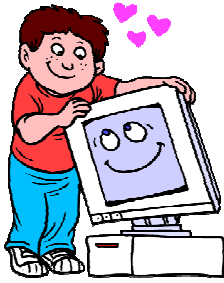


# SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



# BITS & BYTES



WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

February 2010 Volume XV Number 2

## General Meeting - Feb 16

## Special Date - Special Presentation



### The Prez Sez...

Rain! When did we move to the Pacific Northwest?!? Well, it did wash off the roofs and give us hope for a beautiful array of desert flowers this spring. There's always a bright side. Which leads me to this: Times being what they are, it has become difficult to find speakers for our general meetings. We had cancelled the February general meeting, and then a good thing happened! Thanks to Bev Feiges, we will be having a general meeting this month, but the timing will be different for this one. On the third Tuesday, at 7:00 pm in Speakers' Hall, Greg Feiges will be speaking with us about his involvement in Microsoft and perhaps some information on Windows 7. Some of you may remember Greg spoke to Let's Compute several years ago ; we welcome him back..

You may have noticed that Open Lab time has been changed a little. Open Lab time is now 10:00 to 12:50. Those 10 minutes

### A Microsoft Man Amongst Us

Please note that the February General Meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month Feb. 16 at 7:00 PM in the evening. in Speakers' Hall

Greg Feiges of Microsoft will be the speaker for the meeting.

## NOTICE



The Lets Computer Club budget is published on Club web page as listed above, on the [scpdca.com](http://scpdca.com) web page under Let's Compute and here in on page 5.

have been added on to the 1:00 classes. Previously, 1:00 classes really couldn't start until 1:10. It takes about 10 minutes for people to come in to a class, find a place to sit and get settled in; it takes even longer when class size is large and extra chairs have to be brought in, and lately classes have far exceeded the number of computers, both PC and Mac, needed for those who sign up for classes. So, let's do a tad of math here. Classes end at 10 minutes before the hour to give the next group time to come in and settle down for that class - so 1:00 classes were basically 40 minutes long instead of 50; that was short-changing those people since all other classes are at least 50 minutes long.

Please sign up for classes. Don't just decide to drop in. Teachers usually prepare handouts based on how many have signed up for a class; they usually don't just print out a stack of them. The sign-up sheets let them know how to prepare. Another reason to sign up is it gives the teacher a heads

Continued on page 7

# February FYI..

## Free Office Software

By Jim Calvert

Many of you have new PCs. They came loaded with a productivity suite called Microsoft Works. If you create a digital file with the Works word processor and send it as an attachment, you may have a problem. Your friends who do not have Works installed on their computers may not be able to read your file. You will not be able to open files created with Microsoft Word.

You have a couple of alternatives.

One is to buy a copy of Microsoft Office. The other is to install and use a free office suite called OpenOffice. We have OpenOffice installed on all of the PCs in the computer lab, so you can come and take a look during open lab period each day. I have scheduled a class to introduce this free suit of six programs. Each student attending the class will go home with a CD containing a free copy of OpenOffice.

## MAC's Formatting Palette

By Helene Barker

This Class is for Mac users with MSOffice:Mac. Using the Formatting Palette 'almost' eliminates using Tool Bars.

Explore the Formatting Palette using Word and Excel. The class, February 18 @ 9 AM, ends at 10. I'll be willing to stay during 'Open Lab' and help anyone with more questions. Even Regular Mac and PC users are welcome!!

## Free is Good!

@

### AcademicEarth.org

By Walt Kasner



I came across an amazing WEB site I urge readers to log onto.

The address is

### AcademicEarth.org.

Offered are free online video courses from leading universities guaranteed to cover a subject of interest to most of us. The courses are as diverse as a literature course: "The New Testament as History" by a Yale teacher to a political science course, "The Morality of Murder" by a Harvard teacher.

The course I viewed "Understanding Computers and the Internet", taught by David J. Malan, is subtitled 'Computers for 'Dummies'.

This course is all about understanding: understanding what's going on inside your computer when you flip on the switch, why tech support has you constantly rebooting your computer, how everything you do on the Internet can be watched by others, and how your computer can become infected with a worm just by turning it on. Topics include hardware, software, the Internet, multimedia, security, website development, programming, and dot-coms. This course is designed both for those with little, if any, computer experience and for those who use a computer every day.

## Free Software Lessons

From

### Hewlett Packard

By Jan Grenert



Having purchased a HP printer had a surprising benefit. I signed up for emailed notices of Free Online PC classes and was pleasantly surprised with HP was offering.

How it works: log on to : [www.hp.com/go/learningcenter](http://www.hp.com/go/learningcenter)

Click on the Get Started tab and learn how you can register.

Then check out the See all Classes tab. There are many categories such as Digital Photography, which has about 17 classes.

Other categories are: Home office, Microsoft office, PC security and maintenance, Business Basics , Graphic Arts and more. Some of the classes include a video.

After you sign up for a class, you will receive an email with the first lesson. There is a test at the end of the lesson, but it is 'kind' and helpful and ultimately gives you the right answer. There is no obligation to open the email class right away. Sometimes I let 3 or 4 pile up before I go through them.

I think these classes give you a chance to explore and learn about the subjects they cover. You may be enticed into learning more on your own. Give it a try.



By Terry Kay

It must have been a slow night on TV since it was SRO crowd of 35 at our Jan 12 meeting.

Terry Kay started us off with every one introducing themselves. We welcomed a newly arrived couple from Canada.

Terry continued with a summary of the recent Consumers Electronics Show (CES). It seems "Internet TV" is the latest thing. Hook your computer to your TV and download streaming content to your hearts content. If that isn't enough, here comes 3DTV! Download a 3D movie from Netflix and enjoy! (Supply your own 3D glasses).

Terry suggested using Rotten-tomatoes.com to find movie ratings. Also, he finds Miramax.com useful in finding really good movies to order from Netflix.

Tablet computers and eBook readers are big this year. The new Ford Edge will have built in touch screens to find local attractions and get directions. (And we thought cell phones were distracting).

Verizon is offering a net book on a two-year contract for service with the net book. The total cost may not be a good deal. The usual 3G service is not as fast as Wi-Fi, so you should use a Wi-Fi hot spot when possible

Google is backing out of service in China because of censorship demands by the government. Seems Google's Gmail was hacked (possibly by Chinese gov-

ernment officials) to get into the accounts of political activists. Google is angry.

Other discussions included:

- How to resize windows in IE7.
- We learned to ignore phone calls claiming to be from RoadRunner and claiming we had a virus. Be careful about responding to such requests.
- "Tinyurl" can give you a shortened version of overly long URLs. See <http://www.tiny.cc/>.
- You may be able to block an email address from reaching you, depending on the service you use for email.

Kent McDonald offered some bits of news. Some Blu-Ray DVD players now connect via the Internet to Netflix to stream movies to your TV. Also, Netflix, for about \$80-120, can provide a set-top box that provides a similar service.

Android smart phone is a competitor with the iPhone, but the applications for it are not vetted and may contain malware 1% of the time. Apple does test all apps thoroughly for its iPhones.

Google Docs, a service offering offsite programs and storage, will create and store documents independent of your computer's storage. It now will allow you to store other docs there also, up to a total of 1GB. The maximum size of each file is limited to 250 MB. Note that Google already provides Gmail users with 7 GB of storage, and Picasa users with 1 GB of storage. There is no charge for any of this storage.

Kerry Greene presented "Thinking Inside the Box", a slide show about what goes on

inside a computer. The presentation took us from data punch cards of the early times to modern computers.

Solid state drives are coming to market with no moving parts and they run much cooler than hard drives. Kerry brought some of the internal components for us to handle and see what they actually look like.

He suggested laptops should be used in an elevated position if possible to vent some of the heat.

Kerry suggested using a line conditioner to "flat line" the power supply to your equipment and keep it steady. He likes UPS units that include the automatic voltage regulating feature known as AVR.

**Our next PCI SIG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb 9, at 7 PM in the Computer Lab.**



There was no Mac SIG in January.  
**The next Mac SIG will be on February 19 at 9:00 AM.**

A pink illustration of a person in a suit pointing to a whiteboard. The whiteboard has the number "1" written on it. The entire graphic is enclosed in a pink border.

**Closing time for Open Lab is now 12:50 instead of 1:00.**

**This allows the 1:00 class to be seated.**

**Please co-operate by vacating the lab on time.**

# February Class Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	OS	BOOK	TEACHER
Mon	Feb. 1	8:30 - 10	Beg. PC (1/5)	PC	3	Bernie Levine
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (Brush up - 1/5) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Tues	Feb. 2	8:30 - 10	Beg. PC (2/5)	PC	3	Bernie Levine
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (Brush up - 2/5) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Wed	Feb. 3	8:30 - 10	Beg. PC (3/5)	PC	3	Bernie Levine
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (Brush up - 3/5) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Thur	Feb. 4	8:30 - 10	Beg. PC (4/5)	PC	3	Bernie Levine
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (Brush up - 4/5) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 - 4:30	Word 2007 5/5	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb.5	8:30 - 10	Beg. PC (5/5)	PC	3	Bernie Levine
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (Brush up - 5/5) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Sat	Feb. 6	<b>Open Lab 10:00 to Noon</b>				
Mon	Feb. 8	8:30-10	Photoshop Elements (1/3)	PC	14	Jim Calvert
		1 - 2:50	Safari to the Internet	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	Really basic Editing in PhotoShop Elements	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Tues	Feb. 9	8:30-10	Photoshop Elements (2/3)	PC	14	Jim Calvert
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (1/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 :00	PowerPoint 2007 (1/3)	PC	5	Chuck Hellman
		7:00	<b>PC SIG</b>			Lab
Wed.	Feb. 10	8:30-10	Photoshop Elements (3/3)	PC	14	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Twenty Questions (and Answers)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	iPhoto	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Thur	Feb. 11	1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (2/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 - 4:30	Word 2007 1/5	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 12	1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (3/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Sat	Feb. 13	<b>Open Lab 10:00 to Noon</b>				
Mon	Feb. 15	8:30-10	Free Office Software (OpenOffice)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 - 2:50	Fonts, Accents, & Characters	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	Before iPhoto	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Tues	Feb. 16	8 - 10	Picassa 3.5	PC/Mac	16	Bob Osborn
		1 - 2:30	Beg. PC (4/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 :00	PowerPoint 2007 (2/3)	PC	5	Chuck Hellman
		7:00 PM	<b>General Meeting - Special Night</b>			Speakers Hall
Wed	Feb. 17	9:00	Files & Folders	PC	12	Charlie Voelker
		1 - 2:50	Address Book	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	Files and Folders	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Thur	Feb. 18	9:00	Formatting Palette/ Word & Excel	Mac	1	Helene Barker
		9:00	<b>Board Meeting</b>			Idyllwild Room
		1:00-2:30	Beg. PC (5/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 - 4:30	Word 2007 2/5	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 19	9:00	<b>Mac SIG</b>			Lab
		1:00	Download Photos from camera to computer	PC	14	Jim Calvert
Sat	Feb. 20	<b>Open Lab 10:00 to Noon</b>				

# February Class Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	OS	BOOK	TEACHER
Mon	Feb. 22	8:30-10	Beg. PC (Brush up - 1/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Setting Up Mail Accounts	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	Burning CDs from iTunes	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Tues	Feb. 23	8:30-10	Beg. PC (Brush up - 2/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Intro. To Firefox	PC/Mac	7	Al Sabsevitiz
		3 :00	PowerPoint 2007 (3/3)	PC	5	Chuck Hellman
Wed	Feb. 24	8:30-10	Beg. PC (Brush up - 3/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Setting up Mail Preferences and Views	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		2 – 4:30	Excel 2007(Part 1&2/4)	PC	5	Walter Goldsmith
Thur	Feb. 25	8:30-10	Beg. PC (Brush up - 4/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Word 2007 3/5	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 26	8:30-10	Beg. PC (Brush up -5/5) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 3:30	Excel 2007(Part 3&4/4)	PC	5	Walter Goldsmith



## Let's Compute Computer Club Budget

7/1/2009 through 6/30/10

Category	Actual '08-'09	Proposed Budget
Education & Training	579.69	700.00
Hardware	6163.23	6200.00
Internet Connections	1237.81	1400.00
Recognition & Prizes	3162.48	3300.00
Reproduction	1481.47	2000.00
Software	4553.87	4600.00
Subscriptions	159.95	200.00
Supplies	4553.78	4600.00

Approved - Board of Directors Meeting of November 18, 2009

# February Class Listed Alphabetically

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Address Book	2-17	1:00+	Fonts, Accents & Characters	2-15	1:00+
Before iPhoto	2-15	3:00+	Free Office Software	2-15	8:30+
<b><u>Beginning PC</u></b>			Files and Folders - PC	2-17	9:00
Part 1	2-1	8:30+	Files and Folders - Mac	2-17	3:00+
Part 2	2-2	8:30+	Formatting Palette / Word & Excel	2-18	9:00
Part 3	2-3	8:30+	<b>General Meeting</b>	<b>2-16 7:00 pm</b>	
Part 4	2-4	8:30+	Introduction to Firefox	2-23	1:00
Part 5	2-5	8:30+	iPhoto	2-10	3:00+
<b><u>Beginning PC – a repeat</u></b>			<b>MAC SIG</b>	<b>2-19 9:00</b>	
Part 1	2-9	1:00+	Mail Preferences & Views	2-24	1:00+
Part 2	2-11		<b>PC SIG</b>	<b>2-9 7:00 pm</b>	
1:000+			<b><u>PhotoShop Elements</u></b>		
Part 3	2-12	1:00+	Part 1	2-8	8:30+
Part 4	2-16	1:00+	Part 2	2-9	8:30+
Part 5	2-18	1:00+	Part 3	2-10	8:30+
<b><u>Beginning PC – Brush Up</u></b>			Picassa 3.5	2-16	8:00+
Part 1	2-1	1:00+	<b><u>PowerPoint 2007</u></b>		
Part 2	2-2	1:00+	Part 1	2-9	3:00
Part 3	2-3	1:00+	Part 2	2-16	3:00
Part 4	2-4	1:00+	Part 3	2-23	3:00
Part 5	2-5	1:00+	Really Basic Editing in PS Elements	2-8	3:00+
<b><u>Beginning PC – brush-up – a repeat</u></b>			Safari to the Internet	2-8	1:00+
Part 1	2-22	8:30+	Setting Up Mail Accounts	2-22	1:00+
Part 2	2-23	8:30+	Twenty Questions (and Answers)	2-10	1:00
Part 3	2-24	8:30+			
Part 4	2-25	8:30+			
Part 5	2-26	8:30+			
<b>BOARD MEETING</b>	<b>2-18</b>	<b>9:00</b>			
Burning CD's from iTunes	2-22	3:00+			
Download Pics camera to computer	2-19	1:00			
<b><u>Excel 2007</u></b>			<b><u>Word 2007 Series</u></b>		
Part 1 and 2	2-24	2:00+	Word 5 of 5 (continued from Jan.)	2-4	3:00+
Part 3 and 4	2-26	1:00+	Word 1 of 5	2-11	3:00+
			Word 2 of 5	2-18	3:00+
			Word 3 of 5	2-25	3:00+
			(Word 4 & 5 cont in March)		

# February Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

Date	Day	10-12	12-to 12:50
Feb.1	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.2	Tue	K. Pearson	K. Pearson
Feb.3	Wed	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Feb.4	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.5	Fri	K. Gibbons	W. Kasner
Feb.6	Sat	L. Rowe	CLOSED
Feb.8	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.9	Tue	K. Pearson	K. Pearson
Feb.10	Wed	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Feb.11	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.12	Fri	J. Manion	W. Kasner
Feb.13	Sat	L. Rowe	CLOSED
Feb.15	Mon	C.Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.16	Tue	K. Pearson	K. Pearson
Feb.17	Wed	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Feb.18	Thu	B. Taglianno	N. Alpert
Feb.19	Fri	J. Manion	W. Kasner
Feb.20	Sat	L. Rowe	CLOSED
Feb.22	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.23	Tue	K. Pearson	K. Pearson
Feb.24	Wed	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Feb.25	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.26	Fri	J. Manion	W. Kasner
Feb.27	Sat	L. Rowe	CLOSED

## Please Notice New Lab Hours

There has been a change in the time for open lab hours . Instead of closing at 1:00, the open lab will close at 12:50.

The reason for the change is that classes scheduled to begin at 1:00 cannot get started on time when members from open lab hours are exiting the lab. The extra 10 minutes will benefit the instructor and the class

The monitor will announce the closing of the lab. Please be considerate and vacate the lab at 12:50.

## The Prez Sez...

*(Continued from page 1)*

up on whether extra chairs need to be brought in; with no advance warning (sign-up sheets), it then takes time from the class to get those chairs in and set up.

While I'm on the topic of sign up sheets, here's another reason you need to sign up, not just show up.



Sometimes a class has to be cancelled; when that happens, the teacher calls those on the sheet – **IF YOUR NAME AND NUMBER CAN BE READ.** Pleeeze use your best penmanship when you sign up for a class.

Remember to write on your calendar: Tuesday, February 16, 7:00 pm in Speakers' Hall for Greg Feiges.

To those of you who attended the PIAB this past week, thanks for your understanding with the DVD player; sometimes things just happen – and this was one of them. Congratulations to all the lottery winners, and to those of you who won the laptop desks, let us know how they worked for you! Happy Computing to you.

# February General Club Information

## Meeting Schedule



PC SIG .....	Feb. 9 .....	7:00 PM
BOARD MEETING .....	Feb. 18 .....	9:00 AM
MAC SIG .....	Feb. 19 .....	9:00 AM
GENERAL MEETING.....	*Feb. 16.....	7:00 PM



\*Special date and time

### "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 .....	puanianoi@aol.com
Barbara Kaye, Director of Maintenance.....	772-6520 .....	barbarak1775@aol.com

### Committee Chairs

Betsy Lewis .....	Finance Review Committee
June Cross .....	Computer Sale
Nominating Committee.....	Open

### 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
News & Views	Jill Johnson .....	772-4809
Monitor Coordinator	Moe Sullivan.....	772-4416

### February Teachers

Shirley Allan .....	345-5087
Helene Barker .....	360-5713
Jim Calvert.....	772-6710
Walter Goldsmith.....	772-8448
Jan Grenert.....	360-9085
Chuck Hellman .....	861-2175
Bernie Levine.....	360-9142
Lyn Morse.....	345-4466
Bob Osborn.....	200-1149
Al Sebseviz .....	772-3025
Charlie Voelker .....	345-0123

### February Lab Monitors

Norm Alpert	Kevin Gibbons	Kurt Pearson
Cecilia Chu	Walt Kasner	Leonette Rowe
Bill Crowley	John Manion	Barbara. Taglianno
David Feign	Bob Osborn	Charlie Voelker

### 35 MM Scanner Monitors

George Hans	Walter Goldsmith	Leonette Rowe
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