

SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting April 17, 2008

The April Board meeting was held on April 17, at 9:00 a.m. in the Idyllwild Room of the Mountain View clubhouse. Board members present were; Jack Drill, Lyn Morse, Kent McDonald, Shelia Harbet, and Barbara Kaye. Jan Grenert and Howard Reese were absent

The minutes of the previous meeting of March 25 were approved with the correction that Shelia's title is VP of Education, not VP of Programs.

Treasurer Jack Drill reported that we have \$26,510.84 in the operations account and \$15,246 in the equipment account. He also stated that we now have new Visa Debit cards, since a spurious charge showed up on the now-cancelled original account. We finally received a refund from AOL after dropping the paid account, but we should still have the same AOL E-mail address. Jack suggested that we consider consolidating our RoadRunner and Earthlink E-mail accounts as a cost savings. The treasurer will be getting the balance of *Forever* stamps remaining from the 1060 stamps purchased for mailing election ballots.

Kent McDonald, Director of Communications, said the membership is 1043. Labels for the ballot mailing will be printed on April 23. The new 2008-09 Membership Application forms will be in the lab beginning May 1; new members may receive up to 14 months for \$25 if they begin in May. Kent also stated that all Mac teachers now have Leopard, iLife '08, and iWork '08 installed on their home computers. Mac Gallery has made the software available at no charge for all lab Macs and teacher's Macs. The Nikon slide scanner is being repaired at Nikon in New York. All defects will be fixed for a flat fee of \$275. Kent said he would write a procedure to assist teachers who need to connect the XP PC to the projector. Kent is consulting with the Association's engineering department regarding the installation of our new projector on a ceiling mount. The new projector will be acquired this summer.

Shelia Harbet reported that the flash drive class, held just before this meeting, was well attended. Perhaps the class should be repeated each year. There were some last-minute changes to the April class schedule that caused a lot of confusion. Lyn Morse urged that we impose a firm cutoff date and stick to it. Our subscription to Lynda.com will expire in May, so it needs to be renewed.

There was discussion regarding the version of Photoshop Elements to be used on the lab computers—both PC and Mac. Adobe has been issuing new versions faster than we can update our lab computers. We may be better off by trailing behind the latest version since the previous versions are available at discount prices. Jim Calvert is planning to test version 6 during the summer to see whether he would recommend using it or waiting for version 7.

The April General Meeting will feature Mac Gallery demonstrating Windows XP on a Mac using Parallels. They normally prefer VM Fusion instead of Parallels, but they agreed to show the software that we have in the lab, Parallels.

The lab inventory was not finished on April 14, so Lyn will be scheduling another session.

Only four SWUG fees are currently being paid by the club, so there are ten remaining openings. Shelia agreed to notify the teachers about SWUG one more time.

There have been a few requests by renters to use a lab computer “just for a few minutes” to check E-mail. They are only allowed to use the computers if they pay the \$25 membership fee and they have a renter SCPD ID card which costs \$50 per year. They might be better off using a computer at the public library for free, or paying by the hour at Kinkos.

Apparently monitors have sometimes allowed members to exceed the ten-page-per-day limit on the Xerox Phaser printer. This is not allowed. Also monitors have told members using the scanners that they could stay in the lab after a class has begun. Only the teacher, not the monitor, may allow this.

Jim Calvert pointed out that the new Macs which can run Windows, will only be useful for teaching PC classes if we install the same suite of software applications that we have now on the PCs. He also encouraged us to teach Open Office as a no-cost alternative to Microsoft Office, since a lot of students do not want to buy Microsoft Office, even at \$149 for the Student/Teacher edition.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Kent McDonald
Secretary Pro Tem

Jan questions: Did we actually get the new projector. Need cost and identification for inventory. Is there a program for the May meeting?