyberspace News is now archived in its entirety on the WACC website. In some articles, important additional material is included (for instance, information obtained after publication).**

**To view articles from past issues, go to [www.wacci.net](http://www.wacci.net) and click the "Archives" button along the left side.**

# Seniors Find Love, Skip Remarriage

Seniors are shacking up.

As life expectancy increases, people are spending it in the traditional American way: pursuing happiness. For many seniors, that means dating (older people are the fastest growing users of Internet dating services) and cohabitating.

Couples are maintaining separate houses and resisting marriage for various reasons. Limited income is one, with many fearing they'd lose financial assistance if they entered into wedlock. Some have also earmarked their inheritance for their families and don't want to take that money away from grandchildren.

One reason for more couples is that there are more men around, thanks to a large degree to better drugs and treatments for diseases that often afflict men, like heart diseases and cancers of the prostate, colon, and rectum. Thanks to Viagra and its cousins, which about 14 percent of senior men use, sex is very much a part of the picture.

Finding partners is easier too with the Web being a better resource than barstools or friends of friends. The number of seniors joining online dating services has risen at double-digit rates annually since 2003, the most of any age group.

But the biggest factor affecting senior romances may be a pro-

found change in attitude. Until fairly recently, romance among older adults was derided as unwise and a sign of dementia. Only "dirty old men" pursued sex. And cohabitation was considered "living in sin."

Today, seniors find remarriage contains headaches: it alarms children who are concerned about inheritance and it comes with anxiety about liability for a new spouse's future health costs. So rates for remarriage among the elderly remain flat.

As cohabitating among older people increased 50 percent from 2000 to 2006, the total (1.8 million) only tallies couples who live together full time and were willing to admit it to consensus interviewers. Part-time cohabitating (as in traveling together, sharing a summer house, spending weekends together) is up at least as sharply. This is according to seniors and the people who work with them.

So if you're looking for love a second time, it appears you're living in the right time period for it.



*Source (note the absence of the www in this web address):*

[seattletimes.nwsources.com](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com)

*Note: Special thanks to WACC member George Morris for referring me to this article.*

## Try The Free Rice Game

Wouldn't it be wonderful if there was a way you could make a difference to people who regularly go hungry? There is! Member George Morris sent me the link to the site below:

[www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com)

Go to that site and you can play games that, when you answer the questions correctly, the site's sponsors will donate a few grains of rice to the United Nations World Food Program whose goal is to end world hunger.

What difference does a few grains of rice make? It adds up when you consider that there will probably be thousands of people playing at the same time you are. On the day I played, 26,156,080

grains of rice were donated (you can check the totals for any given date on the site).

Although there are a few subjects to choose from, my favorite is the vocabulary game. According to the site, playing this game can help you formulate ideas better, assist you with your writing, allow you to speak with better precision, allow you to be more persuasive, and allow you to read better because you'll be able to comprehend better.

This is one of those sites where everyone is a winner. You have fun while others benefit. Log on, readers!

## Be Careful Gentlemen

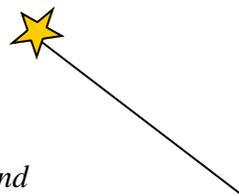
A married couple in their early 60s were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic restaurant. Suddenly, a tiny fairy appeared on their table.

She said, "For being such a loving couple, I will grant you each a wish." The wife said, "I wish to take a trip around the world with my darling husband." The fairy waved her wand and *Poof!* Two tickets for a cruise appeared in her hands. The husband thought for a moment and said, "I'm sorry my dear, but this is the opportunity of a

lifetime. I wish I had a wife thirty years younger than me."

The wife and fairy were deeply disappointed, but a wish is a wish. So the fairy waved her wand and *Poof!* The husband became 92 years old.

The moral of this story: Men who are ungrateful fools should remember that fairies are female!



Source: A friend

## Senate Trivia

**Here's something you may not have known: all of the restaurants in the Senate serve bean soup EVERY day.**

**Why? According to the Senate website, the tradition started at the beginning of the 20th century at the request of either Senator Fred Thomas Dubois of Idaho or Knute Nelson of Minnesota.**

**The House tradition started in 1904 when Speaker of the House Joe Cannon, barked out direct orders to the cooking staff that it always be on the menu.**

**This happened after he showed up in the mood for bean soup but couldn't find it on the menu.**

**To get the recipe for this soup, check out the source for this article at:**

[www.infoplease.com](http://www.infoplease.com)

## Quotes Regarding: Adventure

**“If you approach each new person you meet in a spirit of adventure, you will find yourself endlessly fascinated by the new channels of thought and experience and personality that you encounter.”**

**...Eleanor Roosevelt**

**“Adventure is not outside a man; it is within.”**

**...David Grayson**

**“Open your eyes, your ears, your mind, your heart, your spirit and you’ll find adventure everywhere. Think of whatever you are doing as an adventure and watch your life change for the better.”**

**...Wilferd Alan Peterson**

**“Getting older is an adventure, not a problem.”**

**...Betty Friedan**

### Source:

[www.dailycelebrations.com](http://www.dailycelebrations.com)

## How To Speak To A Person

When making a business call, do you get tired of being in the automated phone maze? To speak to a human being, try the following:

- *Press everything on your phone.* You may be able to trick the system into thinking you’re on a rotary phone.
- *Mumble.* If the system can’t understand you, it has no choice but to connect you with a person.
- *Speak nonsense.* Like the bullet above, it should connect you with a human.
- *Do nothing.* The system will sense a rotary phone and, presto! You’re speaking with a person.
- *Speak Spanish.* The Spanish option often has a shorter wait time and you’ll probably get a bilingual operator.
- *Select the “cancel service” option.* If a company thinks it’s going to lose you as a customer, often they’ll get someone to try to convince you otherwise.
- *Mention a competitor.* Sys-

tems sometimes monitor what you’re saying while you’re on hold. If you name a competitor, someone may help you sooner.

- *Plan the time at which you call wisely.* Don’t call on Monday but do call at an odd hour if you can.

For more information, check out [www.gethuman.com](http://www.gethuman.com) which lists more than 900 U.S. companies and tells you how to speak to a human when you’re calling them.



Source: Reader’s Digest, 8/09.