SLO Bytes HardCopy

A publication of the San Luis Obispo PC Users' Group

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July 6th, 2008 General Windows SIG *by Don Jones*

Don showed some of the great flower pictures from the last Digital Photo SIG meeting. Thanks to Bob Grover, Roger Lyon, Paul Moyer, Bob Styerwalt, and Nancy Vrooman. These will be placed on the SLO Bytes web site by Sue Thole, our SIG Webmaster with Ralph Sutter's help. Don then showed how easy and flexible it is to work with photos in Vista without the need for additional viewing software. Windows XP users don't need to be left out since Microsoft has made available free downloads to "port" similar capabilities to this older system.

http://www.microsoft.com/prophoto/downloads/default.aspx
Be sure to explore the other tabs near the top of the above web page.

We also looked at a few July 4th fireworks photos from Pismo Beach and discussed methods for photographing them.

We then looked at some built-in creative tools and advanced techniques for enhancing your photo experience using PhotoShop Elements version 6. This included making an enhancement and then transferring it from one photo to another without the need to re-do the process. This still maintains the ability to quickly modify the adjustments, if necessary, for the new photo. We talked about utilizing multiple tools to simplify selections. Once a selection is done, it is easy to fix part of a photo without affecting the good portions of the photo.

For people starting out or trying to learn more advanced photo editing there are seemingly endless resources. One good source is the forum site:
http://www.elementsvillage.com/forums/

This site received a big boost by the addition of many tutorials and discussions from the forums section of the paid website-magazine where Don learned most of what he knows about PS Elements (the link below). Some free samples are available on the website, and Adobe links to the site for this reason. In addition to publishing books and training DVDs some of the main contributors have done overview tutorials that Adobe has included with their PhotoShop family products.
http://www.photoshopelementsuser.com/subscriber/index.php

Adobe also has lots of help:
http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshopelwin/

There were some questions about cameras and equipment, especially after the presentation. The following site has all (perhaps more than) you want to know about the top cameras and related products. It is the most authoritative site Don has seen.
http://www.dpreview.com/

July 6th, 2008 Main Meeting Review *by Nancy Vrooman*

Our 4th Annual 4th of July BBQ was delicious!

Although Ralph was absent his wood wasn't. Thanks Alan. I know Ken sprinkled some magic over that wood as he built the fire. When I find out I'll let you know. With Jim and John co-chefing, 96 heavenly burgers were turned out.

Meanwhile Heu is out at the ranch pulling up home grown onions and slicing enough to clean everyone's sinuses. His eyes were a bit red.

Ray stocked the refrig a day early with diet drinks kindly donated by Wayne's Kraft Foods company. And Gene helped get coffee on for the brave.

Josette toiled for an hour slicing tomatoes of the perfect width, not to mention the 2 pans of lettuce she also prepared so no one would be shorted.

Janet and I had the easy job of buying supplies. Virginia cracked the whip over us in clean-up to make up for it.

You guys did an excellent job. Few leftovers. Robert's pot of chili had 1 spoonful left! How do you do it? And the 3 cakes Signe made ~ gone!

I know a room clean-up crew was busy ~~ they were finished before the kitchen was done. Great job.

Shutterbugs were about. Who will turn up immortalized? Paul will have a giant picture of everyone stitched together from 6 shots.

I have only one regret. I missed Don's Elements 6 presentation.

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR A GREAT BBQ.

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Kaye Raul's Programming Schedule by Kaye Raul

The featured speaker at the August 3rd SLO Bytes meeting will be **Pete Gannon**, owner/operator of **Computer Stuff**, a multi-faceted computer business in San Luis Obispo**.**

Pete will address what's new in computer systems and software. He will also discuss the issues involved in computer replacement or upgrading with the Vista operating system. The computer related technical world is advancing and changing so rapidly that a person most suited to keep up is someone making a living in the business. Pete Gannon will bring us the most up to date information available.

Among the services offered by Computer Stuff are expert repairs, building custom systems, having a wide selection of parts and accessories available and performing network design and installation

Prior to the main presentation:
Alan Raul will moderate his Q & A session from **12:45 PM to 2:00 PM**
A Windows operating systems SIG for beginners will also be conducted at the same time slot in the dining room.

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President's Message

At our 3 August, 2008 meeting:
At 12:45 PM, Alan will be moderating the Question and Answer session
At 2:30 PM, Our speaker, Pete Gannon owner/operator of Computer Stuff, will give his presentation.

Go to http://www.slobytes.org/newsletter/push/index.html to see the **great PUSH reviews for August 2008.** They came to me from **Judy Taylour of APCUG,** Editorial PUSH Committee Chair. Our Webmaster, Ralph Sutter uploaded these articles to our website. The actual PUSH articles are hyperlinked from these reviews.

Go to http://slobytes.org/nooz/index.html to view and read the **American PC User's Group [APCUG] NOOZ Newsletter**

Take a look at http://oldsite.kcbx.net/classes_education/class_schedule.php to see if you would like to avail yourself of the various **computer related classes** available at the **KCBXnet Training Facility.**

Cal Poly Continuing Education's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) is a comprehensive learning and service program for those 50 and over. This is a highly rated College level education program available at Cal Poly. This is their website: http://www.osher.calpoly.edu/

Take advantage of the four **learning CD's** "Learn Windows XP, Excel, Word & Power Point" available for our members to check out (at the Treasurer's table).

Continue to bring any **used ink-jet printer or toner cartridges** to our meeting. We collect them (at the Treasurer's table) and turn them over to "Make A-Wish Foundation" who generate much needed funds for their organization by refurbishing and selling them.

--Ray Miklas

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August 2008 Treasurer's Report by Robert Mires

Income

Renewing members	$275.00
New members	50.00
Bar B Q guests	50.00

Expenses

Hall rent	90.00
Bar B Q beans	24.03
Bar B Q salads	15.37
Bar B Q condiments	21.59
Bar B Q drinks	11.30

Bank accounts @ 06/30/08

CD #116	1,273.99
CD #125	2,776.74
Saving acct bal	54.39
Checking acct bal	985.51
Interest Jan 08	92.47

Renewing members: N. Watts (2 yrs), Alice Rew, Douglas Depue, Ken Stilts, Ian Hughes, Fred Cutter, Fred W. Cook, Bob Grover, Bill Adamson

New members: Elizabeth Scott-Graham, Peter Risley

Robert Mires, Treasurer

Club Information and Meeting Times

SLO Bytes, a PC Users Group dedicated to educate its members in the use of personal computers, digital devices and software, meets on the first Sunday of each month at the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) Hall at 520 Dana Street, San Luis Obispo. All meetings are open to the public at no cost. Special interest groups meet from 12:45 PM to 2:00 PM and guest speaker presentations begin at 2:30 PM. Contact Kaye Raul (kmraul at sbcglobal.net) or visit www.slobytes.org for additional information about SLO Bytes and the scheduled presentation.

HardCopy is a monthly publication of SLO Bytes PC Users' Group located in San Luis Obispo, California. Information in this Newsletter is derived from both our own membership and other PC User Group Newsletters. The purpose of this publication is to inform our members of meetings and provide information related to the use of PCs and various Operating Systems.

Membership Dues are $25 per year. Full membership entitles you to our monthly newsletter via e-mail, technical assistance, raffle gift drawing at the end of the meetings, a voice in the affairs of the club, and comradeships.

Article Submission Deadline for submission of articles is the 20th of each month. Articles should be E-mailed to the editor (rmiklas at pacbell.net).

Computer-related businesses wishing to advertise in **HardCopy** may now do so. The rate is $15.00 per month or $120.00 per year for a business card size announcement. Content in ad copy is subject to approval by the SLO Bytes Board of Directors.

Outside Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

HTML/Internet SIG normally meets at 6:30 PM on Monday (following our Sunday's General Meeting) at Ralph Sutter's home in Arroyo Grande. Call Ralph at 489-8678 for directions.

Linux SIG normally meets at 6:30 PM on Thursday (following our Sunday's General Meeting) at KCBXnet [a.k.a. SLONET] Training Center, 4100 Vachell Lane, SLO.

Photography SIG normally meets at 7 PM on a third Monday of each month at Don Jones's home in Pismo Beach. Call Don at 773-5526 for directions.

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SLO Bytes Website http://www.slobytes.org