



SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club

BITS & BYTES



WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

August 2009 Volume XIV Number 8

Prez Sez...

By Lyn Morse

I keep reminding myself of what a neighbor said when I first moved here: "We tolerate the summer months because of the other eight." Hot, hot, hot – right? And muggy, right? Just so the AC keeps putting out the cool!

The Harris' Farmer's Almanac was misplaced, so I missed out on sharing July's words of wisdom. Of course, it was right where I had put it, but remembering where that right place is can be a challenge. Anyway, here's July: "Freedom is a package deal; with it comes responsibilities and consequences." So true in so many ways. Now for August's pithy quote: "When science finally locates the center of the universe, some people will be surprised to learn they are not it." Don't you just love it?

On to computer matters: Another flash drive was left behind and given to me for safekeeping. It's a unique looking one, and if you think it might be yours, give me a call and describe it for me. Along with all of the officers, my telephone number is on the back page of each Bits and Bytes.

A pair of glasses sat on the window ledge for months and

months – no one claimed them. I turned them into Lost and Found finally. If you've misplaced a pair, you might check at the front desk.

Monitors are needed to keep Open Lab opened. If there is not a volunteer monitor for a time slot, then the lab will have to be closed for that time. Each day, Monday through Friday, there are two time slots; one is from 10 to 12 and the other from 12 to 1. You don't have to be a computer guru to be a monitor, just be willing to be responsible for checking membership cards, explaining to potential members how the club works, filling the printer with paper if it runs out and noting down any problem a computer might develop that either Barbara or Kent needs to address. If interested, please talk with Moe Sullivan, who is in charge of monitors. Her number is also on the back page

Linda, our new treasurer, tells me membership is already half that of last year's, and that's only in one month! Good going, People!



Stay cool.

PC SIG



By Kerry Greene

The July PC SIG was an energetic meeting with a room full of energized PC users. Thank you all for filling the room to the brim.

Kent McDonald started the meeting with some announcements about downloading movies from Netflix or Amazon to your computer. If your home entertainment equipment, such as Hi Definition TiVo or a new Blue Ray Disc Player are capable, you can stream the movies directly to your TV. Kent also mentioned that Verizon could be a future television delivery system to compete with Time Warner.

Kent went on to say that the new OS (Operating System) from Microsoft, called Windows 7, will be shipping with new computers near the end of October. Microsoft also has a beta (testing) version of Office 10, and the full release can be downloaded on or about the release date. Google is working on an OS also, about a year away, that can run on netbooks. It is open source and free.

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August Class Schedule

| DAY | DATE | TIME | CLASS | Book | TEACHER |
|-----|--------|----------|---|------|---------------|
| Sat | Aug 1 | | Open Lab 10:00 to 12 noon | | Open Lab |
| Wed | Aug 5 | 1 – 2:30 | Burning CDs & DVDs (Mac) | 1 | Kent McDonald |
| Sat | Aug 8 | | Open Lab 10:00 to 12 noon | | Open Lab |
| Mon | Aug 10 | 1:00 | Address Book (Mac) | 1 | Shirley Allan |
| | | 2:00 | Setting Up e-Mail Accounts (Mac) | 1 | Shirley Allan |
| Tue | Aug 11 | 3 – 4:30 | ComicLife (PC) (2/2) | 15 | Jan Grenert |
| | | 7:00 | PC SIG | | Lab |
| Thu | Aug 13 | 1- 2:30 | PrintShop Photo Tools (PC) | 4 | Arlene Faber |
| Sat | Aug 15 | | Open Lab 10:00 to 12 noon | | Open Lab |
| Thu | Aug 20 | 9:00 | Board Meeting | | Mountain View |
| | | 3 – 4:30 | Word 1/4 (PC) | 2 | Jan Grenert |
| Sat | Aug 22 | | Open Lab 10:00 to 12 noon | | Open Lab |
| Mon | Aug 24 | 1:00 | Setting Up Mail Preferences/Views (Mac) | 1 | Shirley Allan |
| | | 2:00 | Sending& Receiving Mail&Attachments (Mac) | 1 | Shirley Allan |
| Thu | Aug 27 | 8 - 10 | Picassa (PC) | 16 | Bob Osborn |
| | | 3 – 4:30 | Word 2/4 (PC) | 2 | Jan Grenert |
| Sat | Aug 29 | | Open Lab 10:00 to 12 noon | | Open Lab |

New Print Shop Class

By Arlene Faber

Did you know that Print Shop has a set of photo tools? They can be used to crop, fix red eye and pet eye, brighten up dark shots, and a whole lot more.

They are a bit simpler to work with than the tools in Adobe Elements. You can make changes in pictures right on your posters, pages and greeting cards. The tools can make a color picture into a black and white, a sepia print or keep the color in part of your photo and make the rest black and white.

Come to the lab to experiment with the possibilities. The class is limited to 12 people. **This is not a beginner class.** You should have some experience in using Print Shop for doing other tasks before signing up for this one.



ComicLife

By Jan Grenert

Our first class of ComicLife on the PC last month was very informative...to the instructors!

We discovered that there was way too much information for a single 1-1/2 hour class. Our first clue was when the students' eyes started to become glazed!



So we have made it a two session class. We think it will be easier to learn this really nifty program at a slower pace.

We had a part one class on July 30 and will have part two on August 11 at 3:00.

ComicLife will be scheduled again in September as a two-part class.

See, even the instructors have a thing or two to learn!

August Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

PC SIG

Continued from page 1

| Date | Day | 10-12 | 12-1 |
|---------|-----|-------------|-------------|
| 8/1/09 | Sat | L. Rowe | Closed |
| 8/3/09 | Mon | C. Chu | W. Crowley |
| 8/4/09 | Tue | | R. Kreisler |
| 8/5/09 | Wed | C. Voelker | S. Livrans |
| 8/6/09 | Thu | B. Osborn | T. Krasney |
| 8/7/09 | Fri | J. Manion | F. Diaz |
| 8/8/09 | Sat | L. Rowe | Closed |
| 8/10/09 | Mon | C. Chu | W. Crowley |
| 8/11/09 | Tue | L. Espinoza | R. Kreisler |
| 8/12/09 | Wed | C. Voelker | M. Chanon |
| 8/13/09 | Thu | | G. Kennedy |
| 8/14/09 | Fri | J. Manion | F. Diaz |
| 8/15/09 | Sat | L. Rowe | Closed |
| 8/17/09 | Mon | C. Chu | W. Crowley |
| 8/18/09 | Tue | L. Espinoza | R. Kreisler |
| 8/19/09 | Wed | C. Voelker | M. Chanon |
| 8/20/09 | Thu | B. Osborn | G, Kennedy |
| 8/21/09 | Fri | J. Manion | F. Diaz |
| 8/22/09 | Sat | L. Rowe | Closed |
| 8/24/09 | Mon | C. Chu | W. Crowley |
| 8/25/09 | Tue | L. Espinoza | R. Kreisler |
| 8/26/09 | Wed | C. Voelker | M. Chanon |
| 8/27/09 | Thu | B. Osborn | G, Kennedy |
| 8/28/09 | Fri | J. Manion | F. Diaz |
| 8/29/09 | Sat | L. Rowe | Closed |
| 8/31/09 | Mon | C. Chu | W. Crowley |

We discussed the importance of doing online banking in a secure environment. Avoid doing your banking on public computers or over a public network, such as a coffee house, your motel, etc. Make sure you are using a private network that is password protected. Remember that wireless networks can easily be compromised, so the safest way to do banking is wired to the network, and not over a wireless connection.

Downloading or even upgrading programs may plant extra utilities or services on your PC. Watch for items that will be added unless you opt out by un-checking the option to also install. Possible added items could include various toolbars, Open Office Installer, etc. When you upgrade Adobe Reader, Java, Flash Player, and many others, you may be offered extra stuff that you may not want. Scroll down the page to make sure you see everything, and opt out of what you do not want. I suggested that too many toolbars (Yahoo, AOL, AIM, MSN, Bing, and Google, to name just a few) can slow down your Internet Browser.

Our main topic was Advanced System Care from Iobit.com. It will easily cleanse your system of unwanted files, with just one click. It is free and very easy to use. A companion program, also free from Iobit.com is Smart Defrag, which is much faster than the one provided with Windows.

A final discussion point was about Internet Explorer 8, which is being pushed by many websites, and Microsoft, as a critical update. I have heard enough horror stories to suggest that we delay installation of IE8 for a while. More later on that.

We voted to continue through the summer, so our next meeting will be on **August 11th at 7:00 pm in the computer lab.**

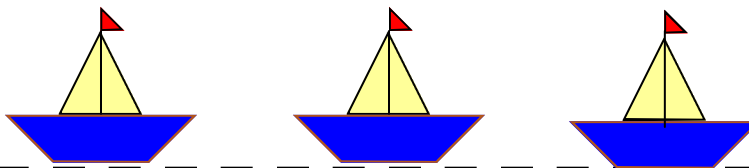


August General Club Information

Meeting Schedule



PC SIG August 11 7:00 PM
 BOARD MEETING..... August 20 9:00 AM



"Let's Compute" Officers

Lyn Morse, President 345-4466 lynmorse@aol.com
 Shelia Harbet, VP Education 360-7146 shelia@csun.edu
 Jan Grenert, Secretary, Newsletter Editor 360-9085 jgrenert@dc.rr.com
 Kent McDonald, Director of Communications 345-2931 rkmcDonald@earthlink.net
 Linda Espinoza, Treasurer 200-9299 puananioi@aol.com
 Barbara Kaye, Director of Maintenance 772-6520 barbarak1775@aol.com
 Jerry Katler, Director of Programs 772-6405 jerryk@dc.rr.com

Volunteer Coordinators

Call to volunteer:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 35 MM Scanner Coordinator | George Hans 345-3875 |
| General Meeting Volunteers | June Cross 345-7876 |
| Supplies & News & Views | Sharon Kiel 772-0745 |
| News & Views | Jill Johnson 772-4809 |
| Monitor Coordinator | Moe Sullivan 772-4416 |

August Teachers

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Shirley Allan..... | 345-5087 |
| Arlen Faber..... | 299-3933 |
| Jan Grenert | 360-9085 |
| Kent McDonald | 345-2931 |
| Bob Osborn | 200-1149 |

August Lab Monitors

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Maurice Chanon | Georgia Kennedy | John Manion |
| Cecilia Chu | T. Krasney | Bob Osborn |
| Bill Crowley | Bob Kreisler | Leonette Rowe |
| Frank Diaz | Shirley Livrans | Charley Voelker |
| Linda Espinoza | | |

35 MM Scanner Monitors

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| George Hans | Walter Goldsmith | Leonette Rowe |
|-------------|------------------|---------------|

Committee Chairs

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Betsy Lewis | Finance Review Committee |
| June Cross | Computer Sale |
| Pat Palladino..... | Nominating Committee |

A special thanks to those who contributed articles to this month's Bits & Bytes. Lyn Morse, Kerry Greene, Arlene Faber and Moe Sullivan. During the year many



people use this publication to communicate with members. Without their articles this would be a pretty boring newsletter.!!!



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