SLO Bytes HardCopy
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Alan's November 6th, 2005 General Windows SIG by Alan Raul

This months SIG included a repeat demonstration of **copy/paste** of a select area of your Desktop using **Irfanview** and **FastStone** image viewers. **Copy/paste** is a very useful skill you will use often.

Irfanview Graphic Image Viewer (FREE)
http://www.irfanview.com/

FastStone Graphic Image Viewer (FREE)
http://www.faststone.org/FSViewerDetail.htm

Many computer users are replacing their old CRT monitors with the newer LCD monitors. It was recommended that you set your screen fonts to **"ClearType."** Microsoft states, "With Windows XP, **ClearType** delivers improved font display resolution over traditional anti-aliasing. It improves readability on color LCD monitors with a digital interface, such as those in laptops and high-quality flat desktop displays. Readability on CRT screens can also be somewhat improved."

A couple of new Microsoft **PowerToys for Windows XP** is the **RAW Image Thumbnailer/Viewer** and the **ClearType Tuner**.
http://snipurl.com/7r9b
http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/powertoys/xppowertoys.mspx

A web site submitted by Bob Ward was **wiseGEEK**. This web site will give you *"Clear Answers for Common Questions."*
http://www.wisegeek.com/

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

We will also be holding a "Swap Meet" at the next December 4th meeting. Members should bring older and new (computer related items) to be sold or exchanged or just for a give-a-way. All items should be displayed on one of the tables in the dining area for everyone to examine.

November 6th, 2005 Main Meeting Review by Ray Miklas

Our main speaker was our friend, **Gene Barlow** of *User Group Relations* www.usergroupstore.com offering many more products this year for members of PC user groups and all at great discount prices.

Gene and Linda have been visiting SLO Bytes annually for several years now, offering great products and a presentation that usually center on data backup and hard drive recovery software.

This year, however, Gene's presentation covered four main groups of products:

1- Gene concentrated on **Security Products** http://www.ugr.com/security.html In particular. He covered *Invisus Security* package in depth. While all other security programs are sold as an off-the-shelf product, *Invisus* is the first to provide your Internet security as an ongoing service for $14.99/month and give you all the security technologies you need for free. Gene also talked about *ShadowUser Pro 2.5.* This program provides easy to use desktop security and protection for Windows operating systems. ShadowUser accomplishes this using an innovative technology called ShadowMode. ShadowUser is the best way to prevent unwanted changes to PCs and laptops. The *Acronis Privacy Expert Suite 8.0:* Privacy Expert Suite is the most comprehensive anti-spyware and security suite that includes: a proactive real time protection against spyware, adware, keyloggers, and other malicious programs. There are also three WhiteCanyon products in this group consisting of *SecureClean 4.0, MediaWiper 3.0* is WipeDrive for Windows and *MySecurityVault Pro*. Gene touched briefly on each of the WhiteCanyon utility programs.

2- Gene also covered **Backup Products** http://www.ugr.com/backup.html of which *Acronis True Image 9.0* is the centerpiece of this group. *SmartSync Pro* is a universal solution to back up and synchronize your important data to

the same drive, different drive, network volume or even remote computer. An finally in this group is *Backing Up your Hard Drive,* an educational CD.

3- Gene also talked about **Organization Products** http://www.ugr.com/organization.html which include *Acronis Disk Director Suite 10.0*, *Laplink PCmover* and *Discovering your Hard Drive*, an educational CD. **Note:** See below where PCmover can be purchased for just $19.97 to members of APCUG (SLO Bytes is a member of APCUG).

4- Lastly Gene covered **Internet Products** http://www.ugr.com/internet.html The *Optimal Desktop Pro 4.0* integrates the functions of a Web browser, RSS reader, file manager, XML editor and program launcher all into one application and puts everything 3 clicks away, and *Surfulater*, a utility which enables you to save anything you see on the Internet as well as any other important information that you need to permanently keep.

Don Jones' Featured Speaker Programming Schedule by Don Jones

At 1 PM our featured speaker will be George Lepp of Lepp Institute (http://leppinstitute.com/home.htm) in Los Osos, a nationally known photographer and Editor of photo magazines. George brings beautiful examples of his work and is one of our most popular presenters. He will be our only speaker (for December meeting only). The title of his talk will be "Extending Photography Digitally". George will discuss the new technologies available today in digital photography and show examples of how it has improved the capabilities, vision, creativity, and quality of his images.

Following George Lepp's presentation, we will have our annual Christmas party and prize drawing for members, including new ones. Our President, Ray Miklas, is our Santa Claus, and he promises no member will go home empty-handed.

This should be one of our best meetings of the year, don't miss it!

On January 1st, our featured speaker will be Don Jones talking about converting your old vinyl records and audio tapes to computer data. He will follow this by showing how to fix some old and "bad" pictures using Photoshop Elements 4.0. Both of these subjects were of interest in the member survey done earlier this year.

Note about year-end elections:

As Ray announced at earlier meetings, I will be resigning my VP-Program Chairman job at the end of the year. I have enjoyed the experience and have found the other Board members very willing and helpful when I needed it. You can be assured of their help and mine if you need it. I plan to continue through the year. The program speakers are full for the rest of this year, and I also have February, March, and June set. Guy left me well-documented info, so taking over the job was quite smooth. I sincerely hope that one of you who come and enjoy the meetings consider volunteering to run for the position. It doesn't take too much time, is rewarding, and is essential to maintain a viable PC Users Group. I plan to continue with the Digital Photography SIG

Digital Photography SIG Review by Lou Pera

Our monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, Nov. 15th (2nd Tuesday after our SLOBYTES meeting) with ten members being present. Fred Cook gave a demonstration and led a discussion in the use of "FastStone Image viewer". The program has many of the same features as those of expensive imaging and editing programs and to top it off it's free. See: http://www.faststone.org/ The second part of the meeting was handled by Don Jones discussing and demonstrating some of the attributes of the new Photoshop program, "Photoshop Elements IV". Although many of the capabilities of the program are not new, some are, and many have been enhanced and been made more user friendly. Coffee was served and a good time was had by all. Next month Ray Miklas will show us a video covering some of the built-in features of the Windows XP for viewing and editing video and digital photography.

Lou Pera

President's Message

At our December 6, 2005 meeting:
At 1 PM, Our speaker **George Lepp** will give his presentation.
At 2:30 PM, Our annual Christmas party and prize drawing will take place.

APCUG - November PUSH Articles (attached) came to me from **Judy Taylour of APCUG** Region 10 Chair and Editorial PUSH Committee Chair.
Editor's note: There are 10 **great** articles in the PUSH 11-05 file. They include the following

      Windows Recovery or Restore Disks – Laurie
      Browsing WebRings – Communities of Web Sites – Goldberg
      Legal Bytes – What is CALEA and Will It Affect My Life – Brewer
      Locked Out of Your Computer – LaBash
      Phising Schemes – Gonse
      Tech News – Crane
      Tips For Locating Misplaced Files – Gerber
      USB Flash Drives – Lewis
      What Comes After You Have Your Pictures - Cummins

Judy Taylor also sent the following to us
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To APCUG Presidents -- here's a 50% discount offer for you to send to your members. They offered it to the SW conference attendees and I asked if I could send it out to all of the APCUG-member groups.

Thanks,
Judy

From NOW UNTIL December 31, 2005, any member of a User Group can purchase PCmover or Laplink Everywhere 4 (or both!) at a 50% discount.

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PCmover is Laplink's solution to the problem of moving all your "stuff" from an old PC to a new one. PCmover lets you automatically move all your files, settings, and even applications from the old PC, even if the operating system is different on the new PC.

Visit http://www.laplink.com/products/pcmover/overview.asp> for more information on PCmover.

To obtain your discount for PCmover, please visit
http://esd.element5.com/product.html?productid=540239&languageid=1&noquickbuy=1%A4cies=USD&coupon=SWUG5F
Your purchase of PCmover will be just $19.97.

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Laplink Everywhere 4 is Laplink's secure web-based remote access utility. If you have a PC with an always-on broadband connection, you can now get "Anytime, Anywhere Access to Your Remote PC". Laplink Everywhere is like GoToMyPC, except it offers great extra features like extended PDA compatibility (Pocket PC, Palm, and Smartphone) -and it's half the price! With your SWUG discount, this means you could be enjoying remote access for ¼ the price of GoToMyPC.

Visit http://www.laplink.com/products/lle/overview.asp for more information on Laplink Everywhere 4.

To obtain your discount for Laplink Everywhere 4 (3-PC 1 year license), please visit
http://esales.element5.com/cart.html?PRODUCT[300019348]=1&PRODUCT[300022337]=1&languageid=1¤cies=USD&COUPON1=SWUG5F

Your purchase of a 3-PC 1-year license will be just $44.95. The basic version of Laplink Everywhere 4 comes with 1 hour of remote control per month and unlimited remote access to files, email and PIM data. You will also have the option of purchasing Unlimited Remote Control for just $20.03.

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You are welcome to purchase one or both products at the special discounted rate.

For more information on Laplink products, please contact:

Brian Schaper
brians@laplink.com
425-952-6022
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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)

We also have **Adobe Photoshop 7, learning CD's** to check out (at the Treasurer's table). These 5 CD's cover, in depth, the various program features in lesson format.

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

Treasurer's Report
Oct 24, 2005 - Nov 24, 2005

Income
New members	$75.00
Renewing members	175.00
Refreshments	36.00

Expenses
Hall rent	75.00
Drawing prizes, Ray Miklas	118.19
Website fee, Ralph Sutter	95.40
Renew APCUG membership	50.00

Bank accounts @ 9/30/05
Saving Acct Balance	3,190.70
Checking Acct Balance	2,297.88
Interest- year to date	42.61

New members: three
    Rick Matson, Thomas Eckle, & Janelle Richardson
Renewing members: seven

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 1 to 2:00 PM and guest speaker presentations begin at 2:30 PM. Contact Don Jones (773-5526, donej@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@bigfoot.com).

Disclaimer: Neither SLO Bytes PC Users' Group, its officers, editors, or contributors to this newsletter assume liability for damages arising out of this publication of any article, including but not limited to the listing of programming code, batch files and other helpful hints. Articles from this newsletter may be reprinted by other user groups if credit is given to both the author and newsletter from which it was taken. Reproduction of articles with a specific Copyright notice is prohibited without prior permission from the original author.

Outside Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

HTML/Internet SIG normally meets at 6:30 PM on the 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 second Tuesday (following our Sunday's General Meeting) at Don Jones's home in Pismo Beach. Call Don at 773-5526 for directions.

SLO Bytes Officers/Volunteers
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Alan Raul (General SIG/Linux SIG)
Lou Pera (Contributing Columnist/Photo SIG)
Nancy Vrooman (Refreshments)
Peter Stonehewer (Refreshments)
Ken Stilts (Set-up/Clean-up)
Cliff Buttschardt (Set-up/Clean-up)
John Enos (Set-up/Clean-up)
Bill Palmerston (Set-up/Clean-up)

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