

SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



BITS & BYTES

WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

February 2012 Volume XVI Number 2



Happy
Valentines
Day!

Note Special Date
Special Time

General Meeting - Feb 21 - 1:00



The Prez Sez...

Let me start with information for your calendar. The February General Meeting date and time has been changed to accommodate our guest speaker's schedule. It will be Tuesday, February 21 from 1:00 to 3:00. In March we will be back to our regular time.

Well, the first month of 2012 has been interesting with all the wind and sand. Personally, I'm very happy I had that to deal with instead of the snow that's piled up elsewhere. And that from a former Washingtonian!

I've been asked to remind everyone that a business may not be conducted from the lab. The definition of business for Let's Compute is one in which you are selling a service or a product; in other words, making money. That is an Association rule we must abide by.

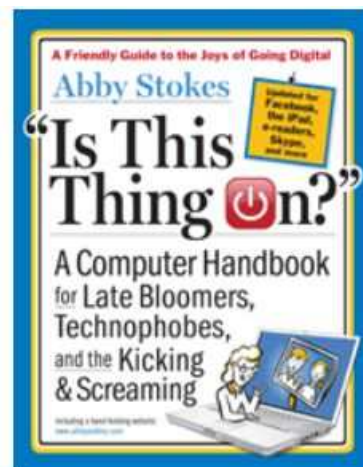
Yes, you may use our public computers to pay bills or purchase items using your credit card – just be aware that you're doing so on a public computer and someone

wise in the ways of computers MIGHT be able to "grab" that information. Same thing with banking – just don't risk it. Neither Let's Compute nor SCPD Association would be able to help you in such a situation.

I've been asked when we will be offering classes on items such as the iPad, iPhone, etc. We'll be offering those classes as soon as one of our members steps forward and volunteers to do so. The only reason there is a Kindle SIG is because Sharon Kiel and I both enjoy our Kindles and wanted to share what we know with others. If you're interested in offering a class or heading up a SIG for one of them, contact Shelia Harbet (VP of Education). Her telephone number and email addy is on the last page of Bits and Bytes. In fact, that last page is full of phone numbers and email addresses.

I think all the clip art in this issue has hinted that there's a special day coming up for your loved ones. Now, you have no excuse to forget Valentine's Day. Smile, even if you're not on Candid Camera.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM FEATURES AUTHOR ABBY STOKES



Several of us heard Abby speak at the Southwest Computer Conference in San Diego last year and liked her presentations very much.

She will be speaking on Social Networking and Netiquette. You'll find her very informative.

The following is information from her website:

Abby Stokes, author of "Is This Thing On? A Computer Handbook for Late Bloomers, Technophobes, and the Kicking & Screaming, has demystified computers for over 140,000 people,

Continued on page 2

Abby Stokes
General Meeting Program

Continued from page 1

mostly seniors, in the course of the past 17 years. Abby has taught courses in basic computing at both Cooper Union and New York University's School of Lifelong Learning, as well as computer skills to private and corporate clients. She has lectured on the topic across the country. A firm believer that "if my mother can learn the computer anyone can," Abby is confident that everyone can master the computer and navigate the Internet.

Again, mark those calendars for a different Tuesday and time: February 21 at 1:00 .



Sharon Kiel and Lyn Morse

We had a full house at the January Kindle SIG, with many there for the first time. The December holidays created a group of folks who had received Kindles as a gift.

We all now know that there are many versions of the Kindle: some have a keyboard, some don't, some use just a touch screen in black and white, and some use a touch screen that has color.

The last is the Kindle FIRE. This is a very "smart" e-reader, for sure. And for those who do not have an actual Kindle device, you can still read books directly

on your computer. Go to Amazon.com and download Kindle for PC or Kindle for MAC. These are free downloads, but you will need to establish an account with Amazon.

This variety of Kindles makes it perfect for a SIG setting (not an actual class). At the meeting we discussed:

- How Collections work
- The many file extensions that can be read by the Kindle. One just needs to email an attachment to their Kindle (yes, your Kindle has an email address) and it will now be viewable on the Kindle.
- That Kindle cases (covers) do not need to be an Amazon product. Other companies have good cases. Marware.com is one source. The various Kindles have different dimensions, so be sure to order a case for your version.
- Book lights that are part of the case are using the Kindle as a power source so there is some shortage of battery life. More frequent charging may be needed. A little clip on light can be used if you need a light. The Kindle FIRE is backlit, so it does not need an external light.
- Plus many other random comments and questions were tossed out.

Please join us for the next **Kindle SIG on February 21st at 7:00 pm in the lab.** Club members only.



MAC
SIG

By Len Heller

The Jan 27, 2012, Mac SIG meeting guest speaker was Kent McDonald. Kent discussed the virtues and features of the free application called "Dropbox". In its simplest form, (the way I understand things), Dropbox is a huge "mailbox" in the sky (Cloud, for the more technically inclined). Essentially you can load your files into Dropbox and it becomes available and accessible to all of your computers. This works for Macs, PC's, Linux and Mobile. You no longer have to email files to yourselves; your files are accessible to your other computers automatically.

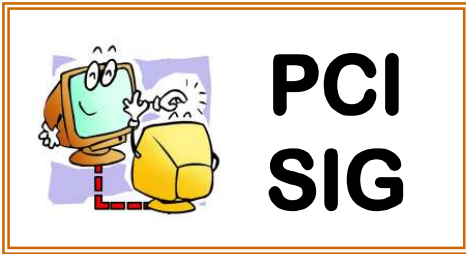
Mac Time Machine: Kent then went on to demonstrate how easy it is to improve your Time Machine capacity. The present Time Machine has a large capacity for backing up your data. However, after perhaps a year of more, the Time Machine starts removing the oldest Back Ups, to make room for the newer Back Ups. These Back Ups are kept in an External Hard Drive connected to your computer. Kent recommended replacing your present External HD with a larger capacity External HD.

He actually demonstrated this by hooking up a new HD at the beginning of today's meeting, and it was successfully completed before the meeting was over.

Kent also spoke about some of the new upcoming Apple products, such as: a New iMac with TV, a new iPad and even a new iPhone! The best is yet to come!

There was a nice round of applause and appreciation from those attending.

The next Mac SIG will be on February 17, at 9:00 am in the computer lab.



**Kent McDonald, Terry Kay,
Kerry Greene and Arlene Faber**

Twenty-four loyal members arrived for the first meeting of the new year.

Kent McDonald shared news from the CES show. Microsoft is opting out of making key-note speeches at the future CES trade shows. This week was their final speech focused on two new Windows-based AT&T phones that are 4th generation, high speed phones. Four G is not yet available in all areas. The HTC phones have rather high resolution (16 mega pixel) cameras and 4.7 inch displays.

Windows 8 is due out this year and will include an app store. It will be a dual-build system with different versions for the ARM (mobile) processor and the Intel (desk-top) processor. Microsoft will begin using touch controls (common in mobile-device software) in their Windows 8 desktop operating system. Many portable devices are running on ARM processors in order to get better battery life. Also coming next month is Kinect motion-tracking, already used on X-box consoles, for Windows 7.

Ultrabooks and new phones are the hot items at the CES show. Ultrabooks have high quality screens, light weight, true keyboards, solid state systems (no hard drive) and long battery life. The Samsung Galaxy Phone comes with a stylus and large 5.3 inch high-resolution screen.

The Thunderbolt port is a new high-speed interface for computers and hard drives. All new Macs, including those in our lab, have this Thunderbolt feature. It provides 20.8 times faster speed than the common USB-2 interface. Belkin has a new adapter that will convert older interfaces such as USB-2 and HDMI to Thunderbolt compatibility.

Near-field communication is what allows several people at a table to all share the cost of a meal.

Terry Kay opened with a discussion about electromagnetic fields (EMFs) from all of the communication systems and modern devices in use today. He wondered about how much of this comes from the flat screen monitors as compared to the old cathode tube screens. He will try getting a Gauss meter to try to check his own equipment and home.

Terry talked about WiFi for the community. It would allow you to connect to the internet anywhere in Sun City. Individuals would need to provide security for their devices with a WPA type encryption as they do now on home WiFi.

Streaming to your TV from the internet is a newer technology. You can do it with a WiFi blu-ray DVD player or an X-box. These devices are all coming with WiFi capability. New TVs also have WiFi enabling built in. Roku and Apple TV devices will do the same job. This will allow you to go to Netflix and see a movie from those available for streaming. Those movies available for streaming are limited and the quality is not as high. The subtitles are not

available for streaming versions.

Scams were discussed, including the fake Microsoft calls asking for access to your computer so they can "fix" it. Watch for things that offer items you did not order, magazine renewal requests, emails with misspelled words and anything too good to be true. Avoid email from unknown persons.

Radio Shack is selling a device for phone calling with an unlimited service plan for \$20 per month. Magic Jack is a similar service that costs less but they are having a problem transferring your phone number. Google Voice is another service that is free and through Gmail you can use a free chat utility. An iPad can use a program called Whistle that needs WiFi access but the calls are free.

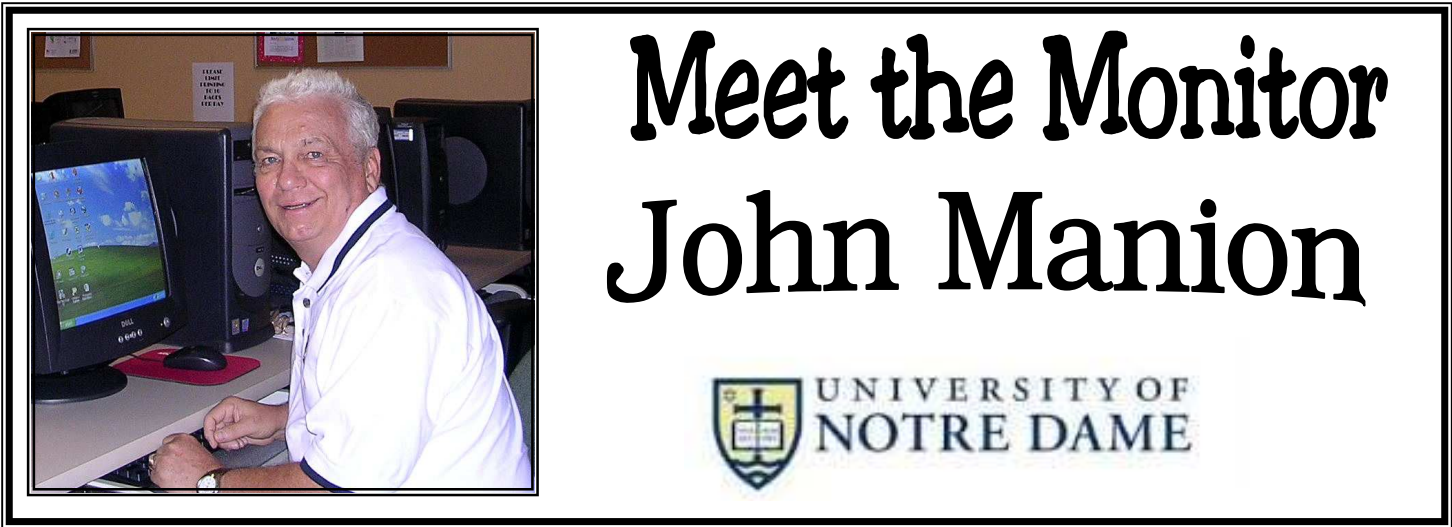
Pay Pal can now be used to make purchases at Home Depot.

Kerry Greene asked for a straw vote on who used IE, Firefox, or other browsers. The group was almost evenly split between IE and Firefox with several users of Chrome.

Kerry showed a USB 3.0 external portable hard drive. Most of them come with a back-up program. If you copy and paste files into them you will lose the dates of creation. If you drag and drop the file, the information stays with the file. Handle with reasonable care as they can be damaged.

Kerry showed us how to find more information about the files.

The next meeting of the PCI SIG is February 14. Bring your questions.



Meet the Monitor John Manion



I was feeling guilty -- gaining so much value from my annual membership dues in Let's Compute, and having so little tech knowledge to share with my fellow members. I had been a PC-person for 12 years, but most every task was a challenge! But the guilt won me over, and was asked to fill a need as Monitor on Friday mornings -- sorta like being thrown into the deep end of the pool with instructions to "swim." Three years ago, my computer-of-choice became an iMAC -- a decision questioned, but never regretted. It allowed me to be able to know "a little bit about a lot of things," but never at the level of my icons in the Club like Kent McDonald, Shirley Allen, Jim Calvert, George Hans, Jan Grenert -- and many others that continue to share their knowledge and experience with the membership. Fortunately, "my Friday people" in the Lab have come to trust me: if I can help with a need, I will try; if I can't -- I'll refer to the proper guru. Opening at 10:a.m. and readying the Lab requires checking the computers, providing needed print materials and fielding any inquiries about membership and/or computer applications -- I TRY! Thanks to all "my Friday morning people" for their patience and understanding. The annual dues for Let's Compute is one fantastic bargain!

I was asked to include some personal information: Born and raised in northern Illinois; graduated from U. of Notre Dame; I've been in sales and marketing all of my professional life while living in Michigan, NC, and Illinois. Married to Mary Ann and parents of Kevin, Lisa and Mark; now proud grandparents of six amazing "international" grandkids. Retirement took us to Sparks/Reno, NV and to Sun City in 2003. Volunteering also includes photography for News & Views, Emergency Preparedness Block Captain; seeing a lot of medical professionals fills out the clock.

JOHN MANION
johndomer56@dc.rr.com

Meet the Monitors

By Jan Grenert

This month we begin a new series to feature some very special members of Let's Compute. They are the loyal, faithful monitors who are on duty in the lab each day so that club members can use the lab computers.

We thought our members would be interested in knowing a little more about the monitors. So we asked for monitors who would be willing to volunteer and tell us about themselves.

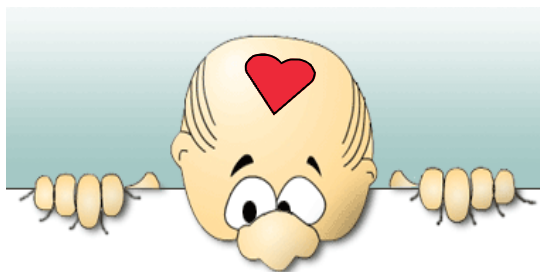
John Manion stepped up like the good guy he is and agreed to be our February Meet the Monitor.



February Schedule of Classes

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	OS	BOOK	TEACHER
Wed	Feb. 1	1 – 2:50	Beginning Mac: Lion (1/3)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	Camera to Computer	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Thur	Feb. 2	8 - 10	Basic Edit: PhotoShop Elements	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
		1 – 2:30	Photo Shop Elements: Layers	PC	14	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Word 2007 Adv. Images in Word	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 3	1 – 2:30	Photo adjust. w/ Elements (1/3)	PC	14	Jim Calvert
Sat	Feb. 4		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Feb. 6	8:30 - 10	PC for Beginners (1/3) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Beginning Mac: Lion (2/3)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 5	iPhoto	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
Tues	Feb. 7	8:30 - 10	PC for Beginners (2/3) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:30	Windows 7: Beyond Basics	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Wed.	Feb. 8	8:30 - 10	PC for Beginners (3/3) (Series 1)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Beginning Mac: Lion (3/3)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Feb. 9	8:30 - 10	Elements: Selections & Move items	PC	14	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:30	PrintShop – Getting Started	PC	4	Arlene Faber
		3 – 4:30	Word 2007 Adv. All About Tabs	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 10	8 - 10	Computer is a File Cabinet	Mac	1	Lyn Morse
		1 – 2:30	Photo adjust. w/ Elements (2/3)	PC	14	Jim Calvert
Sat	Feb. 11		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Feb. 13	1 – 2:50	Address Book (Lion)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 4:30	Beginning Quicken	PC	8	D. Rosenthal
Tues	Feb 14♥	1 – 2:30	PC for Beginners (1/3) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		7:00	PCI SIG			Lab
Wed	Feb. 15	1:00	Set up Apple Mail (Lion)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Feb. 16	9:00	Board Meeting			Idyllwild
		1 – 2:30	PC for Beginners (2/3) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Word 2007 Adv. Word Tables	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 17	9:00	Mac SIG			
		1 – 2:30	PC for Beginners (3/3) (Series 2)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		3:00	Picture manipulation – part 2	Mac	1	Alan Gamble
Sat	Feb. 18		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Feb. 20	8:30 - 10	PC for Beginners (1/3) (Series 3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Apple Mail: Preferences & View (Lion)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Feb. 21	8:30 - 10	PC for Beginners (2/3) (Series 3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		2:00	General Meeting			Speaker's Hall
		7:00	Kindle SIG			Lab
Wed	Feb. 22	8:30 - 10	PC for Beginners (3/3) (Series 3)	PC	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Sending & Receive Mail (Lion)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
Thur	Feb. 23	8 - 10	Picasa/Muvee	PC	15	Bob Osborn
		1 – 2:30	Photo Shop Elements: Workshop	PC	14	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Word 2007 Adv. Mail Merge	PC	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Feb. 24	1 – 2:30	Photo adjust. w/ Elements (3/3)	PC	14	Jim Calvert
Sat	Feb. 25		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon			
Mon	Feb. 27	1 – 2:50	Sending Video Mail (Lion)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan
		3 - 4:30	Beginning Quicken	Mac	8	D. Rosenthal
Tues	Feb. 28	8:30 - 10	Burning CDs with Windows 7	PC	9	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Intro. To Firefox	PC/Mac	7	Al Sabsevitiz
		2:00	Playing Games on Your PC	PC	3	Jim Calvert
Wed	Feb. 29	1 – 2:50	Text Edit (Lion)	Mac	1	Shirley Allan

FEBURARY PC Classes Listed



FEBRUARY MAC Classes Listed

<u>PC CLASSES</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
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Burning CDs w/ Windows 7	Feb. 28	8:00
Firefox - an Introduction	Feb. 28	1:00
PC for Beginners (Series 1)		
• (1/3)	Feb. 6	8:30
• (2/3)	Feb. 7	8:30
• (3/3)	Feb. 8	8:30
•		
PC for Beginners (Series 2)		
• (1/3)	Feb 14	1 :00
• (2/3)	Feb. 16	1:00
• (3/3)	Feb. 17	1:00
•		
PC for Beginners (Series 3)		
• (1/3)	Feb. 20	8:30
• (2/3)	Feb. 21	8:30
• (3/3)	Feb. 22	8:30
Photo Shop Elements:		
PS Elements: Layers	Feb. 2	1:00
PS Elements: Select & Move	Feb. 9	8:30
Photo adjust. w/ Elements		
• (1/3)	Feb. 3	1:00
• (2/3)	Feb. 10	1:00
• (3/3)	Feb. 24	1:00
PS Workshop	Feb. 23	1:00
Picasa/Muvee	Feb. 23	8:00
Playing Games on Your PC	Feb. 28	2:00
PrintShop – Getting Started	Feb. 9	1:00
Quicken - Beginning	Feb. 13	3:00
Windows 7: Beyond Basics	Feb. 7	1:00
Word 2007 Advanced Classes		
• Images in Word	Feb. 2	3:00
• Working with Tabs	Feb. 9	3:00
• Word Tables	Feb. 16	3:00
• Mail Merge	Feb. 23	3:00

<u>MAC CLASSES</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
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Beginning Mac:		
Lion (1/3)	Feb. 1	1:00
Lion (2/3)	Feb. 6	1:00
Lion (3/3)	Feb. 8	1:00
<u>Lion Based Classes</u>		
Address Book	Feb. 13	1:00
Set up Apple Mail	Feb. 15	1:00
Apple Mail:		
Preferences & View	Feb. 20	1:00
Sending & Receive Mail	Feb. 22	1:00
Sending Video Mail	Feb. 27	1:00
Text Edit	Feb. 29	1:00
Camera to Computer	Feb. 1	3:00
Computer is a File Cabinet	Feb. 10	8:00
Firefox – An Introduction	Feb. 28	1:00
iPhoto	Feb. 6	3:00
PhotoShop Elements-		
Basic Edit	Feb. 2	8 :00
Photo Shop:		
Picture manipulation – part 2	Feb. 17	3:00
Quicken - Beginning	Feb. 27	3:00

**Mac or PC
Sign Up
Show UP!**

February Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

Date	Day	10-12	12-12:50
Feb.1	Wed	C. Voelker	J. Hicks
Feb.2	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.3	Fri	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Feb.4	Sat	L. Rowe	Closed
Feb.6	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.7	Tue	H. Cook	P. Baigent
Feb.8	Wed	C. Voelker	J. Hicks
Feb.9	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.10	Fri	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Feb.11	Sat	L. Rowe	Closed
Feb.13	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.14 ♥	Tue	H. Cook	P. Baigent
Feb.15	Wed	C. Voelker	J. Hicks
Feb.16	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.17	Fri	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Feb.18	Sat	L. Rowe	Closed
Feb.20	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.21	Tue	H. Cook	Closed
Feb.22	Wed	C. Voelker	J. Hicks
Feb.23	Thu	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Feb.24	Fri	J. Manion	S. Shiffman
Feb.25	Sat	L. Rowe	Closed
Feb.27	Mon	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Feb.28	Tue	H. Cook	P. Baigent
Feb.29	Wed	C. Voelker	J. Hicks



Print Shop Corner

GETTING STARTED WITH PRINT SHOP

By Arlene Faber

This month's Print Shop class is for you even if you never used the program before. This is a great way to make labels, business cards, greeting cards, flyers and posters. We will only work with the three most basic tools and you will be able to lay out a page with pictures, headlines and a text message.

This class is also a good way to brush up your skills if you have not used the program in a while. Repeating the class can help you learn more. You should have some basic typing skills and be comfortable with a mouse. If you send email, you can do this too.

Look for the sign-up sheets in Book #4 in the lab. Please sign up in advance as we only work with 11 people at a time to assure you can get any help you need. **The class is on Thursday, February 23 at 1 PM.**



February General Club Information Meeting Schedule



THERE'S MORE TO FEBRUARY THAN VALENTINE'S DAY



PCI SIG.....	Feb 14.....	7:00 PM
MAC SIG.....	Feb 17.....	9:00 AM
BOARD MEETING.....	Feb 16.....	9:00 AM
GENERAL MEETING	Feb 21.....	1:00 PM
KINDLE SIG.....	Feb 21.....	7:00 PM

"Let's Compute" Officers 2011-2012

Lyn Morse, President	760-345-4466.....	lynmorse@aol.com
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Kent McDonald, Director of Communications.....	760-345-2931.....	rkmcdonald@earthlink.net
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Barbara Kaye, Director of Maintenance.....	760-772-6520.....	barbarak1775@aol.com
Jerry Katler, Director of Programs.....	760-772-6405.....	fishfoto@me.com

Committee Chairs

Finance Review Committee	Betsy Lewis
Computer Sale.....	Open
Nominating Committee.....	Open
News & View Writer	Yvonne Michelsen

Volunteer Coordinators

Call to volunteer:

35 MM Scanner Coordinator	George Hans	345-3875
General Meeting Volunteers	Jean Ferrull	200-1165
Supplies	Sharon Kiel.....	772-0745
Monitor Coordinator	Moe Sullivan.....	772-4416
	Email:modwenas@hotmail.com	

February Teachers

Shirley Allan.....	760-345-5087
Jim Calvert	503-828-8815
Arlene Faber	760-200-3933
Alan Gamble.....	760-469-5650
Jan Grenert	760-360-9085
Lyn Morse	760-345-4466
Bob Osborn.....	760-200-1149
Dave Rosenthal.....	760-772-7029
Al Sabsevitz.....	760-772-3025

February Lab Monitors

Bill Crowley	Leonette Rowe
John Hicks	Sara Shiffman
John Manion	Charley Voelker
Bob Osborn	

35 MM Scanner Monitor

George Hans



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