

New CPCUG Website in Beta

Presented to CPCUG Board

22 May 2013

By Mark Leymaster,
ISD@cpcug.org

What is this Then?

- CPCUG's old website is stale, largely as it is complex and hard to maintain with volunteers. It will remain operational during this Beta test.
- In late 2012 the Board authorized a new website using open source Drupal 7, see drupal.org.
- Drupal 7 allows CPCUG to manage users and add content *remotely*, via the internet *without* special HTML or CSS skills. We can quickly add new sections and features and reorganize if needed,.
- Tonight we'll visit data.cpcug.org, which has entered Beta Testing and needs your attentions.

What We'll Do Tonight

- Middle of this presentation is a show-and-tell of our new website.
- Questions and Answers will follow. You might want to make notes during the show-and-tell.
- If you haven't yet, please Sign Up to become registered, so you can assist us with Beta-Testing.
- Once registered , you can post comments plus add discussions, called "topics" to our Forums.
- The current Forums are self-describing:
 1. Discuss CPCUG's Beta Website,
 2. Help and "How Do I ... " if you don't find an answer in our FAQs, via the Main Menu.

Your Responsibility

- Tonight is about what each of *you* can do for CPCUG, to make this new website work.
- Immediately, you can help us with testing, as I'll show you in a few minutes.
- Please also commit now to make a monthly post to your SIG blog or other content area of our site. If not our website will be weaker for the omission.
- More content, contributed more often is better still.
- If you want to be more involved speak up: we're seeking Bloggers, useful links, and Help specialists.
- CPCUG is about Members helping Users, is it not?

Your Help with Beta Testing.

Let us know online what you think of the new site, whichever way works:

- Once registered, you can post on the site as just discussed. Questions, Feature Requests, Problem Reports and Praise are all welcome.
- And you can also subscribe to WebTeam-D, a CPCUG Listserv email List, if you wish.
- You can even email directly at ISD@cpcug.org or Dennis at President@cpcug.org
- When you give feedback, please be specific, include the URL for the webpage involved, e.g.

Tonight is *not* the whole Show

- There's a lot more to CPCUG's new website than you will see tonight. Most of our Drupal 7 structure and administration will be skipped. We've tried to keep that out of sight, to make your tasks simpler. See the last slide for more.
- As we proceed, I will try to show *you* what you need to know to complete your tasks, such as Sign Up, Commenting, Forum posting, and SIG page tasks like Blogging.
- For aid, use our Help Forum, our FAQ. Tell us if it does not tell you what you need to know.

Now Let's Review CPCUG's Beta Website.

- The display you will be seeing is using Safari, using WiFi running on an iPad4, thanks to Dennis.
- All you should need yourself is an internet connection and a mainstream browser like Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari or Opera. Not all have been tested, but you can do it for us.
- Our site works on tablets and smart phones too. I know it works on iPhones and older Blackberries.

Start Slide show then pause for web-direct Show-and-Tell

Steps in Show-and-Tell

1. Step thru site without login
 - 1.1. Touch on each menu item
 - 1.2. Home Page Specifics
 - 1.2.1. Signup and Login in upper right
 - 1.2.2. Search box top of left column, may move below Login
 - 1.2.3. Left column looks different when you're registered and logged in
 - 1.2.3.1. Always has CPCUG Developments, actually from site Blogs
 - 1.2.3.2. Always has CPCUG Events below, from separate events posting
 - 1.2.4. Center is Main text, use not fully planned
 - 1.2.5. Right side now Feeds of interest,
 - 1.3. Like all pages, we can move the blocks around
 - 1.4. Main Menu reconfigures in subsections of our site, like for Individual SIGS
 - 1.4.1. Main Menu repeats on all pages unless it is suppressed
 - 1.4.2. Note how submenus drop down, but main menu item usually points to separate page
 - 1.4.3. Below Home is access to CPCUG Board, can easily relocate this access point
 - 1.4.4. It is easy to add new pages, and automatically hook them into menus
 - 1.5. The footer appears on all pages unless suppressed too
 - 1.5.1. It includes key hyperlinks, as did the lower portion of the old web pages
 - 1.5.2. Should this need revision, it can be done once for all page footers
 - 1.6. News not yet much used, instead feed CPCUG Developments from Blogs
 - 1.6.1. Difficult to combine News and Blog posting, so will put in separate blocks
 - 1.6.2. May move Events Blocks to top of right column, above Latest Feeds
 - 1.6.3. Events are dated and disappear when expired, More advanced Calendar coming
 - 1.7. Forums like Google Groups and Yahoo Groups are new to us
 - 1.7.1. Replace Email lists but allow conversations, here about
 - 1.7.1.1. General Discussion Topics
 - 1.7.1.2. Beta Testing Discussions
 - 1.7.1.3. Help requests, a kind of proto-Helpline, 24-hours without telephones
 - 1.7.2. Unclear at present how to build "private" forums, restricted to those with permission
 - 1.8. SIGs each have their own group of pages
 - 1.8.1. The SIG sub-site is directly under management of SIG Leaders as I will show in a bit
 - 1.8.2. The SIG Leader can configure pages & SIG Menu to work differently that our main site
 - 1.8.3. If you click on the Main Menu "SIG" you get the Summary page on SIGS
 - 1.8.4. If you click on one of the drop down child menu button, you go directly to that SIG
 - 1.8.5. We'll look in depth at the Programmer SIG in a bit
 - 1.9. Reboot works in some respects like a quasi-SIG
 - 1.9.1. The Reboot Director can reorganize pages and menus, as you see
 - 1.9.2. In addition to the Director, administrators can do edits to these pages easily
 - 1.9.3. This a big advance over the difficulties we've had with multiple contributors in the past
 - 1.10. About currently includes link to Membership, a place holder page
 - 1.10.1. Organization of Membership, Board and Committee pages still in flux
 - 1.10.2. Because of Drupal 7, changes are easy so this is not a big deal
 - 1.11. Contact uses a WebForm to aid privacy; multiple contacts possible
 - 1.12. Archives categorized, click on links to automatically download the item
 - 1.13. Blogs still being organized.

- 1.13.1. Presently main page shows last few entries by Blog(er).
- 1.13.2. This maybe shifted if we get many more Blogs
- 1.13.3. Note that SIG Blogs are **not** listed here, but do contribute to CPCUG Developments
- 1.14. Email lists just jumps to Listserv's Web interface, just as it does on the old site
- 1.15. Webmail jumps to Squirrel Mail interface
 - 1.15.1. This is the same function as the old website
 - 1.15.2. If we change providers it will jump elsewhere
- 1.16. Now lets do a SignUp
 - 1.16.1. Using one of my email accounts, so this is just an example
 - 1.16.2. PhoneLink@cpcug.org
 - 1.16.3. DemoUser
 - 1.16.4. This request is next queued for approval by a CPCUG administrator
 - 1.16.4.1. Don't want to show the back end of this, will get distracted
 - 1.16.4.2. Those of you who've done this know the followon is an email
 - 1.16.4.3. It contains instructions on confirming your address, entering a password etc.
- 1.17. Use TestUser login for next part of demo, a registered user (also Mbr but so what)
 - 1.17.1. Note added box at top right: here you have extra powers as a registered user
 - 1.17.1.1. My account gets you to your account page, which is the login default
 - 1.17.1.2. Note the new hyperlinks at the top View, Edit, OpenID
 - 1.17.1.2.1. Visit OpenID if you want info about it
 - 1.17.1.2.2. You're already on View, so click Edit to change your account detail
 - 1.17.1.2.2.1. This is the screen you see when you acknowledge your Signup
 - 1.17.1.2.2.2. Most is self-explanatory, such as password changes
 - 1.17.1.2.2.3. If you have an avatar picture you want to use, click on the Browse button opposite the Upload picture item and you'll see the directory for the device you logged on with; navigate to the picture and choose it.
 - 1.17.1.2.3. Back to the panel at the top right, Post Form allows you to start a new Forum Discussion, called a Topic.
 - 1.17.1.3.1. Note the Word like editor that pops up. Help balloons appear on hover
 - 1.17.1.3.2. **Key: the Save button to post your work is off screen at page bottom.**
 - 1.17.1.3.3. Also note that some of the drop boxes require an answer, with **red ***
 - 1.17.1.3.3.1. If you try to save and the page refuses you should check these
 - 1.17.1.3.4. To see the post, after saving, go to Forums/General Discussion/ and click on the desired topic.
 - 1.17.1.3.4.1. When you do so, you'll be given another simpler editor to use to comment, as here.
 - 1.17.1.3.4.2. Please do **not** use Manage Forums, which should not be offered to registered users. **This hyperlink has a destructive bug. don't use it.**
 - 1.17.1.3.4.2.1. If you blunder into this backspace or Cancel and do not Save.
 - 1.17.1.3.4.2.2. If you want to edit or delete a post, go to that entry via the Menu
 - 1.17.1.3.4.2.3. There you'll see Edit hyperlink to the right, below the comment
 - 1.17.1.3.4.2.4. There should also be a delete option here. **Another bug**
 - 1.17.1.3.5. You can also comment directly on those Blogs, Events and News items that allow comments. Not all do
 - 1.17.1.3.5.1. The editor does not presently respect carriage returns, **A bug.**
- 1.17.2. Finally, let me log in as a SIG-Leader and show you the added powers you get.
 - 1.17.2.1. PSIG-CoLeader

- 1.17.2.2. saved password
- 1.17.2.3. You'll note greater powers in the top right block
 - 1.17.2.3.1. This is because this user is a PSIG Leader, and so can do site revisions
 - 1.17.2.3.2. Included in this inventory is the familiar My Account hyperlink
 - 1.17.2.3.3. In my account, where you land on login is a blog entry history
- 1.17.2.4. Generally the powers are permissions in three classes
 - 1.17.2.4.1. Add is new material, Drupal separates
 - 1.17.2.4.1.1. Content, that is creating a new SIG page
 - 1.17.2.4.1.2. Events, again specific to your SIG
 - 1.17.2.4.1.3. Archive uploads, to the SIG Archive
 - 1.17.2.4.1.4. Blog Posts, to the SIG Blog
 - 1.17.2.4.2. Manage means edit or delete.
 - 1.17.2.4.2.1. Be careful with Deletes
 - 1.17.2.4.2.2. You'll be warned but some deletes are irreversible
 - 1.17.2.4.2.3. You'll notice you can Manage your SIG Menu too.
 - 1.17.2.4.3. Each SIG Leader has this kind of power, but only for their SIG's pages
 - 1.17.2.4.4. This power should be shared carefully, as misuse can trash your SIG pages
 - 1.17.2.4.4.1. We can recover from this, but it's embarrassing
 - 1.17.2.4.4.2. And if it keeps happening, we may limit changes
- 1.17.2.5. In the interest of time we'll look at these tools but not make revisions
 - 1.17.2.5.1. Note that "Content" is the global term, it includes
 - 1.17.2.5.1.1. blog entries
 - 1.17.2.5.1.2. archive uploads, like presentation slideshows and pdfs
 - 1.17.2.5.1.3. static web pages and the sub-blocks of which it's built
 - 1.17.2.5.1.4. but not events in this context
 - 1.17.2.5.2. Events need not be limited to SIG activities, but areas of SIG interest

Questions

Return to Slides

Q&A to follow

- Ask someone to take notes
- ? Set time limit

We cannot do this without **You**.

- The bulk of CPCUG's new Website speaks for itself. It will be clearer, richer and more lucid if you help us test it and contribute content and ideas.
- *Now* is also the time we want SIG Leaders to *start blogging* on their SIG Blogs, at least one a month. We want you to keep your SIG pages fresh.
- If you have content you want to add, contact Mark or Dennis by email to discuss how best you can do that. Ask about Blogging for us, or the Help Forum.

Finally ... Thank You

- You've seen just a bit of Drupal 7's power. For more google "Drupal 7" and surf the information there.
- For Drupal 7 tutorials, you might check <http://drupal.org/documentation/customization/tutorials/beginners-cookbook>
<http://www.acquia.com/blog/drupal-how-find-great-beginner-tutorials-drupal-7>
- You can build your own, free Drupal 7 website, see www.drupalgardens.com. It's fun and recommended.
- Our site is being built by a local group, Fantail see www.fantailtech.com of Columbia, Maryland.
- Our site is hosted via Drupal-as-a-service by Acquia, <http://www.acquia.com/products-services/acquia-cloud>