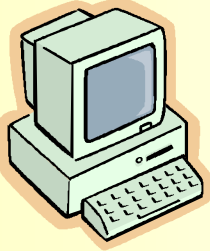


SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



BITS & BYTES



WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

June 2007 Volume XII Number 6

The Prez Sez...

By Lyn Morse

First off, let me remind you that Let's Compute is dark as far as General Meetings are concerned during June, July and August. Beginning in September, we will return to our original meeting time – the Fourth Tuesday of the Month.

Well, didn't we learn a lot from Greg Rostami at his presentation of the ADS products! And in truth, I was also impressed by the questions that came from you the members – a couple of times a big "huh?" resounded in my head since I had no clue as to what you were asking. There is really quite an impressive range of knowledge in this club!

If you missed the meeting, Greg will be coming back this winter, hopefully in January or February. Watch for that in Bits and Bytes.

Hopefully you've returned your ballot by the due date and it is waiting for the Election Committee to count and verify the vote. Stacks of envelopes have been returned, and Jack and Kent have been busy registering you for your 2007-2008 memberships and depositing your

checks. Your new membership card will be available in July, when the new year begins.

A gentle reminder: according to Association regulations, you may not conduct a business using Association equipment, and that includes the equipment in the lab. One individual has flaunted the rule and has been notified in writing by our general manager that the behavior must cease.

September's meeting will be a panel that PC users are really going to want to be there for – topic? Vista! Yes, even now teachers are preparing lessons for Vista classes in September.

Where else could you get this much for \$25??? Even one class out in the Valley would cost at least twice that much – and we get a whole year of classes, presentations and SIGs for our dues, not counting access to three slide scanners. What a sweet deal! Want to feel really good? Count up how many classes you take during a year and multiply it by \$50 (average of cost in the Valley). Then go celebrate your savings with my favorite: a Grande Frappachino light Carmel!



by Shirley Allan

There are many ways to access your email when you are away from home. Here are the two easiest for those of you that have access to broad band connections during your trips.

If you are going to stay at one place and there is an email address at that place you can have your Road Runner email automatically forwarded to that email address. Go to web-mail.dc.rr.com and log on using your name (no @dc.rr.com) and your password. Select the "Options" menu (on the right across the top). Select "Settings" on the column on the left. That will bring up a page that allows you to type in the forwarding email address down at the bottom of the page.

Continued on page 2



Continued from Page 1

Select "save changes" and your Road Runner email will automatically be sent to the email address where you will be staying. Don't forget to delete the forwarding option when you return home!

Of course you can also read your email on line by logging in to webmail.dc.rr.com as before. There are two cautions that you should observe when reading email on line at the Road Runner webmail site.

If you are using Safari (Mac) as your browser, be sure you have not selected "Block Pop-Up Windows" from your File menu. You will not be able to "Reply" or "Compose" messages if this option is checked. Just go to the File menu and select it again to have it "uncheck." You also should be aware that webmail counts all of your inbox, sent, trash, draft folders in the limits it places on your account so be sure and delete the messages you send to trash before leaving your account.

All this information may change in the near future as I understand that Road Runner is redesigning their web sites. But for the present all of this should work for you. Have a happy summer!



Lyn Morse

The SIG started with helping a Newbie to the Mac world become a bit more familiar with her new laptop. You're going to love the ease of use with all those photos, VJ. The discussion and demonstrations ran the gamut from: how to enter a full screen for comparison of two photos in order to eliminate the poorer of the two; putting special effects on a photo; different ways to enhance a photo; making a duplicate copy of a photo for doing 'drastic' editing; marking cropped photos; rating photos and a lot more.

Questions about flash drives and memory cards in cameras led to demonstrations of how to use and dismount both from the computer.

The hour went too quickly.

Watch for the articles that come from the MacStore in Seattle like the one in the next column. They always have good tips and tricks for us.

dMUG (Palm Desert library) is also dark during the summer, but PSMug in Cathedral City continues on the fourth Tuesday night of the month at the Senior Center. Meetings are from 6 to 8 p.m., and it's \$4 at the door unless you are a member of the Center – then it's \$2. If you have a laptop, bring it – you'll see a lot of them there with everyone online since the Center is WiFi. On Highway 111, turn left on

Van Fleet just before IMAX and then take a right into what looks like a parking lot – go toward the back and the door into the activity room is to the right (back) of the building.

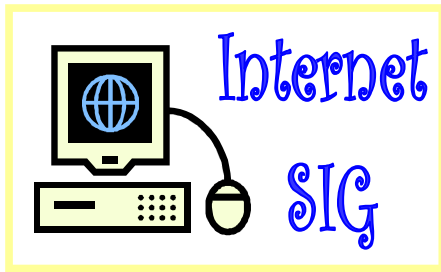
Have a very good summer, and see you in the fall (is there really fall in Coachella Valley?).

The next MacSIG will be the third Friday in September. We are dark during June, July and August also.

Mac Hints

- 1. Sorting Email by Thread:** Most email programs sort messages in reverse order by date received, so the newest messages are at the top. Starting in 10.3, the Mail program can also sort by thread, which means grouping messages that are part of the same discussion. To give it a try, choose "Organize by thread" from the "View" menu.
- 2. iTunes Short Cuts:** In iTunes, it is possible to fast forward or rewind without using the mouse. Hold the command and option keys, then press the left or right arrow key to rewind or fast forward 5 seconds at a time.
- 3. Finding a System Preference:** Having trouble finding the right System Preferences icon? Type the first couple letters of the name of the item you want - there should now be a blue highlight around it. Press the space bar to activate that preference pane. Alternatively, use the "View" menu while in System Preferences to see an alphabetically organized list.

Courtesy of the Mac Store / Seattle



Kent McDonald
and
Terry Kay

This month, we started off by demonstrating a web site called “Amazon Mechanical Turk” (mturk.com) which is named after a robotic chess machine circa 1769 which traveled Europe and beat most challengers. Amazon, the original Internet book seller, has built a unique new business that enables anyone with Internet access to perform tasks and be paid for them on a piece-work basis. There are thousands of tasks listed; most tasks require no training, others require software programming skill. An example we looked at was a task where you must look at photos (on the web site) taken along a highway and click on ones that contain a road sign. This type of work can be done at home on your own schedule, so it would appeal to people recovering from surgery or illness.

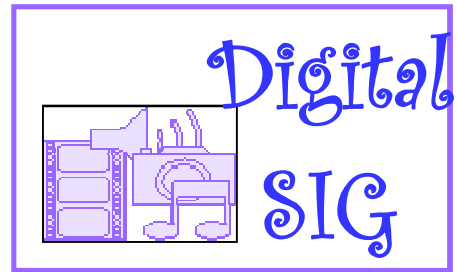
Next, we demonstrated a new paradigm in computing, rented software. PC users have always purchased various applications such as Microsoft Office to use at home. Besides the initial cost, there are maintenance costs for upgrades that seem to come just when you have finally mastered the previous version. Of course, the software compa-

nies would go out of business if they couldn't sell you periodic upgrades. The new business model is one where you lease the software, and you access it via the high-speed Internet. Google has a suite of applications such as word processor, spreadsheet, etc. called “Google Apps.” There is a free set for personal use and a leased set for business use. You can imagine that Microsoft is not pleased to see this type of competition; they were hoping to lease Office to the whole world and have a really steady cash flow.

Finally, we demonstrated the powerful search engine A9 developed by Amazon (A9.com). The amazing thing about this is its ability to locate a word or phrase **within** most any book. It will show you the whole page on which the search term is found. We searched for “You are old, Father William.” You may remember that this is in *Alice in Wonderland*. The A9 search found this term in the expected book plus others that were surprising. A lot of authors apparently copied that phrase elsewhere. Anyway, it was fun, and you might need this capability sometime to solve a question that is bothering you.

Next ISIG meeting will be held June 12.

Here's a Deal!
NEW members who join in June get a 13 month membership and can start participating in club activities in June.



By Jan Grenert

The Digital SIG closed out its last meeting of the season with a detailed look at the SCPD Tech Stuff site. (<http://scpdtech.proboards61.com/index.cgi>).

Shelia Harbet, our VP of Education and a teacher, established the site to provide a place where computer users can post their questions or problems and receive responses from Shelia and other viewers on the site. The site is not a function of Let's Compute, but can be a helpful resource for our members.

Visitors are invited to join the group or simply login and view the Forum Board and listing of categories where questions and responses are posted. The site is free. The home page displays the Forum and is divided into categories such as; General, FAQ, Software, Hardware, Internet Security, Bluetooth, Networking and General Discussion. Each category has multiple sub categories.

Shelia demonstrated how to join, or sign in as a guest and view the posted questions and response. Many of the frequent site participants are some of our community ‘experts’, who will respond to viewers’ questions. It is like a ‘ help you help yourself’.

Meetings will resume in the fall. Watch the Bits & Bytes for that date.

June Schedule of Classes

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	BOOK	TEACHER
Sat	June 2	10:00-12	Open Lab		
Mon	June 4	3:00	Understanding Your Mac - Questions	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	June 5	1:00	Word 1 (PC)	2	Walter Goldsmith
		2:00	Word 2 (PC)	2	Walter Goldsmith
Wed	June 6	1:00	Word 3 (PC)	2	Walter Goldsmith
		2:00	Word 3.5 PC)	2	Walter Goldsmith
Thur	June 7	1:00	Excel 1 of 4 (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
		2 – 3:30	Excel 2 of 4 (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
		3:30 - 5	Word 4 (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	June 8	1:00	Excel 3 of 4 (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
		2 – 3:30	Excel 4 of 4 (PC)	5	Walter Goldsmith
Sat	June 9	10:00-12	Open Lab		
Tues	June 12	1:00	PC Basics: Mouse/Keyboard	3	Shelia Harbet
		2 – 3:30	Windows XP Desktop/Shortcuts	3	Shelia Harbet
		7:00	INTERNET SIG		
Wed.	June 13	2:00	Joining & Managing “The List” (PC, Mac)	15	Shelia Harbet
Thur	June 14	9:00	Board Meeting		
		3 – 4:30	Word 5 Part 1/2 (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Sat	June 16	10:00-12	Open Lab		
Mon	June 18	8:30 - 10	Greeting Cards (Print Explosion) Mac – 1/2	1	June Cross
		1 – 2:50	Address Book and Mail (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Wed	June 20	8:30 - 10	Greeting Cards (Print Explosion) Mac – 2/2	1	June Cross
Thur	June 21	3 – 4:30	Word 5 Part 2/2 (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	June 22	8 – 9:50	iPhoto (Mac)	1	Lyn Morse
Sat	June 23		Open Lab		
Fri	June 29		Basic Elements (PC)	1	Lyn Morse

June Classes Listed Alphabetically

Class	Date	Time	Class	Date	Time
Address Book and Mail Mac	6-18	1:00+	PC Basics: Mouse & Keyboard	6-12	1:00
BOARD MEETING	6-14	9:00	PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS – MAC		
			Basic Photoshop Elements	6-29	8:00+
EXCEL SERIES			Understanding Your Mac	6-4	3:00
Sessions 1 and 2	6-7	1:00+	Windows XP/Desktop & Shortcuts	6-12	2:00+
Sessions 3 and 4	6-8	1:00+	WORD SERIES - PC		
Greeting Cards, pt 1 – Mac	6-18	8:30+	Walter Goldsmith		
Greeting Cards, pt 2 – Mac	6-20	8:30+	Word 1 & 2	6-5	1:00+
INTERNET SIG	6-12	7:00pm	Word 3 & 3.5	6-6	1:00+
iPhoto 6	6-22	8:00+	Jan Grenert		
			Word 4	6-7	3:30+
Joining/Managing the “List”	6-13	2:00	Word 5, pt 1	6-14	3:00+
			Word 5, pt. 2	6-21	3:00+

June Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

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

Hey, look what they are saying about us!
We are FAMOUS!!!



The following is an article taken from the April-June 2007 issue of APCUG Reports

Let's Compute Computer Club in Palm Desert loves its computer lab monitors. Monitors are people who want to help others in whatever capacity they can. Why else would they volunteer their time? Let's give the monitors a high-five of thanks. www.scpd-computerclub.org/ The club offers a gazillion classes each month and serving as a monitor has very subtle perks. Learning by helping, learning by observing and sometimes learning from others in the lab. The bits and pieces of information accumulate and soon you are surprised at what you have learned.

PC Users, it's finally ready for you!

Lyn Morse



For those of you who have taken Comic Life on the Mac from me while you patiently waited for it to be available for the PC, the beta version awaits you at plasq.com. Have fun making those great photo memory pages.

If you aren't familiar with the program, and think this is a silly name for a program, I whole-heartedly agree. The program has little to do with comics while everything to do with creating photo album pages quickly and easily using a wide variety of templates in which you drag and drop your photos.

June General Club Information

INTERNET SIG

June 12, 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEETING

June 14, 9:00 a.m.

DIGITAL SIG

No Meeting in June



GENERAL MEETING

No Meeting in June

WINDOWS SIG

No Meeting in June

MAC SIG

No Meeting in June

"Let's Compute" Officers

Lyn Morse, President.....	345-4466	lynmorse@aol.com
Shelia Harbet, VP Education	360-7146	shelia@csun.edu
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	Finance Review 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
Jill Johnson	News & Views

Volunteer Coordinator: Sharon Kiel

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

June Lab Monitors

Norm Alpert	David Feign	Bob Osborn
Cecilia Chu	Bea Kaczorowski	Howard Reese
Shirley Cronin	Charlie Kaczorowski	Leonette Rowe
Bill Crowley	John Manion	Charlie Voelker
Linda Espinoza	Ree McCarthy	

Moe Sullivan Monitor Coordinator - 772-4416

35 MM Scanner Monitors

Sheldon Plotkin	Leonette Rowe
Pete Claar	Walter Goldsmith

Jack Drill Scanner Coordinator - 345-8709

June Teachers

Shirley Allan.....	345-5087
June Cross.....	345-7876
Walter Goldsmith.....	772-8448
Jan Grenert.....	360-9085
Shelia Harbet	360-7146
Lyn Morse	345-4466



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