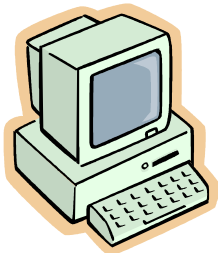
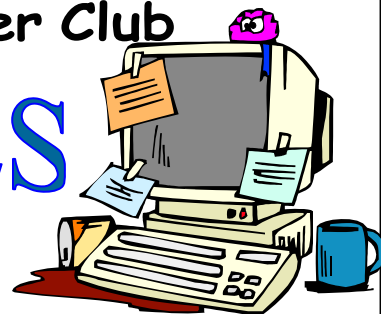


SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



BITS & BYTES

June 2005 Volume X Number 6



Remember

Where ever you are this summer, keep up with the latest happenings from the computer club by logging on to our website:

WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

From the President

By Sheldon Plotkin

Thank You, to all the "Let's Compute" Club Members, Board of Directors, Instructors, Monitors and Volunteers. We had a tremendous year. At this date, our membership is 1100 and counting. It has been a great experience being President these past three years. I will continue to be active in the club and assist as needed. I will see you all in the computer lab.

Calvert's Corner

By Jim Calvert

This is the last installment of Calvert's corner. I want to use it to say what a pleasure it has been these last three years to serve as a board member and work with your teachers and the great people on your computer club board. This is a special group. They, with the help of all the other great volunteers, have made our club one of the finest in the country. I look forward to returning in the fall as a member of this great teaching staff. Try to stay cool. I'll see you in October.



Internet SIG

By Kent McDonald

At the May ISIG, Terry Kay lead a discussion about the different ways we do research on the Internet using search engines. We all have had the experience with searches that yield a gazillion hits. What can you do to focus the search so that you get quality rather than quantity? Terry compared the results from several search engines to see whether Google is really the best. The results do vary, and the first few hits (which we are most likely to use) were surprisingly different in the cases he showed. He also showed how to use boolean operators to make the search more selective, although there were still thousands of hits sometimes,

The ISIG will continue to meet through the summer. Our next meeting is **June 14 at 7:00 p.m.** in the computer lab.

To Sheldon... from Lyn and Let's Compute

Sheldon, speaking for the many hundreds of computer users who have enjoyed their membership under your guidance, thank you for the time and effort you've given Let's Compute.

Not only have you served as a voice of reason on the Board, but you've also made yourself available to the general membership by helping out with classes and being a monitor in the lab. Your kindness and friendliness have been a welcome to both new and returning members alike. You have listened to praise and complaint alike and maintained your poise.

I personally have had the pleasure of working with you during your many years in office. Following in your footsteps as President is both an honor and a challenge. I hope to see you in Board meetings to give the new Board the wisdom learned from your years as President.

We all look forward to seeing you continue in the lab.



By Lyn Morse

On May 20, MacSIG met for last time until October. During the course of the hour, we covered a wide area of topics: Info on a coming Geek Cruise down the Mexican Riviera with classes on the Mac and Photoshop, digital photography, Power Users and New Users – and let's not forget Tiger! Apple's eNews that is sent out and a sampling of items you'd see in one. Information on Tiger and the reaction of virus developers to it. A hand-out on how to repair permissions on your computer.

And of course, a lot of sharing of other ideas and topics.

Put it on your calendar now! **October 21, 9:00 a.m.**, in the computer lab – see you for the first MacSIG of the new year. Stay cool and learn something new on your Mac to share with us.



By Jan Grenert

May 11 was the final meeting of the season for the Digital SIG. The subject for this meeting was centered around digital music.

Sharon Keil gave a presentation on the steps and equipment needed to transfer music from audio cassettes to CD's. Sharon

said she has done this many times and it's easy once you get started.

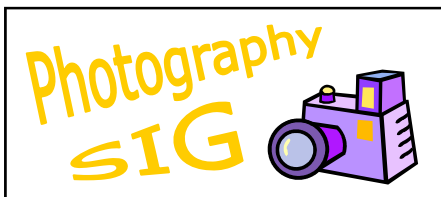
Downloading music from the internet was demonstrated by Jan Grenert. Many sites offer free music (really free music) performed by musicians trying to get themselves started. One free music site we visited was on the C.net website:

music.download.com

The music is downloaded to your hard drive as MP3 files and can be burned to a CD. The CD plays fine on a computer, but your CD player must be MP3 compatible to play these files.

We also looked at website where you can purchase all types of music to download to your computer. Sites such as Walmart.com, iMusic.com, and Napster.com will charge a fee of 88¢ to 98¢ for each song.

The group will not meet again until October 12.



By Lionel Leiter

EXCITING NEWS: It looks like the Photography SIG is turning into the Photography Club. We had a very successful meeting Wednesday, May 19th, in the Speakers Hall attended by over thirty members, during which time we discussed the advantages and disadvantages of becoming a charter club. The advantages outweighed the disadvantages, and it was decided to proceed in the direction of be-

coming a charter club. We will need 50 signatures to turn in to the Association, so if any of you want to be a "photography club" member, please call me at 200-3320 and I will be happy to come by for your signature.

Also at the meeting, we had a very well received presentation by Steve Itskowitz entitled "What is a Pixel and why should you have a lot of them." We all learned something from this talk, and we will have more along this line from Steve in the near future. New digital camera users, be sure to watch for his next talk.

We also had a preview of a future presentation when Max Gordon showed us two of his very large photos printed on canvas. Max has an extensive background in photography and has taken twelve (that's 12) trips to Africa to photograph the wildlife.

This was followed by a competition. The subject was "Patterns of Nature." Our judge was Ron Armour, a resident of Sun City who has been interested in photography since he was a youngster and a professional for more than twenty years. There were thirteen entries, and Ron's critiques of each photo was very informative and helpful. Our next meeting will be June 15th at 7PM in the Speakers Hall and the competition subject will be, "Think Color Blue." Use your imagination,

start thinking blue, and get a photo ready for submission. This is a chance to be creative





Windows SIG

By Kerry Greene

Our last meeting of the season was held in May, and the discussion was primarily about email using Outlook Express. We talked about what to do when an error message pops up. We learned how to go to the website of the server and research settings and set up instructions for Outlook Express, and how to make or change those settings using the program. We also learned how to remove an account and create an account in Outlook Express and on the server, and how to perform a test for proper operation.

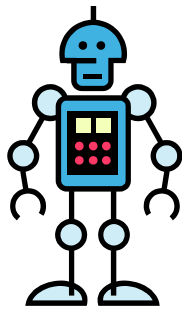
Just for fun, we learned how to insert a picture or animated graphic in an email message using Outlook Express, and even how to add music to play in the background of an email message. On a much more serious subject, we discussed how many plug-in programs for Outlook Express and Internet Explorer (such as Hotbar/Smiley Central, etc.) come with considerable amounts of spyware, which will compromise your privacy and slow down your computer. One email program in particular to avoid is Incredimail; once installed, it is extremely difficult to completely remove.

Finally, we all agreed to suspend the Windows SIG for the summer. The next meeting will be in October, on **Tuesday, October 18th**. Have a great summer, and make notes of your questions and new discoveries in Windows, then bring them to our first meeting of the new season this fall.

Don't be a SPAMBOT

By Barbara Kaye

Your computer may have been hijacked by a spammer who needs help sending out his thousands of obnoxious emails every day and wants to make YOU pay the cost. Of course, you didn't agree to help him, but if your computer is infected with a virus that allows him to control your computer remotely, you ARE helping



him.

How did it happen? You either went to a website where he found you and uploaded his evil program to your computer, or you opened an email and downloaded an infected attachment.

What are the symptoms? The first thing you may notice is that your computer is much slower than usual. Then there are the emails that may come from your friends, asking you why you are sending them so much spam. Sometimes there are no symptoms.

How can you solve this problem? You **MUST** install **CURRENT** antivirus software and keep it up-to-date. Unfortunately, once your computer is infected with some of these spambot programs, there is **NO WAY** to remove them, even with antivirus software. The only

remedy is to reformat your hard drive and reinstall your software. After reformatting, the **FIRST** software you should install after your operating system is your antivirus software.

How can this problem be prevented? Many people think they are protected because they have older versions of antivirus software that they have renewed online for several years. This is not sufficient. Running the **LATEST** antivirus software is recommended because the newer versions offer protection from the newest form of spambot viruses. Some of these viruses even find a way to **HIDE** inside the older antivirus programs. Of course, if you have **NO** antivirus software, you are just **ASKING** for a virus. If you are on a broadband connection, like Roadrunner or DSL, you need another important protection, a router. Routers go between your computer and the cable or DSL modem and prevent spammers from finding you by making you invisible to them online. Broadband users are much more desirable to spammers because you are always online at the same address, so they can find you again the next time they want to use your computer as a spambot. Routers also allow up to four computers to share the same broadband internet connection.

A TIP !

This tip is from Australia and it is useful for both Mac and Windows platforms.

If you are curious about strange file extensions

<http://filext.com/index.php> is a useful source of information.

June Class Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Class	Book	Teacher
Thur	June 2	3:00	Word Art – more than one hour (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Sat	June 4		10:00 to 12:00 open lab		
Mon	June 6	3:00	Safari, Mac's Browser	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	June 7	8:00	Excel 1 – more than one hour (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
Wed	June 8	9:00	Windows Maintenance and Organization (PC)	12	Charley Voelker
Thur	June 9	3:00	Word Draw – more than one hour (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	June 10	8:00	Microsoft Word - lessons 1 (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
		9:00	Microsoft Word - lessons 2 (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
Sat	June 11		10:00 to 12:00 open lab		
Mon	June 13	3:00	Roadrunner and Mac Mail	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	June 14	8:00	Excel 2 – more than one hour (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
		2:00	Using a Card Reader (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		3:00	IPhoto Basics – 2 hours (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		7:00 pm	Internet SIG		
Wed	June 15	2:00	IPhoto albums and QT Movies – 2 hrs (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		4:00	Calling/Business Cards (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		7:00 pm	Photography SIG in Speakers Hall		
Thur	June 16	3:00	Pictures in Word - more than one hour (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	June 17	8:00	Microsoft Word - lessons 3 (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
		9:00	Microsoft Word - lessons 3.5 (PC)	2	Shirley Celli
Sat	June 18		10:00 to 12:00 open lab		
Mon	June 20	3:00	Photoshop Elements 2 – Lesson 6 2 hours (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Tues.	June 21	8:30	Photoshop Elements 2 – Lesson 7 More than one 1 (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		2:00	Board Meeting		
Wed.	June 22	8:00	Excel 3 – more than one hour (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
		3:00	Photoshop Elements 2 – Lesson 8 2 hrs (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Thur	June 23	8:30	Photoshop Elements 2 – Lesson 9 More than one hour (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
		3:00	Word Mail Merge – more than one hour (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	June 24	3:00	Photoshop Elements 2 – Lesson 10 More than one hour (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Sat	June 25		10:00 – 12:00 open lab		
Mon	June 27	3:00	Calling/Business Cards in AppleWorks (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	June 28	8:00	Excel 4 – more than one hour (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith



Do you have 35mm slides that you would like to transfer to a CD??

There's a great slide scanner in the computer lab that you should get to know. Drop into the lab on Thursday between 12:00 and 2:00 pm and talk to Jack Drill who is the Slide Scanner Monitor Coordinator. He will explain how you can schedule a time for scanning your slides and arrange for someone to get you started.

June Classes and Meetings Listed Alphabetically

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>AppleWorks series (Mac)</u>		
Calling/Business Cards	6-27	3:00
BOARD MEETING		
	6-21	2:00
Calling/Business Cards (Appleworks)	6-27	3:00
Calling/Business Cards	6-15	4:00
<u>Excel Series for the PC</u>		
Excel 1	6-7	8:00+
Excel 2	6-14	8:00+
Excel 3	6-22	8:00+
Excel 4	6-28	8:00+
IPhoto Basics (Mac)	6-14	3:00+
IPhoto Albums and QT movies (Mac)	6-15	2:00+
Internet SIG	6-15	7:00pm
<u>Photoshop Elements 2 - Series B - Mac</u>		
Lesson 6	6-20	3:00+
Lesson 7	6-21	8:30+
Lesson 8	6-22	3:00+
Lesson 9	6-23	8:30+
Lesson 10	6-24	3:00+
Photography SIG	6-15	7:00pm
Roadrunner and Mac Mail	6-13	3:00
Safari, Apple's Internet Browser	6-6	3:00
Using a Card Reader	6-14	2:00
Windows Maintenance & Organization	6-8	9:00
<u>Word Series - PC</u>		
<u>Shirley Celli - Beginning Word</u>		
1 Creating a Basic Letter	6-10	8:00
2 Revising a Basic Letter	6-10	9:00
3 More business letter basics	6-17	8:00
3.5 Envelopes and Labels	6-17	9:00
<u>Jan Grenert - Advanced Word</u>		
Word Art	6-2	3:00+
Word Draw	6-9	3:00+
Pictures in Word	6-16	3:00+
Word Mail Merge	6-23	3:00+

June Lab Monitor Schedule

A note of thanks to two great volunteers:
Shirley Cronin who has been the Monitor Coordinator for the past couple of years. You've done a great job.
Moe Sullivan who has graciously volunteered to take over from Shirley. Please contact her at 772-4416 if you want to learn about how easy it is to be a lab monitor.

Date	Time	Time
	10:00 am to 12:00	12:00 to 2:00 pm
June 1 - Wed.	Charley Voelker	F. Bourne
June 2 - Thurs.	Norma Streeter	Jack Drill
June 3 - Fri.	M. Sullivan	S. Plotkin
June 4 - Sat.	Leonette Rowe	
June 6 - Mon.	Oscar Apodoca	Bill Crowley
June 7 - Tues.	Shirley Cronin	Howard Reese
June 8 - Wed.	Charley Voelker	F. Bourne
June 9 - Thurs.	Norma Streeter	Norma Streeter
June 10 - Fri.	Pat Palladino	Frank Diaz
June 11 - Sat.	Leonette Rowe	
June 13 - Mon.	Bob Osborn	Bill Crowley
June 14 - Tues.	Shirley Cronin	Howard Reese
June 15 - Wed.	Charley Voelker	F. Bourne
June 16 - Thurs.	Norma Streeter	Jack Drill
June 17 - Fri.	M. Sullivan	S. Plotkin
June 18 - Sat.	Leonette Rowe	
June 20 - Mon.	Frank Diaz	Bill Crowley
June 21 - Tues.	Shirley Cronin	Howard Reese
June 22 - Wed.	Charley Voelker	Felice Bourne
June 23 - Thurs.	Norma Streeter	Jack Drill
June 24 - Fri.	M. Sullivan	David Feign
June 25 - Sat.	Leonette Rowe	
June 27 - Mon.	Bob Osborn	Bill Crowley
June 28 - Tues.	Shirley Cronin	Howard Reese
June 29 - Wed.	C. Voelker	F. Bourne
June 30 - Thurs	N. Streeter	J. Drill

June General Club Information

BOARD MEETING

June 21, 2:00 p.m.

INTERNET SIG

June 14, 7:00 p.m.

DIGITAL SIG

No meeting in June

WINDOWS SIG

No meeting in June



GENERAL MEETING

No meeting in June

PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

June 15, 7:00 p.m. in
Speakers Hall

MAC SIG

No meeting in June

"Let's Compute" Officers

Sheldon Plotkin, President.....	360-0789	sunctyplot@earthlink.net
Lyn Morse, VP Programs	345-4466	lynmorse@aol.com
Jim Calvert, VP Education	772-6710	jim2anna@aol.com
Kent McDonald, VP Communications	345-2931	rkmcdonald@earthlink.net
Jan Grenert, Secretary, Newsletter Editor	360-9085	jgrenert@dc.rr.com
Dave Allan, Treasurer.....	345-5087	DYAllan@aol.com
Pete Claar, Member-At-Large	772-9509	zadhoc@hotmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator: Sharon Kiel

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

June Lab Monitors

Oscar Apodaca	Frank Diaz	Sheldon Plotkin
Felice Bourne	David Feign	Leonette Rowe
Bill Crowley	Bob Osborn	Howard Reese
Shirley Cronin	Pat Palladino	Norma Streeter
Jack Drill		Charlie Voelker

Moe Sullivan , Monitor Coordinator.

35 MM Scanner Monitors

Felice Bourne	Sheldon Plotkin
Leonette Rowe	Conrad Lembers
Pete Claar	Harvey Schwarts
Walter Goldsmith	

Jack Drill, Monitor Coordinator

June Teachers

Shirley Allan	345-5087
Shirley Celli	345-7159
Walter Goldsmith.....	772-8448
Jan Grenert.....	360-9085
Lyn Morse.....	345-4466
Charlie Voelker	345-0123



Publication of the SCPD
"Let's Compute" Computer Club
Address Correspondence to:
Bits & Bytes
38180 Del Webb Blvd.
Palm Desert, CA 92211
e-mail: letscompute@earthlink.net

Bits & Bytes is distributed to current members of the SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club, which provides this publication for informational purposes only. The club neither endorses nor promotes any of the products or services that have been mentioned or suggested herein, or at any meeting, and assumes no responsibility or liability