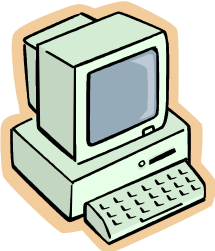
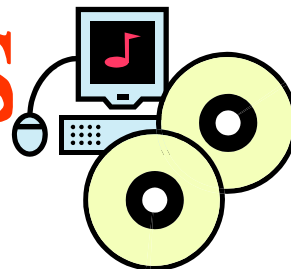


SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



BITS & BYTES



WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

August 2004 Volume IX Number 8

From the President

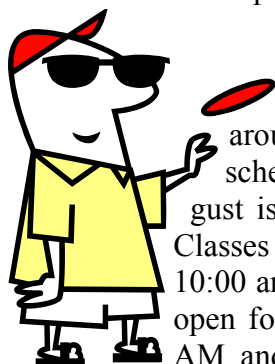
By Sheldon Plotkin

This is a heads-up call for all members of "Let's Compute" Computer Club who are sticking around this summer. The schedule of classes for August is now posted in the lab. Classes are scheduled before 10:00 and after 1:00. The lab is open for members between 10 AM and 1 PM, Monday thru Friday. On Saturday the lab is open from 10:AM to 12 PM. Members can use the lab to practice and increase skills. There is always a monitor on duty to assist you. Did you know that without Monitors the lab would not be open? Treat them well!

Check out the Word Classes for how to add Art, Drawing, and Photos into Word Documents. Jan Grenert will be presenting these classes. If this is a little advanced for you, Shirley Celli has scheduled a series of four basic Word Classes. This should keep you busy for the month of August.

That is not all. Shirley Allan is conducting a series of four classes of Apple Works, consisting of Preferences, Formatting and Editing of Documents, and Graphics. Lyn Morse will be teaching 2- Two hour classes of Greeting Cards during the month, in addition to a Workshop for Print Explosion.

Don't forget the lab's Slide Scanner where you can put 34mm slides on CDs.



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Calvert's Corner

by Jim Calvert

HELP WANTED



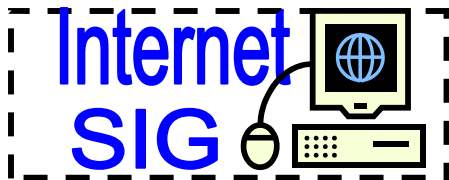
A few months ago through negotiations by Lyn Morse, the Adobe software

company donated copies of the full version of Adobe Photoshop, Photoshop Elements 2 and Photoshop Album for every computer in our lab. Earlier we were given two copies of Paint Shop Pro by the JASC software company. What a terrific boon that was to our club.

The challenge facing us now is to create hands-on classes or workshops using those software titles. What I am suggesting is that we create a "Knowledge Base" made up of members who use any of these products. I'm not necessarily asking you to teach although it would be wonderful if you would. Maybe we could have workshops and you could serve as a one-on-one helper for participants. Perhaps you would be willing to spend some one-on-one time with a teacher who is willing to teach but needs more ideas in creating classes.

Please contact me if are willing to be a resource person. I want to begin creating a database now so we are ready to go in October when I return. My Email address is, jim2anna@aol.com.

I received some responses to last month's request for more teachers. You are going to enjoy the new classes being planned. The offer for new teachers and new classes is always open.



By Kent McDonald

The July meeting of Internet SIG featured a working session about a new tool that makes browsing the INTERNET even more powerful. This tool enables you to create a web page which is the composite of several other web pages. For example, you might be comparing several vacation hotels by looking at their individual web sites for pictures and descriptions.

What you can do is capture selected items from each of the web sites and place these items side by side on a single web page. If there are links within these items, they will still work on the composite page. If you think the page you have created might be useful to a friend, you can E-mail the web address of your creation to them with a simple click of a share button.

If you would like to learn about this capability, go to **amplify.com** and run the demo. You will see how powerful this free tool can be. Also, you can try some of the custom web pages that people have placed on the Amplify web site for public sharing.

We were intrigued by one that gave research data about avoiding Alzheimer's disease by eating blueberries. Anyone can view the "AMPS" with a regular browser such as Internet Explorer. If you want to create an AMP, you must download a small software program, but it is free.

The next meeting is Aug 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the lab.



Report on Nik Sharpener Pro

by Rollin Weber

Many factors influence the final digital print. These factors include the quality of the original image, the intrinsic ability of the printer to transform digital images into ink droplets on paper, the type of printing paper selected, and most importantly the actual output size of the printed image. Because it is difficult to consistently judge these factors, many who understand photo finishing best, consider the sharpening process to be one of the most risky of procedures employed in optimizing images for printing.

Nik Sharpener Pro is a software program that automatically evaluates these multiple factors in such a way that it minimizes these risks. It can be a useful tool, not only for the experienced photo finisher but for the beginning amateur. Nik Sharpener Pro makes optimal sharpening easily available to all.

Since I have been a long time user of Nik Sharpener - home edition, its value in the production of clear sharp images printed on inject printers has been greatly appreciated. My experience has been limited primarily to its application to small image files, single frame thumbnails, captured from a three chip camcorder. In the Home edition, only two options are available, "normal" and "soft". With these small sized images (640X380) the "soft"

selection generally produced technically sharp and pleasing 4X6 prints.

The home edition with its limited options worked adequate for the demands of small image files. With the acquisition of a higher end still digital camera that produced larger files, the additional options available with the full Pro version readily became apparent. Some of these features are:

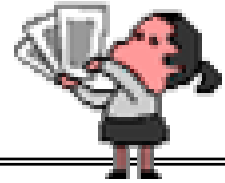
1) AAuto scan@ feature determines the true image resolution. This determines if there is in fact, sufficient details to print a quality image in a specified size. If not the image will be printed at whatever percentage will yield a optimum print with resources available in that particular image.

2) The AFence >n Foliage Protection selectively sharpens areas of the image that need it most, while sparing those areas that can tolerate sharpening to a lesser degree. This protects against the tendency of many sharpening tools to sharpen the image, uniformly, so that less important portions of the image are sharpened, making them compete with the equally sharpened center of interest.

3) The AEye Distance@ setting. Selects the anticipated use of the output image - Sharpening will be different if the image is to viewed up close as in a book or album vs. being viewed from a distance as in viewing a poster.



What the Instructors say.. About Their August Classes.



AppleWorks

By Shirley Allan

Back by popular demand? I thought everyone had taken the AppleWorks series classes but some students have told me they haven't had time or are new to the Club. So, I will be repeating the classes in August at 3:00 every Monday.

These are classes for beginners to intermediate and focus on the first module of AppleWorks, a user friendly word processing program that costs lots less than its Windows counterpart. As you may know AppleWorks has six modules: Word Processing, Drawing, Painting, Data Base, Spread Sheet and Presentation. Wow! All of that in one application and it is FREE with most of the Apple's computers (doesn't come on the "commercial" machines). Aren't we lucky?

If you have one of Apple's Towers, you may have to purchase it but even then, it is relatively cheap running around \$77 the last time I looked.

So if you missed a class when it was taught before or you want to repeat a class to ask questions or become more comfortable with some of the things you learned, please sign up and join us in August.

The first three classes are in the Word Processing module and the fourth class is in the Draw module. Then, if you haven't had enough, you can take a stand alone class to learn how to create a Calling Card. This class that will show you how to liven up your cards with graphics.

Mac Classes

By Lyn Morse

All the classes I'm teaching in August will be using the Print Explosion program. Let me give you a short description of each so you'll know if they meet your needs before you sign up. Each is a hands-on class, so class size is limited to the number of Macs available for student use. Each class is a two-hour session if it's needed.

Memory Pages

You could also call the class photo pages, maybe even scrap-booking. In this class, we'll be exploring ways to create 8 by 11 sheets with multi-photos on them, even text and graphics included if you want them. I've found that memory pages are more fun to look at than 4 X 6 snapshots because I can add personality to them. I print my sheets on photo paper, slip them into page protectors and then into a notebook. They are fun to look at.

Greeting Cards

This is actually a three-session class. You'll need to be there for them in sequence as they build upon one another. If you're growing tired of running to the store at the last moment to get that forgotten card – be it a birthday, anniversary, retirement, congratulations, etc. – then this is a class you'll want to take. Print Explosion lets you print from a wide selection of already created cards, or you can learn how to make a special one from scratch, including learning how

to import your digital photos to make one-of-a-kind cards. There's a lot to learn, therefore the three sessions so we can take it slowly enough to learn it well.

Print Explosion Workshop

This is exactly what the title suggests, a class where you can come to ask questions, practice something, share what you've learned, try a new idea and have help available if you get stuck. This is for people who have already taken classes using Print Explosion. This is not a "teaching" class.

Digital Photos in Word

By Jan Grenert

This is a new class for the advanced Word series. In this class you will learn how to place and arrange multiple digital photos and graphics from a CD into a Word document along with text and WordArt.

This class does not take the place of a photo-specific program like PictureIt, but rather it explores Word's capabilities and enhancements of photos.

We will provide a CD with pictures and of course step by step instructions for each student.

I think this will be a fun and useful lesson. The signup sheet is in the book and a sample of the completed lesson can be found in the back of the #2 note book.

The class is scheduled for **Wed. August 18 at 3:00 p.m.** We hope to see you there.

August Classes Listed by Date

Day	Date	Time	Class	Book	Teacher
Mon	Aug 2	3:00	AppleWorks 1 – Setting Preferences (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tue	Aug 3	3:00	Memory Pages (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Wed	Aug 4	3:00	Word Art – 1½ hours (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Sat	Aug 7		10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab		
Mon	Aug 9	3:00	AppleWorks 2 – Formatting Documents (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tue	Aug 10	7:00	Internet SIG		
Wed	Aug 11	1:00	Greeting Cards 1 – 2 hours (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		3:00	Word Draw – 1½ hours (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Aug 13	8:00	Word 1 – Creating a Basic Letter (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
		9:00	Word 2 – Revising a Basic Letter (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
Sat	Aug 14		10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab		
Mon	Aug 16	3:00	AppleWorks 3 – Editing Documents (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Wed	Aug 18	9:00	Windows Maintenance and Organization (PC)	12	Charley Voelker
		3:00	Digital Photos in Word Documents – 1½ hrs (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Thur	Aug 19	3:00	Greeting Cards 2 – 2 hours (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Sat	Aug 21		10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab		
Mon.	Aug 23	1:00	Board Meeting		
		3:00	AppleWorks 4 – Graphics (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Aug 24	3:00	Greeting Cards 3 – 2 hours (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Wed	Aug 25	3:00	Word 4 (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Aug 27	8:00	Word 3 - More Letter Basics (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
		9:00	Word 3.5 Envelopes and Labels (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
Sat	Aug 28		10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab		
Mon	Aug 30	3:00	AppleWorks - Calling Cards and Graphics (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Aug 31	3:00	Workshop for Print Explosion – 2 hours (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse

August Classes Listed Alphabetically

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>AppleWorks series (Mac)</u>			Memory/Photo Pages – Mac	8-3	3:00+
Setting Preferences	8-2	3:00	Print Explosion Workshop- Mac	8-31	3:00+
Formatting Documents	8-9	3:00	Windows Maintenance and	8-18	9:00
Editing Documents	8-16	3:00	And Organization		
Placing Graphics	8-23	3:00	Word Series - PC		
Calling Cards and Graphics	8-30	3:00	Shirley Celli		
BOARD MEETING	8-23	1:00	1 Creating a Basic Letter	8-18	8:00
<u>Greeting Card series - Mac</u>			2 Revising a Basic Letter	8-13	9:00
Greeting Cards 1	8-11	1:00+	3 More business letter basic	8-27	8:00
Greeting Cards 2	8-19	3:00+	3.5 Envelopes and Labels	8-27	9:00
Greeting Cards 3	8-24	3:00+	Jan Grenert		
INTERNET SIG	8-10	7:00pm	Word Art	8-4	3:00+
			Word Draw	8-11	3:00+
			Digital Photos in Word	8-18	3:00+
			Word 4	8-25	3:00

August General Club Information

BOARD MEETING

August 23, 1:00 p.m.

INTERNET SIG

August 10, 7:00 p.m.

DIGITAL SIG

No meeting in August

WINDOWS SIG

No meeting in August



GENERAL MEETING

No meeting in August

FINE ARTS DIGITAL SIG

No meeting in August

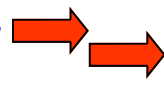
MAC SIG

No meeting in August

"Let's Compute" Officers

Sheldon Plotkin, President.....	360-0789	sunctyplot@earthlink.net
Lyn Morse, VP Programs	345-4466	lynmorse@aol.com
Kent McDonald, VP Communications.....	345-2931	rkmcdonald@earthlink.net
Jim Calvert, VP Education	772-6710	jim2anna@aol.com
Jan Grenert, Secretary, Newsletter Editor	360-9085	jgrenert@dc.rr.com
Dave Allan, Treasurer.....	345-5087	DYAllan@aol.com
Pete Claar, Member-At-Large	772-9509	zadhoc@hotmail.com

Welcome New Monitor



Debra Norby

August Teachers

Shirley Allan.....	345-5087
Shirley Celli.....	345-7159
Jan Grenert	360-9085
Lyn Morse	345-4466
Charlie Voelker	345-0123

Computer Maintenance Committee

Pete Claar, Chairman	Kent McDonald
Jack Drill	Sheldon Plotkin
Dick Franzen	Dale Seffer
Barbara Kaye	

August Scanner Monitors

Felice Bourne	Conrad Lembers
Pete Claar	Sheldon Plotkin
Jack Drill	Leonette Rowe
Walter Goldsmith	Harvey Schwartz
Dale Seffer, Monitor Coordinator	

August Lab Monitors

Felice Bourne	Jan Grenert
Norm Bing	Debra Norby
Pete Claar	Leonette Rowe
Shirley Cronin	Norma Streeter
Bill Crowley	Ray Snow
Jack Drill	Charlie Voelker
Dick Franzen	

Shirley Cronin, Monitor Coordinator



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