

SCPD "Let's Compute" Computer Club



BITS & BYTES

WWW.SCPD-ComputerClub.org

March 2009 Volume XIV Number 3



General Meeting March 24 - 2:00 pm



The Prez Sez..

By Lyn Morse

We've really had an interesting 'winter' this past month. I've especially enjoyed the snow – up on the mountains! It's been lovely to look at – up on the mountains! For those of us who spent years driving in snow, we're glad it's – up on the mountains!

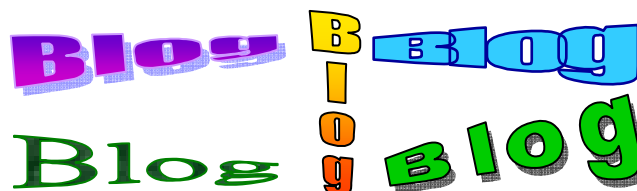
To information now. First, to those of you waiting for the announcement that the PCs are ready for the lottery: that may be delayed a bit as research is being done on new things coming to the PC.

After the Board minutes are approved at the March meeting, you may want to visit either our website (it's found in the masthead of every Bits and Bytes), the Association website under Charter Clubs or attend the next board meeting. Board meetings are the third Thursday morning of the month.

I've been asked by the monitors to remind everyone that printing is limited to 10 pages a day. No, you can't print 10 for each day you're not there. Many thanks to you for following that guideline. First, you're acknowledging that there are others waiting their turns and secondly, you're showing that you know the rules and are following them. Blessings on you, and shame on those who think the club rules are for everyone but them.



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Denise Welsh of Computerworks will present the program for the March General Meeting....It's about BLOGGING. Denise was a guest at the Feb. Mac SIG meeting and the write up of that meeting will give you an idea of what Denise has in store for the us at the General Meeting. **Read On...**



MAC SIG

By Betsy Lewis

February's Mac Sig meeting taught each of us everything we need to know in order to create our own personal or business Blog.

Denise Welch, President of Computerworks, Inc., was our guest speaker and arrived prepared to tell us "what to blog about!" Sports, Music, Snowboarding, Poetry Blogs abound along with a multitude of other subjects, and it's as simple as ABC to set one up. Your content becomes public knowledge over the Internet, which may be your purpose, for blogs serve as a source of communication with people who have a common interest in your subject. On the other hand, if you simply want to keep Mom, Dad, Aunt Tilley and various cousins up-to-date on your family (pictures included), you can set your Blog up to be private. Blogging is free and it allows you to

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The Prez Sez..

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A word of caution about printing and leaving things lying around. Several weeks ago I found a printed sheet lying on the counter next to the printer. It was a hotel reservation: from reading it, I know the email address, the name of the person the reservation is for (I recognized the name), and I know as I write this, according to the printout, that the person is checking in at 3:00 today. I also know how long the house will be unoccupied. I don't think that is information anyone would want others to have.

My point: if you've been printing, make sure nothing of yours is left on the counters or around the computer you've used.

A sad story now. Last week I was approached by a lady who had left her flash (thumb) drive in the PC she was using. She returned a bit later and it was gone. It had not been given to the monitor, just taken. Please do yourself a favor and put your flash drive on a lanyard, then when you put it in the USB port, drape the lanyard so you can see it on the table. You'll be less likely to leave it behind if you have a visual reminder to take it with you.

If you weren't at the February general meeting, you missed a great showing of underwater photography by Board member Jerry Katler. He spoke of the equipment he used, and where he had dived to take the photos. We were then treated to a DVD he had created of some of those photos. I heard one person ask Jerry after the meeting about buying a print of one the photos. Yep, that good,

MAC SIG

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share your thoughts, photos and more with friends and/or the world. It's easy to post text, photos and videos from the web or to your mobile phone. It gives you unlimited flexibility to personalize your blog with themes, gadgets and more. Open a Google account if you don't already have one and follow the directions to Blogger: Create Blogger Account (you will be sent an email to verify that you really want to open an account). Then follow those instructions and in minutes, you are in business.

Denise is of the opinion that Blogging is the wave of the future and may replace creating your own Web page. **The next Mac Sig meeting will be on March 20 at 9:00 am in the lab.**



Did You Know??

You can find computer club information on two web sites:

WWW.scpd-ComputerClub.org

- Archived Board minutes, Financial reports, Newsletters, Class schedules and more

SCPDCA.com

Search Clubs>Lets Compute

- General Information on the club, Current Class Schedule, Recent Board Minutes and information on upcoming General meeting programs.



By Kerry Greene

We have a new name! The Windows SIG (Special Interest Group) and the Internet SIG have combined into one meeting. We took a vote and the decision was made to name the combined meetings the PC SIG. We will meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Computer Club lab. Meetings will last about 90 minutes. We will divide the time equally between Internet and Windows topics.

Our February meeting was attended by 21 PC enthusiasts, and some good Internet topics came up. We talked about how to use Google (or any other search engine) to learn about problems you may be having with your computer. Google will give you links to computing forums or tech support sites where your particular question is being discussed, with possible solutions to the problem.

Some general questions were asked (and answered) about using various tools in Internet Explorer: how to reset your home page, how to use tabs, etc. The question of toolbars was addressed as there are many toolbars available to add on to Internet Explorer, but having too many can become a problem. We suggested that you pick one that is most useful to you and stay away from additional toolbars. I like the Google toolbar for its many useful features, such as a pop-up blocker, form filler, form spell checker, instant map tool and of course, the powerful search capabilities of Google. If you use

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PC SIG

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Yahoo, MSN, AOL, etc., you may opt for their toolbar to link to their various services. Some toolbars contain malicious software, spyware and adware (such as the Alot toolbar), and should absolutely be avoided.

The Internet is a great resource for knowledge, but can also be very entertaining. Web sites such as Hulu.com and TV.com are great sources for video – look for that TV episode you missed last week, or even watch a full length movie at imdb.com (Internet Movie Data Base). For music, I like slacker.com and pandora.com, both free to use for your unlimited listening pleasure. These could be good topics for future meetings.

We wrapped up our first PC SIG meeting with Windows topics – what does the computer registry do, and how careful you should be with editing it. The answer to that is: do not edit the registry unless you really know what you are doing. Removing the wrong registry key or value can seriously affect the operation of your computer.

We also clarified steps you can take when cleaning up your PC with Ccleaner (a topic discussed last month), and how malicious programs such as Incredimail get installed on your PC, and how to get rid of them.

Hope to see you next month for the PC SIG (Internet and Windows). Bring your questions and discoveries to share with us.

The next meeting will be on March 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the computer lab.

TextEdit on the Mac

By Shirley Allan

Leopard (the latest operating system on the Mac) has added some goodies to TextEdit. This is a simple word processing system that comes with your Mac that you may not even know you have.

No need to spend big bucks on Microsoft Word for the Mac or even little bucks for iWork unless you want to do something extra fancy. TextEdit can open Microsoft Word Documents even if you don't have that application and can "Save As" a Word document, again, even if you don't own Microsoft Word.

TextEdit has an Auto Save feature so you will never lose something you have worked on.

You can set your own styles, use pretty fonts and even have TextEdit suggest better grammar. TextEdit will show you your misspelled words and give you corrections and even give you a list of words to choose from if you don't know how to complete a word. And of course, you may have your document read to you (something that you can do in most Mac software) to proof your document. Look for this updated class in late April.

PrintShop2: Mac

By Helene Barker

Something different for March and April. You may not have this software on your computer, but it is on the Mac computers in the Lab.

- Signup in **March** and see how to transfer pictures/clipart onto t-shirts and Canvas bags.
- Signup in **April** and learn to make Bookmarks/Stickers.

You can use 'Open Lab' time to create and print these projects. Finishing Transfers will have to be done at home, but it's easy and FUN. If you'll call me (360.5713) I'll even meet you in the Lab and help you through the process.

Here's the schedule:

- Tuesday, March 24th & Wednesday, March 25th @ 9AM\

It's a two-day class to learn and do Transfers.

- Tuesday, April 28th & Wednesday, April 29th @ 9AM

It's a two-day class to learn and do Bookmarks and Stickers.

- Friday, April 24th a demo for Printshop2:Mac will be given at our Mac/SIG meeting @ 9AM.

Add this to your 'Summer Project' list and the summer will fly by, you'll see...



March Class Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	CLASS	BOOK	TEACHER
Mon	Mar. 2	9:00	Beginning PC Lesson 1 – Introduction	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Art on the Mac - Objects	1	Shirley Allan
Tue	Mar. 3	9:00	Beginning PC Lesson 2 - Keyboard	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Before the Basics: Getting Started with Quicken (PC)	8	Shelia Harbet
Wed	Mar. 4	9:00	Beg. PC Lesson 3 – Creating and Saving Files	3	Jim Calvert
		1- 2:50	Art on the Mac - Landscapes	1	Shirley Allan
Thurs	Mar. 5	9:00	Beg. PC Lesson 4 – Intro to Word Processing	3	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Word Art (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Mar. 6	9:00	Beginning PC lesson 5 – Intro to Spreadsheets	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Advanced Elements Workshop	14	Jim Calvert
Sat	Mar. 7		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon		
Mon	Mar. 9	9:00	Introduction to Internet	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Beg. Elements 1 Intro Photo Correction (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
Tue	Mar.10	9:00	Introduction to Email	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Beg. Elements 2 – Photo Correction (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		2:00	PrintShop/Business Cards (PC)	4	Pat Palladino
		7 – 8:30	PC SIG		Lab
Wed	Mar. 11	9:00	Beginning PC lesson 1 – Introduction	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Address Book & Mail (1/3)(Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Thurs	Mar. 12	9:00	Beginning PC Lesson 2 - keyboard	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Beg. Elements 3 – Photo Correction (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
		3 – 4:30	Word Draw (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Mar. 13	9:00	Beg. PC Lesson 3 – creating and saving files	3	Jim Calvert
		1:00	Beg. Elements lesson 4 – Photo Correction (PC)	14	Jim Calvert
Sat	Mar. 14		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon		
Mon	Mar. 16	9:00	Beg. PC Lesson 4 – Intro to Word Processing	3	Jim Calvert
		1 – 2:50	Fonts, Accents & Characters (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Mar. 17	9:00	Beg. PC Lesson 5 – Intro to Spreadsheets	3	Jim Calvert
		6:00	Presentation		Speaker's Hall
Wed	Mar. 18	9:00	Files & Folders (PC)	12	Charlie Voelker
		1 – 2:50	Address Book & Mail (2/3)(Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Thurs	Mar. 19	9:00	Board Meeting		Idyllwild Room
		3 – 4:30	Digital Pictures in Word (PC)	2	Jan Grenert
Fri	Mar. 20	9:00	Mac SIG		Lab
Sat	Mar. 21		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon		
Mon	Mar. 23	1:00	Safari (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Tues	Mar. 24	9:00	PrintShop 2: Transfers (1/2) (Mac)	1	Helene Barker
		2:00	General Meeting: Blogging with Denise Welch		Speaker's Hall
Wed	Mar. 25	9:00	PrintShop 2: Transfers (2/2) (Mac)	1	Helene Barker
		1 – 2:50	Address Book & Mail (2/3)(Mac)	1	Shirley Allan
Thurs	Mar. 26	8 - 10	Picasa	14	Bob Osborn
		3 – 4:30	Word – Text & Web Images (PC)		Jan Grenert
Sat	Mar. 28		Open Lab 10:00 to Noon		
Mon	Mar. 30	1 - 3	Business/Calling Cards iWork (Mac)	1	Shirley Allan

March Classes Listed Alphabetically

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Time</u>
Art on the Macs - Objects	3-2	1:00+
Art on the Macs - Landscapes	3-4	1:00+
<u>Address Book & Mail SERIES</u>		
Part 1	3-11	1:00+
Part 2	3-18	1:00+
Part 3	3-25	1:00+
<u>BEGINNING PC SERIES</u>		
Part 1	3-2	9:00
Part 2	3-3	9:00
Part 3	3-4	9:00
Part 4	3-5	9:00
Part 5	3-6	9:00
<u>BEGINNING PC SERIES –a repeat</u>		
Part 1	3-11	9:00
Part 2	3-12	9:00
Part 3	3-13	9:00
Part 4	3-16	9:00
Part 5	3-17	9:00
<u>BOARD MEETING</u>	3-19	9:00+
Bus./Calling Cards iWorks Mac	3-30	1:00+
Files & Folders – PC	3-18	9:00
Fonts, Accents & Characters - Mac	3-16	1:00+
<u>GENERAL MEETING</u>	3-24	2:00
Introduction to Internet - PC	3-9	9:00
Introduction to email - PC	3-10	9:00
<u>MAC SIG</u>	3-20	9:00
<u>PC SIG</u>	3-10	7:00pm
Picassa	3-26	8:00+
<u>Presentation-Speakers' Hall</u>	3-17	6:00+
Photoshop Adv. Wk.shop –PC	3-6	1:00
<u>Photoshop Elements, Beginning series - PC</u>		
Lesson 1	3-9	1:00
Lesson 2	3-10	1:00
Lesson 3	3-12	1:00
Lesson 4	3-13	1:00
Printshop for Bus. Cards - PC	3-10	2:00
<u>PRINTSHOP 2 TRANSFERS- Mac</u>		
Part 1	3-24	9:00
Part 2	3-25	9:00
Quicken Starting with Basics	3-3	1:00
Safari – Mac	3-23	1:00
<u>Word 97-2003 Advanced Classes</u>		
Word Art - PC	3-5	3:00+
Word Draw – PC	3-12	3:00+
Digital Pictures in Word	3-19	3:00+
Text Boxes & Web Images	3-26	3:00+

March Monitor and Open Lab Schedule

DAY	Date	10-12	12-1
Mon	March 2	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	March 3	L. Espinosa	P. Baigent
Wed	March 4	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	March 5	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	March 6	K. Gibbons	L. Weiser
Sat	March 7	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	March 9	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	March 10	L. Espinosa	P. Baigent
Wed	March 11	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	March 12	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	March 13	J. Manion	L. Weiser
Sat	March 14	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	March 16	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	March 17	L. Espinosa	B. Yeh
Wed	March 18	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	March 19	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	March 20	K. Gibbons	L. Weiser
Sat	March 21	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	March 23	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	March 24	L. Espinosa	P. Baigent
Wed	March 25	C. Voelker	D. Feign
Thu	March 26	B. Osborn	N. Alpert
Fri	March 27	J. Manion	L. Weiser
Sat	March 28	L. Rowe	Closed
Mon	March 30	C. Chu	B. Crowley
Tue	March 31	L. Espinosa	P. Baigent



March General Club Information

Meeting Schedule

PC SIG	March 10	7:00 PM
PRESENTATION	March 17	6:00 PM
BOARD MEETING	March 19	9:00 AM
MAC SIG	March 20	9:00 AM
GENERAL MEETING	March 24	2:00 PM

"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 - Communications	345-2931.....	rkmcdonald@earthlink.net
Jack Drill, Treasurer	345-8709.....	jdrill@dc.rr.com
Barbara Kaye, Director - Maintenance	772-6520.....	barbarak1775@aol.com
Jerry Katler, Director of Programs	772-6405.....	jerryk@dc.rr.com

Committee Chairs

Betsy Lewis.....	Finance Review Committee
June Cross	Computer Sale
Pat Palladino.....	Nominating Committee

March Teachers

Shirley Allan.....	345-5087
Helene Barker	360-5713
Jim Calvert	772-6710
Jan Grenert	360-9085
Shelia Harbet	360-7146

Volunteer Coordinators

Call to volunteer:

35 MM Scanner Coordinator	George Hans.....	345-3875
General Meeting Volunteers	June Cross.....	345-7876
Supplies & News & Views	Sharon Kiel	772-0745
News & Views	Jill Johnson	772-4809
Monitor Coordinator	Moe Sullivan.....	772-4416

March Lab Monitors

Norm Alpert	David Feign	Leonette Rowe
Peter Baigent	Kevin Gibbons	Charley Voelker
Cecilia Chu	John Manion	Len Weiser
Bill Crowley	Bob Osborn	Beverly Yeh
Linda Espinosa		



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 Address Correspondence to:
 Bits & Bytes
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 Palm Desert, CA 92211

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