
Reflections of Better Business

Your guide to technology and an error-free computer environment

By: RB Balch & Associates, Inc. Full service, award winning computer consulting firm. Serving AZ since 93.

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SPECIALS THIS MONTH

NOVEMBER – THANKSGIVING SPECIAL. Is your office secure? Are you protected from outside hackers? Do you have a policy for internet and email usage for your employees? Give us a call and we'll do a security check, and talk with you about electronic employee monitoring. \$25 off your bill for security check service calls this month.

BONUS SPECIAL: RB's "Prescription for Computer Safety" CD yours FREE this month at your next appointment. Just mention you'd like one when you schedule a convenient time for your appointment - or when you get your "reminder" email - and we'll bring one. This CD was recorded live at one of Rochelle's popular "computer safety" workshops.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Contact us at 623-561-9366 OR at help@rbbalch.com OR online from our website www.rbbalch.com to schedule online. If you schedule online, you'll save an additional \$5 off your next appointment.

REMOTE TECHNICAL SUPPORT. Contact us for remote technical support - it's easy, fast, less interruptions at the office and less expensive for you! (1/2 hour minimum)

Our motto: "you don't have a problem until you have a problem". Think about it. Contact Rochelle at rb@rbbalch.com.

2 TECHNOLOGY/COMPUTER TIP

Electronic Monitoring – are you protected?

You may have heard people talking about employee electronic monitoring. In addition to video surveillance, electronic monitoring of employee internet and email activity is a hot subject.

What can you do to protect your company? What if someone is spreading untrue facts or viewing unapproved (like adult content) web sites throughout the day? What about email? What information is yours and what is private – if anything?

Of course it's best to check with your attorney or an employment law firm, but there are some things you should know.

After you're covered legally – with proper notification to your staff – you can install electronic monitoring software. It can be run "under cover", and a person's workstation can be monitored and even viewed from another location. Some of the software will provide you with online reports of which internet sites were visited – and for how long.

Sometimes if employees know that they "may be" monitored, inappropriate or time-wasting activities will subside.

Any questions on software options? Contact us at help@rbbalch.com 623-561-9366 or Rochelle directly at rb@rbbalch.com OR schedule on-line at www.rbbalch.com

3 Andy's Did You Know?

By Andy Karpel, the "A lot about nothing" expert

MONTH: NOVEMBER

Birthstone: Topaz, Citrine Meaning: Fidelity

Flower: Chrysanthemum

Astrological Sign(s): Scorpio (The Scorpion) Oct. 24 - Nov. 21

Sagittarius (The Archer) Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Moon Phases: Nov 1 Last Qtr – Nov 9 New – Nov 17 1st Qtr – Nov 24 Full

Wednesday, Nov 1 All Saint's Day

Tuesday, Nov 7 Election Day

Friday, Nov 10 USMC Day

Friday, Nov 10 Direct dial service available coast to coast. (1951)

Saturday, Nov 11 Veteran's Day - CANADA - Remembrance Day

Saturday Nov 11 Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower sign a compact calling for a "body Politick" just off the Massachusetts coast. (1620)

Sunday, November, 12 Armistice Day France

Monday, Nov 13 Sadie Hawkins Day

Monday, Nov 13 The Holland Tunnel opens, connects NY City & NJ.(1927)

Monday, Nov 20 Ford quit making the Edsel (1959) (I liked that car)

Monday, Nov 20 Revolution Day Mexico

Wednesday, Nov 22 President John F. Kennedy, the youngest person to become a U.S. president, is assassinated in Dallas ,TX. (1963)

Thursday, Nov 23 Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, Nov 30 US & Great Britain sign a peace treaty in Paris, formally ending the Revolutionary War. (1782)

Andy's "I didn't know that"

November 10, 2005 - Happy Birthday Marines

Established November 10th, 1775, to augment naval forces in the Revolutionary War. The recruiting headquarters was set up by Capt. Samuel Nicholas in the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, which is considered to be the birthplace of the Marines. After success in many campaigns, the Corps was abolished at the close of the Revolutionary War for reasons of economy. On July 11, 1798, Congress ordered the creation of the Corps, named it the United States Marine Corps and directed that it be available for service under the Secretary of the Navy.

The Corps celebrated its birthday, or Marine Corps Day, on July 11 from 1799 until 1921 when the date was permanently changed to November 10 to commemorate the establishment of the Corps to aid in the Revolutionary War. The day is still observed by U. S. Marines worldwide. Special exhibits, parades, drill team performances, and speeches typically mark the occasion.

The Birthday Ball, which culminates in the cutting of the birthday cake, is held that evening in Washington, D.C. It is not possible to determine precisely when the first cake ceremony was held, but the first on record took place at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., in 1937.

Major General Thomas Holcomb, the Commandant, presided at an open house for Marine Corps officers, including the cutting of a huge cake in the shape of Tun Tavern. Marines throughout the world will celebrate the 230th birthday of the Corps. Semper fi and happy birthday, Marines.

November 11th Veterans Day honors all members of the Armed Forces who served this country. They served and fought to protect us, to keep our country safe, and to preserve our way of life. Veterans gave their time, and risked their lives for you and me. In some cases, they made the ultimate sacrifice.

This holiday originally was called Armistice Day and was first celebrated in 1921. In 1954, President Eisenhower changed it to Veteran's Day in honor of those who served and died from all wars. On November 11 at 11:11, 1921 the U.S. France and England each buried an unknown soldier in honor of those who died in World War I. This began the annual Armistice Day holiday.

The time and day was picked because fighting ceased in WWI in 1918 on November 11 at 11:11. In keeping with this tradition, work stops on this day and time each year for a moment of silence. Say thank you to a Veteran!

Nov 13 Sadie Hawkins Day (Always on November 13). This holiday originated from a cartoon. It all began in Al Capp's "Lil Abner Cartoon in the 1930's. In the cartoon series, the mayor of Dogpatch was desperate to marry off his ugly daughter. So he created Sadie Hawkin's Day. On this day, a race is held and all the single men were given a short head start. If a woman catches her man, he had to marry her.

Sadie Hawkins Day races and events grew in popularity during the course of Al Capp's long running cartoon. This cartoon made holiday largely died out after 40 years when the cartoon was discontinued. Nov 23 Thanksgiving Day. The first Thanksgiving was celebrated between the Pilgrims and the Indians in 1621. That first feast was a three day affair. The fall harvest was time for celebration. It was also a time of prayer, thanking God for a good crop. The Pilgrims and the Indians created a huge feast including a wide variety of animals and fowl, as well as fruits and vegetables from the fall harvest. This early celebration was the start of today's holiday celebration. Like then, we celebrate with a huge feast. Did you know? Potatoes were not part of the first Thanksgiving. Irish immigrants had not yet brought them to North America. After the first Thanksgiving, the observance was sporadic and almost forgotten until the early 1800's. It was usually celebrated in late September or October. In 1941, Congress made it a national holiday and set the date as the fourth Thursday in November.

YET MORE important information

New Military Vessel - USS New York. With a year to go before it even touches the water, the Navy's amphibious assault ship USS New York has already made history. It was built with 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Center. The USS New York is about 45 percent complete and should be ready for launch in mid-2007.

Katrina disrupted construction when it pounded the Gulf Coast last summer, but the 684-foot vessel escaped serious damage, and workers were back at the yard near New Orleans two weeks after the storm. It is the fifth in a new class of warship designed for missions that include special operations against terrorists. It will carry a crew of 360 sailors and 700 combat-ready Marines to be delivered ashore by helicopters and assault craft.

Steel from the World Trade Center was melted down in a foundry in Amite, LA., to cast the ship's bow section. It was poured into the molds on Sept. 9, 2003. The ship's motto? - "Never Forget" The name New York has been borne by at least seven different U.S. military ships, most recently the nuclear submarine USS New York City, commissioned in 1979 and retired in 1997.

At least two more ships the same class will also be named for locations associated with the 9/11 attacks: Later ships in the class will include USS Arlington, the location of the Pentagon, also struck by a hijacked jetliner on Sept. 11, and USS Somerset, named for the Pennsylvania county where United Flight 93 crashed after its passengers fought off hijackers apparently planning to attack another Washington target.

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4 Community Update
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College classes, FALL 2006. Classes for FALL. Contact GCC for registration.

Rochelle is teaching: Small Business. Starting/Managing a Home Business - SBS217 TH 6 to 9:20PM, 4 weeks. Starts 11/02/06.

Andy is teaching: The Portfolio - ART255AB, M and W, 8 weeks.

UPCOMING: FEBRUARY 2007. Rochelle is the keynote speaker for Na'amat's Annual Woman of the Year Luncheon.

RB Balch is proud member of:

Arizona Small Business Association (ASBA) - Chamber of Commerce - National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) - Better Business Bureau (BBB).

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5 RB Balch. WHY do we issue this and WHO are we?
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WHY: Purpose of this newsletter?

To help you learn more about technology and computers

To be informal and informative

To answer specific questions asked by readers

....To continue our commitment of keeping you informed

Reflections of Better Business (published since 1994) is for employees, clients, friends and associates of RB Balch.

WHO ARE WE: RB Balch. Computer-consulting firm. Established 02/93. Experienced. Reliable.

Ethical. Good. Revenues since 1993 over \$20 million. Our mission is to be your one source solution for

all of your computer needs. Consider us your "computer guy", your IT department. We're only an email or phone call away.

SERVICES: PC Field Support, Software Development Projects, Business/Marketing Consulting, Seminars & Keynotes.

PC Field Support: PC troubleshooting, network installation and maintenance, server and workstation setup/support, hardware and software upgrades, virus and spyware detection & repair, data recovery, backup/restore, programming, web design, web and email hosting, more. Troubleshooting is our specialty. Contact us as needed, or set-up recurring regular maintenance appointments (discounted, no contracts, no pre-paid bundle of hours required). We come to you.

Software Development Projects: PC development, no job too small. We specialize in projects 1 to 500 hours (longer projects also accepted). New or maintenance. Simple changes or complex systems. Programming, Databases, Web design, Contingency plans/strategy plans, etc. Available nationally.

Business Consulting: . Utilize technology to help you grow your business - we're here to help. IT strategies, Disaster/recovery planning, IT security audits. Marketing and promotional plans.

Seminars, Keynotes: Technology and Motivational workshops, keynotes and lunch programs for your staff or association. As a successful entrepreneur and award winning business owner, Rochelle Balch, president RB Balch and international professional speaker (member of the National Speakers Association), is available for programs for technology, team building, marketing and business, and personal development. Get everyone on the same page to understand technology in your company. Mention this newsletter for discount off speaking fees. For sample topics see

<http://www.rochellebalch.com>

Appointments: We offer, and highly recommend, regularly scheduled PC maintenance appointments. We offer on call/as needed service and emergency service. We are available weekends/evenings/holidays, and on special retainer, if required. No pre-pays, change frequency or cancel maintenance appointments at any time. Contact us at help@rbbalch.com, at 623-561-9366, or visit our web site at www.rbbalch.com for on-line scheduling. Contact Rochelle Balch directly at rb@rbbalch.com or contact Andy Karpel directly at andy@rbbalch.com if you like.

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MAINTENANCE

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