

# SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



# BITS & BYTES

WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

February 2008 Volume XIII Number 2



## General Meeting - February 26 -2:00 PM

### The Prez Sez...

By Lyn Morse

Is it February already? I just had a reminder from Jan in my email that the Prez Sez needs to Sez, so it must be.

There was a nice turn out at the General Meeting to hear CyberDefender talk about another possibility to keep those nasty viruses and malwares out of computers. Questions were asked and answered, and an informational disc handed out to everyone. The company offers one free tech support call to the public from February 10 to the 17th. The number is 877-377-3765, and the promotional code is Valentine.

Several of you took me up on the special drawing for those who bring DVDs for the Troops to the general meeting. Arlene Faber won the drawing for the DVD door prize. I'll be doing another one in February; a ticket for each DVD you hand me at

the General Meeting. And yes, the collection box is still in the lab to take them. No tickets for the drawing given there, but it's convenient for everyone.

The information is out for those who might be interested in attending the Southwest Users Group weekend in San Diego this year. It's May 30, 31 and June 1. The website for information is [www.theswcc.org](http://www.theswcc.org). Last year 19 Let's Compute members attended. Several of us managed to get to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at Balboa Park while there. This year there is an exhibit on Pompeii at the museum.

About those wonderful flash/thumb drives we all use and take to the lab. PLEASE remember to take them out of the computer when you leave. Four people forgot to remove them, and when they returned they had been stolen. It's hard for me to believe that someone in here would take something that isn't theirs, but it happens unfortunately. I have mine attached to a lanyard, and that trails out to the

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### Program for Meeting??

The February General Meeting program is a bit up in the air at the time this issue of the Bits & Bytes goes to be published.

Howard Reese, our club's Director of Programs is working on final plans for the Feb. 26 meeting.



The announcement will be sent to members via email from the clubs Communication Director, Kent McDonald.

One thing is for sure, Howard will have some nifty give-aways for the general meeting. So plan to attend and show your membership card at the door to get a ticket for the drawing.

## PREZ SEZ...continued

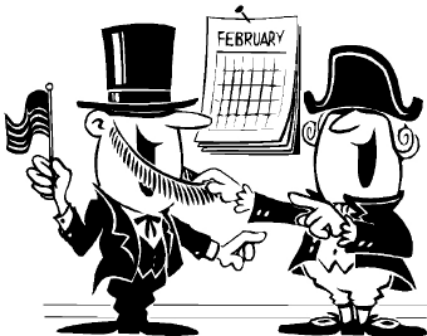
keyboard as a reminder to remove it when I leave.

Let's Compute is hosting another Mac presentation by MacGallery Monday, February 4 from 6:00 to 9:00ish. The topics will be iLife and iWorks. Again, it's open to everyone, even your friends from outside Sun City. At the presentation in January over 140 attended. If you're interested in what Mac is all about, you'll want to be there.



Leopard is coming to the Macs in the lab this month. It will take a bit of adjusting to those of you still running Tiger, but you made it from OS 9 all the way to Tiger, so you can make this change also.

The Board acknowledges that there have been problems with Vista on the PCs. Barbara Kaye, our director of maintenance, has been working very closely with PC Club, where they were purchased, to get the needed repairs done in a timely manner.



## Internet SIG

Terry Kay & Kent McDonald

An energetic group of 15 showed up for tonight's session even though no notice was sent out. Sorry 'bout that to all who would have otherwise attended. Terry primed the inquisitive pump by highlighting the following useful internet sites:

Check for drug interactions: Physicians' Desktop Reference <http://www.pdrhealth.com/home/home.aspx>, Interaction Checker. A neat way to list your medications and get an analysis of possible interactions.

Life Expectancy Calculator: <http://www.peterrussell.com/Odds/RealAge.php>

A fun exercise that calculates your virtual age based on a questionnaire of pertinent life styles.

Kent McDonald updated us on plans by Time Warner to increase up and download speeds with no increase in price. The new RoadRunner standard speeds will be 10 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up, which is faster than the standard Verizon FIOS. He also brought to our attention Verizon's announcement that they are opening their cellphone network to any type of phone. This means that you would be able to bring your GSM phone (and your phone number) with you if you switched from AT&T to Verizon, for example.

Attendee questions ranged from what antivirus program to use, to what email program to use.

Another item brought up was that of being inundated by spam when the email body was gibberish. After looking at an actual example of such an email, it was determined the gibberish was really HTML code. This is thought to be a ruse to get by automated spam filters. Also, the sender's addy was from ".tk", which is the Internet country code top-level domain (ccTLD) for Tokelau, a territory of New Zealand located in the South Pacific. Seems much spam is from that ccTLD. It was recommended to add messages from .tk to your email message filter. Also, to contact your ISP and see if they can filter these kinds of spam.

Can't relate all other discussions here, but suffice it to say we all learned something.

When asked to suggest topics for next time, internet security came up along with a new device called IDVault. We will talk about that next time. Also, an on-line college instructor volunteered to show us what a typical on-line college class is like.

**Sounds like a fun and interesting show for next time which will be Feb. 12.**



### A REMINDER FOR Monitors and Teachers

Remember to attend the In-service training session on **Wednesday, February 6 at 1:00** in the lab. Kent McDonald will show us the ins and outs, do and don'ts of successfully operating the Phaser printer in the lab. This session is for teachers and monitors only.



By Jan Grenert

The Digital SIG had a 'potluck' of information at the January meeting. Sometimes moderating these meetings is like opening a plainly wrapped gift to find it filled with terrific surprises.

Larry Berlin brought in his digital picture frame and demonstrated how it worked. His particular frame uses SD media. Larry downloaded from his computer to the media and inserted it into the frame control panel and started the display. The photos appeared with various transitions from picture to picture. Larry displayed both edited and unedited photos. Neat stuff!

We took a tour of the Skype.com web site. Bob Butler explained how he had used Skype in his business to talk with overseas contacts. Two Skype users can communicate by a special phone connected to the computer at no charge, and at little cost to landlines. Users of computers with built in microphones and cameras can converse and view each other. Check out Skype.com for more details.

Sharon Kiel showed us her newest purchase, It was a small device about 2"X 3" that had lots of features and functions. From **itTechnology**, the one gigabyte device has audio voice recorder, MP3 WMA and WAV capabilities, video files in AMV format, voice recording, pic-

tures, media and text files. It can also be used as a thumb drive to connect to a computer with a USB connector. It is a mighty mite.

Arlene Farber talked about Blurb Photo Books and Lyn Morse gave us a quick tour of Comic Life on the Mac.

**Then next meeting is February 13, at 7:00 pm.**



By Al Savlowitz

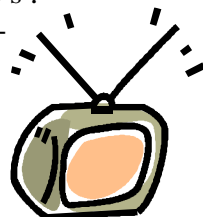
The Jan. SIG opened with a discussion on stereo and surround speakers and how to compare them in a venders' "sound room." We also discussed what to look for when you compare speaker specifications and how some companies intentionally omit an important spec you should be aware of.

The question came up as to whether "Monster Cable" provides any sonic improvement between the receivers output and the speakers input over "lamp cord." The short answer is no.

We discussed the advantage of using a HDMI / DVI cable between the Time Warner digital box and a HDTV.

**Our next meeting on February, 21** will open with a discussion on which is better, LCD or Plasma HDTVs .

Recommendations on both formats will follow.



By Kent McDonald

Those Mac users considering upgrading to OS 10.5, Leopard, are probably wondering what applications they already own will fail to work after the upgrade. Microsoft Office, Quicken, Photoshop Elements 4, and Appleworks (with one fix) are compatible. Non-compatible applications include Photoshop Elements 2, AOL 10.3, NeoOffice, Toast, Windowshade, and Windows Media Player. However, updates for most common application software are becoming available now.

Users that store important data or photos on their computers should perform periodic backups to protect against hard drive failures that inevitably happen despite tender loving care. External drives are affordable now in sizes that enable one to make clone copies of the entire internal drive. Software such as CMS Bounceback will create a bootable backup that can even run on another Mac in an emergency. The drive should be equipped with a Firewire interface to assure that the backup is bootable. Firewire 800 drives or triple-interface drives (USB, FW 400, FW800) are the best. If you are just backing up photos without need for booting from the external drive, a USB-only drive is adequate and less expensive. The Leopard OS has a nice backup feature "Time Machine," which needs an external drive. It is auto-

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Continued

## Mac SIG

matic and convenient, but doesn't handle large photo libraries well, nor does it create bootable back-ups.

Apple just announced several new products at the recent MacWorld Conference in San Francisco. A thin, lightweight laptop computer, "MacBook Air," is aimed at travelers who have ready access to wireless networks for access to both mass storage and optical drives for reading CDs or DVDs. The laptop has a small hard drive and no internal optical drive, although it is possible to equip it with a solid-state (flash memory) drive for larger/faster internal storage.

The new Time Capsule device is a combination wireless router (base station) plus network-attached storage of 500 GB or 1000 GB which is ideal for use with the Time Machine backup feature. Every computer in your house can now share one Time Capsule via the Wi-Fi home network (no cables!)

The Apple TV set-top box will now allow you to place orders for (\$3, \$4, or \$5) rental movies from your living room using a remote control (no computer involved) and the Wi-Fi network in your house that connects to the Internet. This service also includes YouTube videos, TV shows without commercials, and photo gallery sites such as Fliker, as well as the huge library of movies.

**Next MacSIG meeting will be Friday, Feb. 15 at 9:00 a.m.**



By Kerry Greene

Our first meeting of the New Year started with a closer look at the firewall provided in Windows Vista – it is much more robust and configurable than the firewall that came with Windows XP. A recent article in Smart Computing magazine gave rise to this topic, so we discussed it. Why a firewall, you ask? Well, a firewall keeps your computer (and you) private on the Internet and prevents the introduction of Internet worms and other malware that can cause harm to your computer. Make sure you have an active firewall or that your Windows firewall is enabled. To do so, click on Start/Control Panel/Security Center – there you will see if your firewall is on or off. Make the appropriate changes to protect yourself.

Other topics discussed included the free Windows Defender from Microsoft, which helps guard against Internet malware and has a tool that shows you all the programs and processes running in the background on your computer. Some of these can be disabled on startup to give your computer more resources to do the things you want to do. Programs that protect you should never be disabled, of course, but many processes need not be instructed to run at startup. If you are unsure about disabling a particular process, look it up at

[www.greatis.com](http://www.greatis.com) – click on the App Database and start with 'At your Option' link.

We went on to talk about other ways to research questions about your computer and technology in general. One resource available to all of us is the Smart Computing website. Just point your Internet browser to <http://www.smartcomputing.com/> and look for the link to log in using the membership we maintain for Let's Compute Computer Club. Click on 'Log in' at the upper left corner of the home page for Smart Computing, and then a new page will open – our Username is: let-scomp – our Password is: Ventana. Passwords are case sensitive, so be sure to type it the way you see it here. After successful log in, you will see 'Welcome Jack', for Jack Drill, who arranged this for us. Smart Computing has an extensive technical support area where you can find answers for many of your questions – enjoy!

**The next Windows SIG meeting is Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in the lab. As always, be sure to bring your question, comments and new discoveries to share with the group.



## iWork and Pages

by Shirley Allan

There is a new class on the horizon! I am excited about the new iWork '08 from Apple. I had the first version and was so disappointed I didn't buy the second version, but iWork '08 brought version 3.01 of Pages and it is a humdinger! No, iWork doesn't yet have a Data Base, so hang on to AppleWorks. I have worked in Pages now for a couple of months and am very impressed. Look for the class titled appropriately "**Pages**" in late Feb.

The class will be in two parts. The first part covers the basics in Word Processing, of course, setting preferences (only two) and then you will learn all about customizing your tool bar and what is in your format bar. From there we will explore the various "Inspectors," a fancy name for palettes, that provide more than you will ever need and, of course, some tips along the way.

Part two is on the Page Layout mode and will give you the basics on adding text boxes, graphics, photos, shadows, frames and using the Templates provided in the application. The new Pages will allow you to get creative, something that was sadly lacking in the earlier versions, but if you are not the creative sort, there are over 100 templates for you to customize with your text and pictures (it works seamlessly with iPhoto).

We know that at some point the operating systems of the future will make AppleWorks unworkable as it is a Carbon application, and who know how long Apple will allow Carbon applications to run.

iWork is about \$79 and includes a spreadsheet application called Numbers and a presentation application called Keynote. You can import and export to and from Microsoft Office 2007, there is a 30 day free trial at Apple.com. You do not have to have the application to come to these classes.

As always, I will provide handouts for you to take home.

## Report on Diskeeper

by Pat Pallidino

At a General Meeting Pat volunteered to review a copy of Diskeeper for the Club. The following is the information Pat is sharing about her experience with the program.

My computer is seven years old, and I have a Microsoft Windows XP Operating System with only 256 memory. Recently the XP operating system defragmenter stopped working.

Because of this, I installed the Diskeeper on my computer. It worked, and the Diskeeper completed a defragmentation of my computer and gave me the following Job Report:

### Findings and Recommendations

"Diskeeper has completed a defragmentation run on this volume and there remains one fragmented files and/or directories and two excess fragments. (There were 18,285 excess fragments before the defragmentation run, and now there are 99% fewer.)

The average number of fragments per file is 1.00.

Little or no fragmentation detected on this volume. You

should keep Automatic Defragmentation turned on full time to maintain maximum performance.

Master File Table (MFT) usage is 80% or higher on this volume. Use Frag Shield to configure the MFT on this volume to better match the current MFT usage.

### Health

Warning! The overall health of volume C is degraded. The overall health is at "Warning" level for the following reason. 1, The MFT usage was currently 93 percent of the total MFT size, which indicates it is likely the MFT will become fragmented."

It appears that I have very little memory left; therefore, the Microsoft system did not work, and Diskeeper advised that the overall health of volume C is degraded.

Diskeeper also advised to keep Defragmentation turned on full time to maintain maximum performance. I programmed Diskeeper to run full time. I cannot tell exactly what it does in the background, but at the present time my computer is running O.K.; hopefully it will remain that way until I purchase a new computer sometime soon.

## Club's Board Minutes

The computer club Board Minutes are now shown on the Let's Compute pages of the community web site, [scpdca.com](http://scpdca.com). Kent McDonald puts the minutes in the club's own web site at [www.SCPD-ComputerClub.org](http://www.SCPD-ComputerClub.org). Recently he has been having some problems with Earthlink where the site is hosted, so the Board has arranged to post the last month's approved minutes and the draft of the following month's minutes on the Sun City web site.

# February Class Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	BOOK	TEACHER
Fri	Feb. 1	9:00	Burning CDs with Vista	9	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Elements 4: Intro (PC) (1/4)	14	Jim Calvert
		2 – 3:30	Internet Searching & Using Favorites (Mac/PC)	7	Shelia Harbet
Sat	Feb. 2	10 - 12	<b>Open Lab</b>		
Mon	Feb. 4	8:30 -9:50	Print Explosion: Greeting Cards (1/3) (Mac)	1	June Cross/ Pat Myser
		1:00	Elements 4: Intro (PC) (1/4) (repeat of 2/1)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	Apple Works 1: Preferences	1	Shirley Allan
		4:00	PrintShop Greeting Cards (1/4)	4	Doris Keniry
Tues	Feb. 5	9:00	Begin PC: Intro. & Work w/Programs (1/4)	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Windows Vista (1 of 3)	3	Ron Ehrens
Wed	Feb. 6	9:00	Adv. Elements 4: (6/9) (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Xerox In-service: Teachers & Monitors only		Kent McDonald
		2 :00	Apple Works 2: Formatting	1	Shirley Allan
		3:00	e-mail: Send & Receive Attachments (PC)	3	Shelia Harbet
Thur	Feb. 7	8:30-9:50	Print Explosion: Greeting Cards (2/3) (Mac)	1	June Cross/Pat Myser
		1:00	Begin PC: Intro. & Work w/Programs (1/4) (repeat of 2/5)	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Beginning Word (1 of 4) (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 8	8 – 9:50	iPhoto (Leopard) (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		1:00	Elements 4: Photo Correction (2/4) (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		4 – 5:30	Excel (1/4) (PC)	5	Jan Grenert
Sat	Feb. 9	10 - 12	<b>Open Lab</b>		
Mon	Feb. 11	8 – 9:50	Elements 4 (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		1:00	Elements 4: Photo Correction (PC) (2/4) (repeat of 2/8)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	Apple Works 3: Editing	1	Shirley Allan
		3:00	Win XP Basics: Start Menu (1/5)	3	Kerry Greene
		4:00	PrintShop Greeting Cards (2/4)	4	Doris Keniry
Tues	Feb. 12	9:00	Begin PC: Exploring the Keyboard (2/4)	3	Jim Calvert
		2 – 3:50	iTunes/iPod	1	Lou Shapiro
		4:00	Win XP Basics: Task Bar (2/5)	3	Kerry Greene
		7:00	<b>INTERNET SIG</b>		
Wed.	Feb. 13	9:00	Adv. Elements 4: (7/9) (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Windows Vista (2 of 3)	3	Ron Ehrens
		3:00	Apple Works 4: Graphics	1	Shirley Allan
		4:00	Win XP Basics: Settings (3/5)	3	Kerry Greene
		7:00	<b>DIGITAL SIG</b>		
Thur	Feb. 14	8 – 9:50	Comic Life (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		1:00	Begin PC: Exploring the Keyboard (2/4) (repeat of 2/12)	3	Jim Calvert
		2:00	Win XP Basics: Settings & Security (4/5)	3	Kerry Greene
		3 – 4:30	Beginning Word (2 of 4) (PC)	2	Jan Grenert

# February Class Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	BOOK	TEACHER
Fri	Feb. 15	1:00	Elements 4: Improving Portraits (PC) (3/4)	14	Jim Calvert
		3:00	Win XP Basics: Back up to CD (5/5)	3	Kerry Greene
		4 – 5:30	Excel (2/4) (PC)	5	Jan Grenert
Sat	Feb. 16	10 – 12	<b>Open Lab</b>		
Mon	Feb. 18	9:00	Internet & e-Mail for Begin. (PC)	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Elements 4: Improving Portraits (PC) (3/4) (repeat of 2/15)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	Address Book & Mail (1/2) (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
		3:00	Internet Explorer 7: What's New	7	Kerry Greene
		4:00	PrintShop Greeting Cards (3/4)	4	Doris Keniry
Tues	Feb. 19	9:00	Begin PC: Files & Folders (3/4)	3	Jim Calvert
		2 – 3:50	PowerPoint (PC)	2	Barbara Kaye
		7:00	<b>WINDOWS SIG</b>		<b>LAB</b>
Wed	Feb. 20	9:00	Adv. Elements 4: (8/9) (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	Address Book & Mail (2/2) (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Feb. 21	8:30-9:50	Print Explosion: Greeting Cards (3/3) (Mac)	1	June Cross/Pat Myser Idyllwild Room
		9:00	Board Meeting		
		1:00	Begin PC: Files & Folders (3/4) (repeat of 2/19)	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Beginning Word (3 of 4) (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
		7:00	<b>AUDIO-VISUAL SIG</b>		<b>LAB</b>
Fri	Feb. 22	9:00	<b>Mac SIG</b>		<b>LAB</b>
		1:00	Elements 4: Downloading Photos (PC) (4/4)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	Sticker Fun – Using PrintShop (PC)	4	Ann MacCabe/Liz Ferrel
		4 – 5:30	Excel (3/4) (PC)	5	Jan Grenert
Sat	Feb. 23	10 -12	<b>Open Lab</b>		
Mon	Feb. 25	1:00	Elements 4: Downloading Photos (PC) (4/4) (repeat of 2/22)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	iWork: Beginning Pages (1/2) (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
		4:00	PrintShop Greeting Cards (4/4)	4	Doris Keniry
Tues	Feb. 26	9:00	Begin PC: Additional Skills (4/4)	3	Jim Calvert
		2:00	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b>		<b>Speakers Hall</b>
Wed	Feb. 27	9:00	Intro. To PrintShop 2 (Mac)	1	Helene Barker
		1 – 2:50	Windows Vista (3 of 3)	3	Ron Ehrens
		3:00	iWork: Beginning Pages (2/2) (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Feb. 28	9:00	Adv. Elements 4: (9/9) (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Begin PC: Additional Skills (4/4) (repeat of 2/26)	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Beginning Word (4 of 4) (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 29	4 – 5:30	Excel (4/4) (PC)	5	Jan Grenert

# February Classes Listed Alphabetically

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
<b><u>Address book &amp; e-mail Series – Mac</u></b>		
Part 1	2-18	2:00
Part 2	2-20	2:00
<b><u>AppleWorks series (Mac)</u></b>		
1 Setting Preferences	2-4	2:00
2 Formatting documents	2-6	2:00
3 Editing documents	2-11	2:00
4 Graphics	2-13	3:00
<b>AUDIO/VIDEO SIG</b>	<b>2-21</b>	<b>7:00</b>
<b><u>Beginning PC series</u></b>		
1 Intro & Work with Program	2-5	9:00
1 Intro & Work with Program	2-7	1:00
2 The Keyboard	2-12	9:00
2 The Keyboard	2-14	1:00
3 Files & Folders	2-19	9:00
3 Files & Folders	2-21	1:00
4 Additional Skills	2-26	9:00
4 Additional Skills	2-28	1:00
<b>BOARD MEETING</b>	<b>2-21</b>	<b>9:00</b>
Burning CDs with Vista	2-1	9:00
Comic Life	2-14	8:00+
<b>DIGITAL SIG</b>	<b>2-13</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
E-mail: Send & receive attachments	2-6	3:00
<b><u>Excel Series for the PC- Basics</u></b>		
Excel 1	2-8	4:00+
Excel 2	2-15	4:00+
Excel 3	2-22	4:00+
Excel 4	2-29	4:00+
<b>GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>2-26</b>	<b>2:00</b>
<b><u>Greeting Card series – Print Explosion - Mac</u></b>		
Greeting Cards 1	2-4	8:30+
Greeting Cards 2	2-7	8:30+
Greeting Cards 3	2-21	8:30+
<b><u>Greeting Card series - Print Shop - PC</u></b>		
Greeting Cards 1	2-4	4:00
Greeting Cards 2	2-11	4:00
Greeting Cards 3	2-18	4:00
Greeting Cards 4	2-25	4:00
Internet/email for Beginners - PC	2-18	9:00
Internet Search & Favorites –PC /Mac	2-1	2:00+
Internet Explorer 7 – What’s New?	2-18	3:00
<b>INTERNET SIG</b>	<b>2-12</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
Introducation to PrintShop 2	2-27	9:00
iPhoto Using Leopard - Mac	2-8	8:00+

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
iTunes / iPod	2-12	2:00+
<b><u>iWorks: Beginning Pages Series</u></b>		
Part 1	2-25	2:00
Part 2	2-27	3:00
<b>MAC SIG</b>	<b>2-15</b>	<b>9:00</b>
<b><u>PhotoShop Elements 4 - MAC</u></b>		
Basic editing using Leopard	2-11	8:00+
<b><u>PhotoShop Elements 4 – PC</u></b>		
Part 1 Introduction	2-1	1:00
Part 1 Introduction, - REPEAT	2-4	1:00
Part 2 Photo Correction	2-8	1:00
Part 2 Photo Correction – REPEAT	2-11	1:00
Part 3 Improving Portraits	2-15	1:00
Part 3 Improving Portraits REPEAT	2-18	1:00
Part 4 Downloading Photos	2-22	1:00
Part 4 Downloading Photos REPEAT	2-25	1:00
<b><u>PhotoShop Elements - Advanced classes continuing from January - PC</u></b>		
Part 6	2-6	9:00
Part 7	2-13	9:00
Part 8	2-20	9:00
Part 9	2-28	9:00
PowerPoint – PC	2-19	2:00+
<b><u>Quicken 2007 series - PC</u></b>		
Sticker Fun Using PrintShop – PC	2-22	2:00
<b>WINDOWS SIG</b>	<b>2-19</b>	<b>7:00</b>
<b><u>Windows Vista series</u></b>		
Part 1	2-5	1:00+
Part 2	2-13	1:00+
Part 3	2-27	1:00+
<b><u>Beginning Word Series - PC</u></b>		
Part 1	2-7	3:00+
Part 2	2-14	3:00+
Part 3	2-21	3:00+
Part 4	2-28	3:00+
<b>Xerox Training - teachers/monitors</b>	<b>2-6</b>	<b>1:00</b>
<b><u>XP Basics Series</u></b>		
1 - Start Menu	2-11	3:00
2 - Task Bar	2-12	4:00
3 – Settings	2-13	4:00
4 – Settings and Security	2-14	2:00
5 – Back up to CD	2-15	3:00

# February Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

TIME	DATE	10-12	12-1
Fri	1-Feb	E. Lynch	L. Espinoza
Sat	2-Feb	L. Rowe	
Mon	4-Feb	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	5-Feb	Re McCarthy	F. Diaz
Wed	6-Feb	C. Voelker	P. Corwin
Thu	7-Feb	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	8-Feb	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
Sat	9-Feb	L. Rowe	
Mon	11-Feb	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	12-Feb	S. Cronin	F. Diaz
Wed	13-Feb	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	14-Feb	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	15-Feb	G. Hans	J. Manion
Sat	16-Feb	L. Rowe	
Mon	18-Feb	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	19-Feb	S. Cronin	F. Diaz
Wed	20-Feb	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	21-Feb	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	22-Feb	The Kaczorowskis	J. Manion
Sat	23-Feb	L. Rowe	
Mon	25-Feb	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	26-Feb	S. Cronin	F. Diaz
Wed	27-Feb	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	28-Feb	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	29-Feb	E. Lynch	J. Manion

**THANKS TO-**  
**A New Monitor and all Our Loyal Monitors**



Welcome  
**Pete**  
**Baigent**



## Pinnacle PCTV HD Stick

Review by: Shelia Harbet

The ultimate gadget freak delight. A USB thumb drive that would allow me to watch and record TV on my computer. I could not wait to go home and play with it. I am running XP so the fact that it is Vista Certified did not matter to me. If you are running Vista, my research has revealed several blogger who say "The Pinnacle product deserved the logo. Software and driver smoothly installed; overall experience was excellent."

The device resembles a sleek, black thumb drive. Installing the software was very easy. Although the product I was supplied from Pinnacle was not packaged with a remote, the newer version does come with one. The newer version is also Mac compatible. Included in the package is additional software that makes it possible to record shows direct-to-DVD or to your hard drive. You can download a program guide from the internet for most channels for advanced programming.

The major drawback to using the PCTV HD Stick is that we are in a valley where off-air broadcast is almost impossible. There is an antenna included with the package and my research indicates that it really does a great job when you are within range of a strong signal. When I connected to my cable reception was great. Although I would rather watch TV on my 51 inch screen there might be a time when I am working at my computer and would like access to TV. The initial set-up was easy but time consuming. You need to be connected to the internet to download all the automatic updates. After the software has been installed and patched, it will walk you through the process of auto-scanning the available channels, then downloading the associated program guide information. That was very time consuming. I would imagine that if I used it when traveling it would have to repeat the process for each new locale.

One nice feature, if your don't subscribe to digital recorder service through the cable company, is time shifting controls. In case you're not familiar with time shifting, this means you can pause, rewind, and fast-forward live television, as well as skip commercials in 30 second intervals as well as do instant replays 10 seconds back.

I was able to find the newer version Pinnacle PCTV HD Stick with the remote and Mac compatible on the internet ranging in price from \$79 to a little over \$100. I am somewhat frugal and think I could let this gadget pass me by.

# February General Club Information

**INTERNET SIG**

Feb 12, 7:00 PM

**DIGITAL SIG**

Feb. 13, 7:00 PM

**MAC SIG**

Feb.15, 9:00AM

**WINDOWS SIG**

Feb. 19, 7:00 PM



**BOARD MEETING**

Feb. 21, 9:00 AM

**AUDIO/VIDEO SIG**

Feb 21, 7:00 PM

**GENERAL MEETING**

Feb 26, 2:00 PM

Speakers Hall

## "Let's Compute" Officers

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June Cross .....	Computer Sale
Leroy Cox .....	Paper Exchange
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Supplies & News & Views	Sharon Kiel.....	772-0745
News & Views	Jill Johnson .....	
Monitor Coordinator	Moe Sullivan.....	772-4416

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Kent McDonald.....	345-2931
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Lou Shapiro.....	772-9881

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Cecilia Chu	David Feign	Ree McCarthy
Shirley Cronin	George Hans	Bob Osborn
Bill Crowley	Bea Kaczorowski	Leonette Rowe
Frank Diaz	Charlie Kaczorowski	Charlie Voelker
	Elinor Lynch	

### Scanner Monitors

Pete Claar - Walter Goldsmith - Leonette Rowe - Sheldon Plotkin



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