

SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club

BITS & BYTES

WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

April 2011 Volume XVI Number 4



General Meeting - April 26 at 2:00 PM

The Prez Sez...

Welcome to April – and let us hope we don't have too many April showers! I think CA has had enough moisture for a while. That being said, I would venture to guess that many of us took photos of the snow-covered mountains these past two weeks. I loved seeing the snow up there!

Again, a reminder that the election for your new Board for 2011-2012 is fast approaching. If you are interested in running for a position, contact Bob Osborn, chairman of the nominating committee.

Also, the SWCC (Southwest Computer Conference) meeting will be in San Diego in early June. If you're interested in information, go online to www.theswcc.org to check it out. Location: Town and Country on Hotel Circle.

Looking at the April schedule of classes, I noted a couple of new classes that look interesting. We're always looking for people willing to step forward and offer their knowledge to others. I've been asked when there will be a class on the iPad; we're still looking for a volunteer to step forward as more and more people are either buying them or receiving them as gifts. Also, I've had several of you inquire again about an interest group for ebooks. If anyone is interested in chairing an information gathering group on either topic, send me an email – please make sure you've indicated in the subject line what this is about (and your name) as I may not recognize your email and think it spam (and you know what happens to spam).

So, what words of wisdom do I end with this month? How about the following from an old Farmers' Almanac:

“Character is pretty much like window glass; when it is cracked, it is cracked both inside and out.”

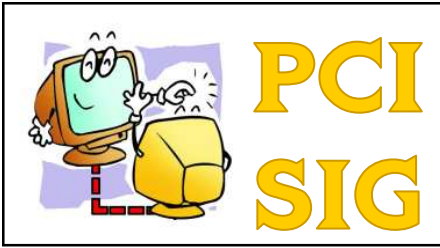
General Meeting Program by Dave Nay

A SCPD resident, Dave will once again update us on the recent changes in home television and home theater equipment at the April 26 General Meeting. Dave will discuss;



- The changing face of television and how things are going for 3D as it moves into its second year.
- Is there a resurgence in plasma television and how has the addition of LED improved TV picture quality for the LCD sets?
- Changes in the way we now or will get our TV delivered to our homes. Using the new Google TV hardware to deliver the Internet to our televisions (and do we really want that?) Television sets that deliver built-in games and other “apps/widgets” in an attempt to make the TV set a “complete entertainment package”.
- What roll will Verizon's new television offering play in our viewing now and in the future.

Dave has been fortunate enough to run a live comparison of Verizon Fios TV, Direct TV and Time Warner in his home and will share the results questions and more questions and hopefully matching answers. Dave has personal experience with this new equipment, and he will help dispel the myths of home entertainment.



Terry Kay and Arlene Faber

Terry Kay greeted the 22 members at the March 8 meeting with a reminder to bring in their own questions. He led a discussion about the future of the internet, talking about topics like the impact of Google and how the internet affect things like reading and math. He pondered whether the future will bring more openness or controls and limits. A site called *pewinternet.org* provides some additional materials on these ideas.

Microsoft is suggesting that we all abandon IE6, if we are still on it, because it is not secure or stable. Most of us are now using IE8, which is still supported and more secure.

Someone asked about a wireless router password problem. It was suggested that he go to the Linksys website to resolve the problem. Passwords provide you with a secure system that others can't breach. Just be sure to keep records of your passwords.

Another person questioned problems with IE8. He was advised to try working in Firefox. He has done that and it works. It was suggested he try working without the add-ons like Adobe Reader and Java. In IE8 you can go to TOOLS>INTERNET OPTIONS>RESET and remove all of the add-ons. This may clear the problem.

One member said that FIOS seemingly made her computer load her email slower. It may be

that she is holding too much in her email inbox and archives. Removing old materials may help speed up her use.

A question arose about the items in *msconfig*. Which items should always run on startup? The answer is always keep your security programs like antivirus and malware bytes. Process library can help you identify items that seem to have strange names. In *msconfig* you can uncheck items you don't need to have running in the startup phase.

Application Database is a part of "Greatis.com". It has lists that can help you identify what most unintelligible programs or processes do.

Kerry Greene talked about the need to reset the modem when it is moved to a different location. Sometimes just turning off all the power to the modem and the computer and then powering them back up will correct a problem.

Kerry made suggestions on how to learn to do more with your computer. He showed a site called *gcfllearnfree.org*. It has sections on computers, reading, math and more with videos and lessons you can follow step by step. Some of the lessons deal with everyday life issues like shopping and banking.

He shared a site called *imdb.com* to learn more about movies. *Rottentomatoes.com* is another site for movie information. Netflix is providing very speedy turnaround times. Their website has lots of movie information too. Blue Ray disc players can be used to stream movies to your TV.

Kerry talked about using Netflix streaming function on his home TV supported by a Blue

Ray player. He does not need to use the computer as long as his modem is turned on. Movies can be paused, restarted or deleted. You can also have them mailed to your home. Terry gets similar service through Apple TV. There are several game systems that will stream movies. You cannot get streaming in Hi Def yet.

Service Pack One is now available for Windows 7. It provides updates for the program.

CCleaner from *Piriform.com* was recommended for cleaning up junk files on the computer. It will clean up more than disc cleaner that comes with your machine. You can select items to be retained. Next is Iobit, which has something called Advanced System Care Free. This program will help keep more of your memory available to use. They also have a product called Smart Defrag 2 which works better than the defrag program that came with the computer.

The next meeting will be on **April 12 at 7:00 pm in the lab.**

NEW CLASS IN APRIL

By Jim Calvert

Friday, April 1, at 8:15 a.m. I will present the first half of a two session class for students who need help dealing with the mouse and the keyboard. We will spend thirty minutes Friday and another 30 minutes on the following Monday. This class will be limited to 6 students so we can give lots of help. We will repeat the two 30 minute sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday that first week of April. The signup sheets for the classes are in book 3.



Mac SIG - March 22, 2011

The moderator this month was Kent McDonald. His three topics were :

- Mac tips and tricks,
- Apple news
- How to do backups of your hard drive.

1) The Safari browser includes nice “Reader” feature that extracts the text from a cluttered web page so you can print just what you want without any advertising.

2) The Mac Finder now enables you to label your files and folder with colors to locate them easily.

3) Finder can also copy-and-paste portions of a pdf document; previously, pdf documents were unalterable.

4) If your desktop icons are arranged chronologically, you may have trouble locating a particular icon by name. Just look at the Desktop folder inside your User folder and all of the desktop items are shown alphabetically. (If you had instead alphabetized your desktop as a View option, the original icon arrangement would be forever lost)

5) Any document icon may be viewed (Quick Look) without opening an application; just select the icon with a single mouse click, then tap the Space Bar and you will get an instant view inside the document.

6) Remember to run Disk Utility (Repair Permissions and Disk Verify) often to keep everything

running smoothly. Also you should run the free MacJanitor software or get the \$10 Macaroni program that does routine cleanup automatically.

7) Finally, Kent demonstrated how to find the bargain refurbished Macs at Apple, and refurbished external hard drives at LaCie and Iomega outlet stores online.



Apple has now shipped 100 million iPhones and expects to ship 80 million iPads this year alone. The new size iMac, as well as the new operating system

Lion, are expected to ship this summer. Apple is now equipping new Macs with the 10 Gbps video output port, Thunderbolt, to feed big screen HDTV sets.

Your internal hard drive could fail at any time, so it is important that you maintain a backup copy of your important files needed when you must restore your system. A first step is to save your personal data regularly on CDs or DVDs that you store in a safe place. Also you should keep all of your original application CDs and DVDs if you ever need to reinstall them. The Apple Time Machine software automates the incremental backup of your hard drive to an external drive every time you use your computer. However, you will still need to reinstall the operating system from DVD in the event that a total restore from Time Machine is required. The ultimate backup is one that enables you to perform complete system restoration in a few minutes. This type of backup

involves software, such as Bounceback, that creates a bootable copy of your entire hard drive. A bootable backup may be connected to another Mac in case of a fire or hardware failure in your own Mac. Kent personally uses both Bounceback and Time Machine for his own backup.

The next Mac SIG meets on April 15 at 9:00 a.m. in the lab.

Volunteer... Please!

There are many opportunities for you to volunteer your help in the computer club:

Consider becoming a lab monitor. These great people are on duty during open lab time, and they are the reason that there IS open lab time. The lab cannot be open unless a monitor is on duty. For more information

Contact Moe Sullivan
Phone: 760-772-4416
Email:
modwenas@hotmail.com

Teachers, teachers - we are always open to members who want to pass on what they have learned about computer to others. Our teachers come from many walks of life and not necessarily teaching backgrounds. Familiarity and a willingness to share what you know about computers is all that is needed.

Contact Shelia Harbet
Phone: 760-360-7146
Email: shelia@csun.edu



April Feature a Teacher

Arlene Faber

About fifteen years ago my oldest daughter urged her dad to get email. My husband was already using a PS2 computer for some business applications, but I had never touched it. So we cut our teeth on AOL. About ten years ago we moved here and I joined the computer club. I learned to do a whole lot more due to the patience of our great teachers.

I was born in New York and lived there till the end of WWII. My dad loaded us all into a new Packard after the war and we drove to California with the three oldest in the back seat playing pinochle a good part of the time. My little sister rode in front with my parents. No air conditioning, seat belts or car seats but we did have a burlap water bag hanging on the car for cool water. I was seven.

We lived for three months in a motel while my dad found a business opportunity and a house to buy and we kids settled into the local schools. I graduated from Fairfax High and headed off to UC Berkeley. The first summer I worked in a co-ed summer camp and met my future husband, Bernard.

We eloped to Las Vegas in 1956. Both of us had jobs at Douglas Aircraft, Bernard in the aircraft division and I worked in the space division. There was a computer that filled a special room and ran day and night. We sent data in and got results in the morning. Later Bernard changed to Life Insurance sales where the computer at the home office filled two floors.

We lived in Los Angeles for a while and then moved to the San Fernando Valley where I was active with PTA, Girl Scouts, our temple and the United Way. Some of the roles I filled included the allocation of millions of dollars to about 80 agencies in the Valley. I ran a summer camp and was Girl Scout Council President for four years.

We raised two daughters and now have seven grandchildren.

I am active in BZBs and Paper Arts clubs and have served on Board Committees. I was a block Captain for about 9 years. As the more adventurous member of the family, I have tried things like sailing small craft, paragliding and zip-lining. For six years I taught some crafts classes at Michael's store. Now I enjoy teaching computer classes with the Print Shop program.

Yes, we "rode out" the Northridge Quake in our beds and live with the fact that another may be out there for us, but it is still better than the floods, tornados and hurricanes we see others suffering. Life is pretty great here in Sun City, one of the loveliest places on earth to live.

What is that thing?



Using External Media

By Arlene Faber and Lyn Morse

Arlene came up with the idea of teaching a class about external media for PC users and then got the bright idea - why not Mac users too? Thumb drive? USB drive? Flash drive? Memory stick? They are all the same. A number of teachers may have told you to bring one to class to save your work.

This month the team of Arlene & Lyn will help you learn what they are, what they can do, where to buy them, how to use them and safely remove them from your computer. We will cover both PC and Mac usage. If you already have a thumb drive, you may bring it along.

The class is on April 21 at 1:00. Sign up in book 15.

April Schedule of Classes

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>OS</u>	<u>BOOK</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
Fri	Apr. 1	8:15 – 8:45	PC Skills for Absolute Beginners (1/2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		9:00	Intro. To Windows 7 (1/3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Sat	Apr. 2	10 - 12	Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Apr. 4	8:15 – 8:45	PC Skills for Absolute Beginners (2/2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		9:00	Intro. To Windows 7 (2/3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Organizing Stuff on your Mac	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Apr. 5	8:15 – 8:45	PC Skills for Absolute Beginners (1/2) repeat	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		9:00	Intro. To Windows 7 (3/3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Wed	Apr. 6	8:15 – 8:45	PC Skills for Absolute Beginners (2/2) repeat	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		9 - 10	Internet and E-mail for PC	PC	7	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Safari to the Internet	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	Tips and Tricks	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Thur	Apr. 7	8:30 - 10	Beyond Basics – Window 7	PC		Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Advance Word: Tabs	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Sat	Apr. 9	10 - 12	Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Apr. 11	8 - 10	iPhoto	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Tues	Apr. 12	1:00	Intro. To Windows 7 (1/3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		2 – 3:20	Quicken Basics	PC	8	Dave Rosenthal
		3:30 - 5	Quicken Basics	Mac	8	Dave Rosenthal
		7:00	PCI SIG		Lab	
Wed.	Apr. 13	1:00	Intro. To Windows 7 (2/3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 - 5	Tabletop Books: iPhoto	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Thur	Apr. 14	1:00	Intro. To Windows 7 (3/3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Advanced Word: Tables	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Apr. 15	9:00	Mac SIG		Lab	
		1:00	Internet and E-mail for PC	PC	7	Jim Calvert
Sat	Apr. 16	10 – 12	Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Apr. 18	1 – 2:50	AddressBook/SetUp Mail & RR	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Apr. 19	1:00	Intro to Firefox	PC/Mac	7	Al Sabsevitz
		2 - 5	iMovie/iDVD	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Wed	Apr. 20	1 – 2:50	Mail Preferences	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Apr. 21	9:00	Board Meeting			Idyllwild
		1:00	Thumb drives	PC/Mac	15	Faber/Morse
		3 – 4:30	Advanced Word: Mail Merge	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Mon	Apr. 25	1 – 2:50	Sending/Receiving Mail	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Apr. 26	2:00	General Meeting			Speaker's Hall
Wed	Apr. 27	1 – 2:50	Video e-mail	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Apr. 28	8 - 10	Picasa 3	PC/Mac	15	Bob Osborn
		1 – 2:50	Intro. To Mobile Me	PC/Mac	15	Jim Coon
Sat	Apr. 30	10 -12	Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			

April Classes by OS

PC Classes

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Firefox - An Introduction	Apr. 19	1:00	Thumb drives	Apr. 21	1:00
Internet and E-mail for PC	Apr. 6	9 :00	<u>Windows 7 - Introduction- 2 sessions</u>		
Internet and E-mail for PC	Apr. 15	1:00	Session 1 (1/3)	Apr. 1	9:00
Mobile Me - Intro.	Apr. 28	1:00	Session 1 (2/3)	Apr. 4	9:00
<u>PC Skills for Absolute Beginners</u>			Session 1 (3/3)	Apr. 5	9:00
Session 1 (1/2)	Apr. 1	8:15	Session 2 (1/3)	Apr. 12	1:00
Session 1 (2/2)	Apr. 4	8:15	Session 2 (2/3)	Apr. 13	1:00
Session 2 (1/2) repeat	Apr. 5	8:15	Session 2 (3/3)	Apr. 14	1:00
Session 2 (2/2) repeat	Apr. 6	8:15	Window 7- Beyond Basics	Apr. 7	8:30
Picasa 3	Apr. 28	8:00	<u>Word 2007 Advanced Classes</u>		
Quicken Basics	Apr. 12	2:00	Word: Tabs	Apr. 7	3:00
			Word: Mail Merge	Apr. 21	3:00
			Word: Tables	Apr. 14	3:00

Mac Classes

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
AddressBook/SetUp Mail & RR	Apr. 18	1:00	Organizing Stuff on your Mac	Apr. 4	1:00
Firefox – An Introduction	Apr. 19	1:00	Picasa 3	Apr. 28	8:00
iMovie/iDVD	Apr. 19	2:00	Quicken Basics	Apr. 12	3:30
iPhoto	Apr. 11	8:00	Safari to the Internet	Apr. 6	1:00
iPhoto: Tabletop Books	Apr. 13	3:00	Thumb drives	Apr. 21	1:00
Mail Preferences	Apr. 20	1:00	Tips and Tricks	Apr. 6	3:00
Mail - Sending/Receiving	Apr. 25	1:00			
Mobile Me - an Intro	Apr. 28	1:00			

Welcome Jim Coon, new Mac teacher!

Month Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

Day	Date	10-12	12-12:50
Fri	April 1	S. Shiffman	S. Shiffman
Sat	April 2	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	April 4	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	April 5	H. Cook	B. Tagliarano
Wed	April 6	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	April 7	B. Osborn	N, Alpert
Fri	April 8	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Sat	April 9	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	April 11	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	April 12	H. Cook	B. Tagliarano
Wed	April 13	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	April 14	B. Osborn	N, Alpert
Fri	April 15	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Sat	April 16	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	April 18	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	April 19	H. Cook	B. Tagliarano
Wed	April 20	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	April 21	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	April 22	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Sat	April 23	Closed	Closed
Mon	April 25	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	April 26	H. Cook	B. Tagliarano
Wed	April 27	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	April 28	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	April 29	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Sat	April 30	L. Rowe	Closed

Election Information



The April 26 General meeting is important to the club because it begins the process of the election of officers for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

The Nominating Committee, with Bob Osborn as Chair, is preparing a list of nominees for the ballot. At the April 26 General meeting he will present the nominees and poll the members attending the meeting for additional nominees who will allow their names to be placed on the ballot.

The ballot will be prepared and sent out by mail to all 800+ members. Many members ask why this is necessary. Our By-Laws state that we must have a quorum of 25% of all our members to hold an election - that comes to 200+ members. It is highly unlikely that that many members would be here to attend an election meeting. The mailing of the ballots to all members fulfills that requirement.

The ballots will be sent out within a few days of the meeting. Ballots are due back by May 31, 2011.

April General Club Information

Meeting Schedule



PCI SIG	April 12.....	7:00 PM
MAC SIG	April 15.....	9:00 AM
BOARD MEETING	April 21.....	9:00 AM
GENERAL MEETING	April 26.....	2:00 PM



"Let's Compute" Officers

Lyn Morse, President	760-345-4466.....	lynmorse@aol.com
Shelia Harbet, VP Education	760-360-7146.....	shelia@csun.edu
Jan Grenert, Secretary, Newsletter Editor	760-360-9085.....	jgrenert@dc.rr.com
Kent McDonald, Director of Communications.....	760-345-2931.....	rkmcdonald@earthlink.net
Linda Espinoza, Treasurer.....	760-200-9299.....	puananioi@aol.com
Barbara Kaye, Director of Maintenance.....	760-772-6520.....	barbarak1775@aol.com
Sharon Kiel, Director of Programs	760-772-0745.....	srkpd@dc.rr.com

Committee Chairs

Betsy Lewis.....	Finance Review Committee
Open	Computer Sale
Nominating Committee.....	Bob Osborn
News & View Writer	Yvonne Michelsen

Volunteer Coordinators

Call to volunteer:

35 MM Scanner Coordinator	George Hans	345-3875
General Meeting Volunteers	June Cross.....	345-7876
Supplies	Sharon Kiel.....	772-0745
Monitor Coordinator	Moe Sullivan.....	772-4416
	Email:modwenas@hotmail.com	

April Teachers

Shirley Allan	760-345-5087
Jim Calvert	503-828-8815
Jim Coon	760-360-5753
Arlene Faber.....	760-299-3933
Jan Grenert.....	760-360-9085
Lyn Morse.....	760-345-4466
Bob Osborn	760-200-1149
Dave Rosenthal.....	760-772-7029
Al Sabsevitz	760-772-3025

April Lab Monitors

Norm Alpert	David Feign	Sara Shiffman
Cecilia Chu	John Manion	Barbara Tagliarano
Herb Cook	Bob Osborn	Charley Voelker
Bill Crowley	Leonette Rowe	

35 MM Scanner Monitor

George Hans



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