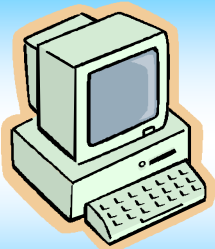


SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



BITS & BYTES

WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

December 2006 Volume XI Number 12



The Prez Sez...

By Lyn Morse

We're well on our way to 900 members as I type this. Our club grows not only in members, but also in those who actually come in and use the computers. It's good to see so many of you taking advantage of the lab and all it has to offer. Please remember, though, that there is a limit of 10 printed pages a day. That is posted by the printers as a gentle reminder.

I hope you had the opportunity to attend Shawn Kardell's presentation of Corel's two programs in November. I had experienced the "wow" factor when I first saw Shawn demonstrate Essentials 3 at SWUG, so I wasn't surprised at the reaction from you when you saw it. Many of you came up to thank me for bringing Shawn to us.

This meeting started something new for Let's Compute; we were allowed to invite other computer groups who don't have the numbers to bring in companies like Corel to join us. Palm Desert Greens, dMUG and PSMug all were represented in our audience. Also, Shawn graciously did two presentations on two different products, the second one being an evening session in the ballroom using

Corel's Paint Shop Pro Photo IX for the PC. This one was almost tailor made for those attending. Shawn took questions from us and then demonstrated how Paint Shop Pro did that particular thing. I saw a lot of people taking notes for future use! Shawn and Corel raised the bar.

Some new classes are being offered as the New Year begins. Thanks to Corel, who has gifted us with Corel Painter Essentials 3, we'll be offering classes on the program on both the Mac and PC. Microsoft Word for the Mac will be on the schedule. A new version of MS's Flight Simulator has been given to the Club, so it looks like that class will be coming back. At the last Digital SIG, PhotoStory 3 was demonstrated; the response was very good, so per request, it's being put on all PCs; watch for that one also. There may be others I'm not aware of at this writing, so carefully read January's schedule when it comes out for hidden gems I may have missed here.

I have to insert a word or two here about signing up for classes. Please, please, please! Print or write your name so it can be read! Include your telephone number!

Continued on Page 2

Change is Good,...



....But Not Always!!

By Barbara Kaye
VP Computer Maintenance

Most of us feel comfortable when we can rearrange things to suit our own tastes. That's fine for your own home computer, but not for the PCs and the MACs in the lab. Please don't change the desktop wallpaper, screensaver or default printer. Please don't install or uninstall ANY programs. Please don't add, delete or rearrange any icons on the desktop. Please don't change the screen resolution. If there is something you think should be added to or removed from the computers, please tell the monitor and he or she will tell one of the club's officers. If the suggestion has merit, we will consider applying it to ALL the computers. Thanks for your cooperation.

The Prez Sez..

Continued from page 1

This past month I had to cancel four classes for one of our teachers, and discovered a few problems. One person had written down their fax number, two left long distance numbers, one wrote the 760 prefix and the last four numbers (are you aware of how many three digit combinations there are for telephone numbers in here?) and one left no phone number at all – and there was none in our directory. Of course, that was the person who showed up for class, found the lab closed, and went to Sophia. Hello! Please take the time to write clearly and make sure your telephone number is correct and readable. Thank you.

There is no general meeting in December, but classes do con-



By Terry Kay

Kent McDonald gave an SRO crowd a detailed overview of the features in the new IE7. A show of hands indicated only a couple of the 27 attendees have already downloaded Internet Explorer 7 (IE7). Using the info at <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/default.msp>, we explored what IE7 can do for us. Terry Kay commented that the LA area computer talk show gurus have suggested waiting 6 months to see if all the bugs get worked out. Unless one is a hard core

“need to have the latest”, this is good advice. Kerry Greene described how to avoid getting this new IE7 automatically, by **not** selecting Express Update in Microsoft Update.

Microsoft Alert and the free Site Advisor (<http://www.siteadvisor.com/>) were briefly discussed and recommended to identify sites that are sources of spyware, spam, scams, etc. before we go there and get spammed.

Keeping a computer’s security current is assisted by Windows Update (<http://update.microsoft.com>) and Microsoft Update (<http://update.microsoft.com>). The former addresses updates for the Windows program, and the latter addresses all other MS programs. Both can be set on automatic if that is your wish.

A question was asked about what to do when you try to open a file, such as one attached to an email, and the computer reports you have to “associate the file with a program”. If your computer cannot locate the program to open the attached file, use <http://filext.com/>, and the file extension in question, to determine the program required to open it. The “.xxx” after the file name is called the file extension. If you can’t immediately determine the file extension, Kerry Greene instructed us to copy the file to your Desktop where you can click on it to see the file extension.

Our one hour allotted time quickly disappeared, but not without asking all present to come prepared next time, **Tuesday, Dec 12**, with Internet related questions. Hopefully someone will have an answer.



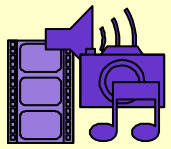
Lyn Morse

If you missed MacSIG in November you missed another of Lou Shapiro’s presentations. As always, Lou gave us a full hour’s worth of things to do with our Macs. This time, Lou presented one of our Mac’s little known jewels – the Automator. It’s amazing what can be done with the feature; I wouldn’t say it’s the greatest thing since sliced bread, or as great as pineapple upside down cake, but in the computer side of my life, it really got my attention.

Want to schedule your Mac to do something? Automator is an OS X application that create workflows to automate the computer tasks every day. You can simply drag and drop actions, which is the building block of workflows, to create a powerful customized automation application.

Lou came with QT movies that we could upload to our flash drives (suggestion here: always bring a flash drive with you, at least one gig, when attending any SIG). He also provided two handouts that he had downloaded to help us out at home. One handout mentioned Democracy.com, which is Internet Television with info and lessons. You might want to check it out.

There will be no meeting in December. The next MacSIG will be on January 19. We always meet the third Friday at 9:00 in the lab.



Digital SIG

By Jill Johnson

An interesting meeting was enjoyed by the 28 computer club members who attended the Nov. 8th meeting. We were privileged to have Kevin Gibbons share his knowledge of Digital Photo Editing and other related topics. Kevin covered the "How-to's "of

1. Downloading digital photos to your computer, using a camera dock, card reader, Cable or connecting a photo card.
2. Storing photos.
3. Organizing photos in files and folders.
4. Editing photos.
5. Shrinking photos for e-mailing.
6. Choosing to make "Slide Shows' on VCD, SVCD or DVD's.

Digital Photo editing programs are on all computers in the lab.

The three "I" suggestions to always follow are: **Import, Improve and Impress.** Kevin explained Image Editing Software>>>>Rotation, Red eye removal, Cropping, Sharpen, Focus and Converting color to black and white.

He explained various programs, i. e. Picaso, Photo Shop CS, PhotoShop Elements, Photo Story 3 (a free download), Windows Movie Maker, Smile box, Corel's Painter Essentials 3, Paint ShopPro, and Nero Vision Express 3 for "PC'S".

In addition to all this valuable information, Kevin entertained us with a lovely Slide show he had put together.

Lyn Morse also enlightened us with additional information regarding Photo corrections and editing on the Mac computer. She demonstrated a neat slide show, using Preview on the Mac.

We learned another handy hint to check the project size (slide show photos), before burning the CD or DVD so that the project does not exceed the disc capacity.

When burning a CD recordable, the limit is 700 MB and when burning a DVD recordable, the limit is 4.3 GB.

Thank you, Kevin and Lyn, for sharing so much helpful information.

Watch the class schedule because Kevin will be teaching classes on the processes he demonstrated at this meeting.

The next Digital SIG meeting will be on **Dec. 13, at 7:00 p.m.** in the lab.

Insider Tips and Tricks Courtesy of MacStore

Clicking/Dragging with TrackPad

Laptop users: did you know that it's possible to use the track pad itself for clicking and dragging operations? Open System Preferences and go to "Keyboard and Mouse", then click the "Track pad" button. Select the checkbox next to "Clicking", and then optionally enable "Dragging" or "Drag Lock". To click with the track pad, simply tap once - this simulates clicking the button below the track pad. For more information, open the Help Viewer from the Help menu and search for "track pad".

More...

Tips and Tricks for the Mac Lyn Morse

Are you sent an attachment, that when you try to open it, is gibberish? Look at the name of the file; does it have a "tag" at the end of the name, like **.doc**? If not, that may be your problem. Select (highlight) the name and add **.doc** to the end. Try opening it then; that should solve most of your problems. However, if it ends in **pps**, you need to drag it to the PowerPoint icon in the dock for it to open.

Here's a neat thing to do with photos you've just downloaded to a folder on the desktop and want to see. Do a Select All, hold down the Control key, click on the top one and select slide-show from the drop-down window.

Thanks !!

To the Windows SIG members and moderator, Kerry Greene, who relinquished their November meeting date so that members could attend the Corel Paint Shop Pro photo demonstration that evening in the ballroom. The December meeting will be held on the 19th.



December Class Schedule

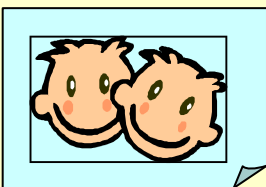
Day	Date	Time	Class	Book	Teacher
Fri	Dec. 1	1:00	Beginning PC 4 – Saving a File	3	Kerry Greene
		4:00	PrintShop Greeting Cards 3 (PC)	4	Doris Keniry
Sat	Dec. 2	10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab			
Mon	Dec. 4	8:30 – 9:50	Greeting Cards - Print Explosion (Mac) Pt 2	1	June Cross
		1:00	Beginning PC 5 – Email and Internet	3	Kerry Greene
		2 – 3:50	Integrating Text & Graphics (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Dec. 5	8:30 – 9:50	PhotoShop Elements – Basics (PC)	14	Barbara Kaye
		1 – 2:50	Introduction to Personal Computing – 1 (PC)	3	Ron Ehrens
Wed	Dec. 6	9:00	PrintShop Custom Calling Cards/Labels (PC)	4	Larry Allen
		1:00	Spanish Workshop Demo	15	Barbara Kaye
		2 – 3:50	Memory Pages, Photos, Frames & Cartoon Bubbles (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Dec. 7	8 – 9:50	Photos and Graphics into Word (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		1:00	Beginning PC 1 – Using the Mouse	3	Kerry Greene
		2:00	Windows XP Basics & Beyond 1 -Start Menu	3	Kerry Greene
Fri	Dec. 8	8 – 9:50	iPhoto (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		1:00	Beginning PC 2 – Using the Keyboard	3	Kerry Greene
		2:00	Windows XP Basics & Beyond 2-Task Bar	3	Kerry Greene
		3:00	Word 3 (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
		4:00	Word 3.5 (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
Sat	Dec. 9	10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab			
Mon	Dec. 11	1:00	Beginning PC 3 – Creating a File	3	Kerry Greene
		2:00	Windows XP Basics & Beyond 3 Windows Settings	3	Kerry Greene
		3:00	Safari to the Internet (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Dec. 12	8 – 9:50	PhotoShop Elements Basic 5 +1 (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		1 – 2:50	Introduction to Personal Computing - 2 (PC)	3	Ron Ehrens
		3:00	Digital Memory Pages - Comic Life	1	Lyn Morse
		7:00	Internet SIG		
Wed	Dec. 13	9:00	Computer Maintenance	12	Charlie Voelker
		1:00	Beginning PC – 4 Saving a File	3	Kerry Greene
		2:00	Windows XP Basics & Beyond 4- Printing & e-mail settings	3	Kerry Greene
		3:00	Creating Lists & Labels (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
		4:00	Spanish Workshop 1 – Disc 1	15	Barbara Kaye
		7:00	Digital SIG		
Thur	Dec. 14	9:00	Board Meeting		Idyllwild Room
		1:00	Beginning PC 5 – Email and Internet	3	Kerry Greene
		2:00	Windows XP Basics & Beyond 5 – Security Settings	3	Kerry Greene
		3 – 4:30	Digital Pictures in Word (PC)	2	Jan Grenert

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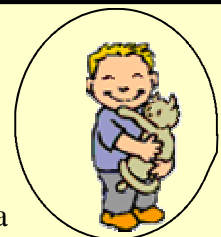
December Class Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Class	Book	Teacher
Fri	Dec. 15	9:00	Voice Recognition 160 WPM (PC) Typing Demo	15	Larry Allen
		1:00	Mozilla Firefox (PC)	7	Shelia Harbet
		2:00	Search Engine Strategies (PC & Mac)	7	Shelia Harbet
		3:00	Managing Bookmarks/Favorites (PC)	7	Shelia Harbet
		4:00	PrintShop Greeting Cards 4 (PC)	4	Doris Keniry
Sat	Dec. 16		Closed		
Mon	Dec. 18	2 – 3:50	Address Book & Mail (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Dec. 19	8:30 – 9:50	Windows Desktop & Creating Shortcuts (PC)	3	Shelia Harbet
		2:00	Typing Workshop	15	Barbara Kaye
		3 – 4:50	Introduction to Personal Computing - 3 (PC)	3	Ron Ehrens
		7:00	Windows SIG		
Wed.	Dec. 20	1:00	Spanish Workshop 2 Disc 2	15	Barbara Kaye
		2:00	Mouse and Keyboard (PC)	3	Shelia Harbet
		3:00	Name Badges (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Fri	Dec. 22	8 – 9:50	Burning a Music CD (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
	Dec 23, 25, 26 - Lab Closed - Holidays				
Wed	Dec. 27	1:00	Mozilla Firefox (PC)	7	Shelia Harbet
		2:00	Search Engine Strategies (PC & Mac)	7	Shelia Harbet
		3:00	Managing Bookmarks/Favorites (PC)	7	Shelia Harbet
Thur	Dec. 28	1:00	Spanish Workshop 3 – Disc 3	15	Barbara Kaye
		3 – 4:30	Word 4 (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Dec. 29		10:00 to 2:00 Open Lab		
Sat	Dec. 30		10:00 to 12:00 Open Lab		

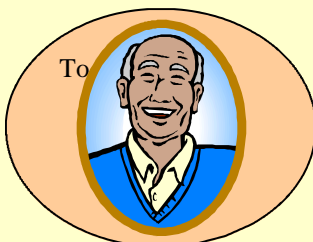
Photo Ids - Not what you think!



A tip from Smart Computing Magazine



Get the little ones in on the action of gift giving. Instead of using a traditional To/From tag, get creative. Print out a few of your favorite digital photos and ask the kids to cut out pictures of the recipient and your family. Then, paste the cutouts onto the package to display the giver and receiver. This is especially great if you want to involve your grand kids. Even if your little princess is still learning her ABCs, she'll know who the gift is for by "reading" the picture tag.



December Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

Date	Time	10-12	12-2
1-Dec	Fri	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
2-Dec	Sat	L. Rowe	
4-Dec	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
5-Dec	Tue	S. Cronin	H. Reese
6-Dec	Wed	C. Voelker	D. Feign
7-Dec	Thu	B. Osborn	F. Diaz
8-Dec	Fri	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
9-Dec	Sat	L. Rowe	
11-Dec	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
12-Dec	Tue	S. Cronin	H. Reese
13-Dec	Wed	C. Voelker	P. Corwin
14-Dec	Thu	B. Osborn	D. Feign
15-Dec	Fri	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
16-Dec	Sat	L. Rowe	
18-Dec	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
19-Dec	Tue	R. McCarthy	H. Reese
20-Dec	Wed	C. Voelker	P. Corwin
21-Dec	Thu	B. Osborn	D. Feign
22-Dec	Fri	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
23-Dec	Sat	Closed	
25-Dec	Mon	Closed	
26-Dec	Tue	Closed	
27-Dec	Wed	C. Voelker	P. Corwin
28-Dec	Thu	N. Alpert	D. Feign
29-Dec	Fri	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
30-Dec	Sat	Closed	

Stay Clear Of Ammonia A Tip from Smart Computing Magazine

Your flat-panel TV's screen is filthy with fingerprints and dust. Nothing some Windex and paper towels can't handle, right? Wrong! The filth may disappear but near the top of most experts' tips for cleaning flat-panel screens is not using ammonia-based cleansers such as Windex. Doing so can permanently damage the screen and its antireflective coating and possibly cause cloudiness, streaks, or other flaws. Using wood-based paper towels or toilet paper can permanently scratch the display.



Computer Club General Meeting A Report On The Corel Presentations By Jill Johnson

We almost had a full house in the Speaker's Hall on November 21st. Our guest speaker was Shawn Kardell from "Corel", demonstrating his company's Photo editing programs....**Painter Essentials 3**, (for P C's and Mac's), and **Paint Shop Pro** (for P C's).

Most interesting was the ability to turn a photo into an Oil or Watercolor appearing painting, using **Painter Essentials 3**. There were many interesting and fun things to do with digital photos, in this program.

Many nice door prizes were raffled off to happy winners, one of which was the **Paint Shop Pro** program, valued at \$ 50.00. Quite a prize. These General meetings are definitely a **MUST** to attend. They are a real learning experience, every time.

At the 7:00 PM evening program in the ball-room, Shawn gave an outstanding presentation using the **Paint Shop Pro** program for PCs. He went into infinite detail explaining and demonstrating the many various tools and "User Friendly" items found in this program.

Some of the special tools included: Curves, Histogram, Levels, High Pass Sharpen, Layers, Eraser, Blend Modes, Colorizing, Hue, Saturation, Contrast & Lightness, Picture Tubes Cloning, Resizing, Resample, and used these tools to show us how to fix problems.

If you missed this meeting, you missed a terrific opportunity to learn a great deal from an expert in his company. Those who attended went away with a wide range of knowledge about Corel and Photo editing and enhancing in general....

Our next General meeting will be in **January** as there is no meeting in December..

December General Club Information

Meeting Schedule



INTERNET SIG

Dec. 12, 7:00 p.m.

DIGITAL SIG

Dec 13, 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEETING

Dec. 14, 9:00 a.m.

MAC SIG

No Meeting in December

WINDOWS SIG

Dec. 19, 7:00 p.m

GENERAL MEETING

No Meeting in December

"Let's Compute" Officers

Lyn Morse, President.....	345-4466	lynmorse@aol.com
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Kent McDonald, VP Communications.....	345-2931	rkmcdonald@earthlink.net
Jan Grenert, Secretary, Newsletter Editor	360-9085	jgrenert@dc.rr.com
Jack Drill, Treasurer	345-8709	jdrill@dc.rr.com
Barbara Kaye, VP Maintenance	772-6520	barbarak1775@aol.com

Committee Chairs

Betsy Lewis	Audit Committee
Moe Sullivan	Monitor Coordinator
Jack Drill	35 MM Scanner Coordinator
Richard Gregory.....	Budget Committee
June Cross.....	Computer Sale
Leroy Cox.....	Paper Exchange Coordinator
Pat Palladino.....	Nominating Committee

December Teachers

Shirley Allan.....	345-5087
Larry Allen	200-0981
Shirley Celli.....	345-7159
June Cross.....	345-7876
Ron Ehrens	200-5826
Kerry Greene	200-1551
Jan Grenert.....	360-9085
Shelia Harbet	360-7146
Barbara Kaye	772-6650
Doris Keniry	345-3464
Lyn Morse	345-4466
Charlie Voelker.....	345-0123

Volunteer Coordinator: Sharon Kiel

If you would like to be a volunteer call Sharon at 772-0745

December Lab Monitors

Norm Alpert	Frank Diaz	Ree McCarthy
Cecilia Chu	David Feign	Howard Reese
Phil Corwin	The Kaczorowskis	Leonette Rowe
Shirley Cronin	John Manion	Charlie Voelker
Bill Crowley	Bob Osborn	

35 MM Scanner Monitors

Sheldon Plotkin	Leonette Rowe
Pete Claar	Harvey Schwartz
Walter Goldsmith	Jack Drill



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