

# A Portable Web Server

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For WCARC

March 3, 2009

# Purpose of Project

- To provide basic access to the WCARC Web Site during meetings, for those who have internet connectible devices
- To experiment with a Web Server

# Criteria

- Must be easy to connect to – similar to a free wi-fi location
- Must accommodate multiple connections simultaneously w/ reasonable performance
- Must use standard web browser
- Functional with WinXP, WinVista, Linux
- MUST Very Portable/Compact
- Must be inexpensive

# Solution

- Freeware server application (Home Server) on Windows laptop PC
- Wireless Access Point with open security
- PC can be used for other stuff while running web server

# Ideal Solution(s)

- What I used for demo worked fine
- Ideal would be not much different than what I am using:
  - ◆ Laptop for easy portability, built-in kybd and screen
  - ◆ USB Access Point?
  - ◆ Could be built on an EEPC or Acer One w solid state HD say 32Gb running linux (netbook)
- Very small AP, possibly powered off computer would be nice but not necessary
- Portable power:
  - ◆ A 12v battery would run a stand alone AP for days
  - ◆ A 12v battery could run a netbook PC for days

# Instructions

- Whoever sets up must determine the IP of the server computer (use Show IP freeware)
- Users find the AP SSID (wcarc) in their list of wi-fi sites. Select it and Connect to it
- Open your browser
- Browse to 192.168.1.39:8080 for eg.
- Follow the index found there

# Conclusions (added after the meeting)

- There were several Wi-fi equipped computers at the meeting, including:
  - ◆ EEPC running Linux
  - ◆ Acer One running WinXP
  - ◆ Blackberry PDA
  - ◆ Conventional laptops
- All connected easily and were able to review Minutes
- All could surf the WCARC web site
- Server laptop could simultaneously run Server, Powerpoint, and other apps with no apparent difficulty
- May be of use at future meetings, grid expeditions, Field Day, etc.
- No incremental cost
- The technology that permits this to come together is mature

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