

# SLO Bytes HardCopy

A publication of the San Luis Obispo PC Users' Group  
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March 2009

## *February 1st, 2009 General Windows SIG by Ralph Sutter*

At the February 1st, 2009 SLO Bytes General meeting, I mentioned several programs. Below, I have listed them, along with the download URL.

**Asterisk** - Reveals the text hidden beneath the \*\*\*\* asterisks in a variety of programs:  
<http://www.lostpassword.com/free.htm>

**Zoomit**: Enlarge a portion of the screen  
<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/bb897434.aspx>

**Scroll wheel + CTRL key**; You can enlarge the text on many pages, both on and off line by holding down the Ctrl key while moving the scroll key on your mouse.

**Audacity**: Free open source program for editing and converting sound files  
<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

**GraphApplet 1.0**: On-line Graphing calculator:  
<http://www.coolmath.com/graphit/>

**Irfanview**: A freeware graphics view with many other graphics and sound capabilities - Slide Show Feature in Irfanview: File/slideshow  
<http://www.irfanview.com> Slide Show Feature in Irfanview: File/slideshow

**Almacén de Cuentos Garabato**: Fairy Tales in Spanish on line; text, audio, video  
<http://pacomova.eresmas.net/>

**International Keyboard**: My instructions on several ways enable typing accented vowels in Spanish  
<http://academic.cuesta.edu/rsutter/keyboard.html>

**Porta**: Create customized slide shows quickly with this Freeware program  
<http://www.stegmann.dk/mikkel/porta/>

Ralph Sutter

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## *February 1st, 2009 Main Meeting Review by John Waller*

### **Go GaGa Over Google**

Our presenter today was **Ted Lester** (SLO Bytes member). He gave an overview of Google and its special features. He discussed Google which is an impersonal service, and iGoogle which is a personal service. While Google is straight-forward search service, iGoogle allows you to have a customized page. There are modules for displaying news, entertainment, games, etc.

He then covered various features of Google, such as Google Mobile, which allows you to query Google on your cell phone. There is Google Book Search which allows you to perform searches on books of all types, and to read some or all of them. Google Earth has just been updated to include viewing the ocean floor, and the surface of Mars. Another interesting feature is that Google Maps can work with GPS equipped cell phones.

There was a lot more that he mentioned, he pointed out that his seminar on Google actually runs two or more days (he gives seminars on cruise ships, which is a nice job if you can get it. He also provides seminars for corporations, all on Google). The presentation was excellent and gave us a lot of meat on the Google bone to chew on.

John Waller

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## ***Kaye Raul's Programming Schedule by Kaye Raul***

**LINUX... "Put the fun back into computing"** will be the subject of the main presentation at the March 1st meeting of the SLO Bytes PC Users Group. Linux is an alternative to Microsoft's Windows and Apple's MAC operating systems. The big difference is that it's FREE to use and will run on modern desktop or laptop computers.

**Alan Raul** will demonstrate how to use Linux in everyday computing tasks such as browsing the Internet, checking your e-mail, listening to music, watching videos, viewing and editing your digital photos, etc. A variety of Linux distributions from different companies will be demonstrated. You will see how to run the Linux operating system from a CD, DVD and USB flash drive without affecting your present operating system.

Alan has coordinated a local San Luis Obispo Linux Users Group for over 10 years. He presents Linux as a tool to get things accomplished on the computer using the point-n-click method and minimizes the command line as much as possible. Users in this local group have varied backgrounds from scientific and technical to computer enthusiasts with an age range of 13 to 80. More information on this Linux Users Group can be found at <http://kcbx.net/~araul/linux.htm>

### **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 1 March, 2009 meeting:**

**At 12:45 PM, Alan Raul** will be moderating the Question and Answer session

**At 2:30 PM, Alan Raul** will give his Linux presentation

Looking ahead to April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, our presenter will be **Steve Morse**. One day prior to his SLO Bytes presentation, Dr. Morse will also make a presentation to the San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society. Here is additional information about the presentation to the Genealogical Society.

#### **April 4, 2009 General Meeting "Hodgepodge" - Steve Morse**

\* **11:00 AM** - Board Meeting

\* **12:30 - 1:00 PM** - Research Class: **"Questions & Answers on Jewish & Eastern European Research"** with **Steve Morse**

\* **1:00 PM** - Business Meeting

\* **1:15 - 1:45 PM** - Social time; book & drawing sales, snacks, coffee & tea

\* **1:45 PM** - **"Hodgepodge"** - **Steve Morse**

Steve will describe certain gems and tools for searching the One-Step website he created and the internet of which you might not otherwise be aware. He'll discuss everything from genealogical search problems to identity theft risks to DNA issues. He has received many awards for his One-Step website, including two that he cannot pronounce from Polish genealogical societies. In his other life, Steve is a computer professional with an electrical engineering doctorate. He is best known as the architect of the Intel 8086 (the granddaddy of today's Pentium processor), which sparked the PC revolution 25 years ago. Here is more info on Steve Morse's Website: <http://www.stevemorse.org/>

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Go to <http://www.slobytes.org/newsletter/push/> to see the PUSH reviews. They come to us from Judy Tylour of APCUG, Editorial PUSH Committee Chair. Our Webmaster, Ralph Sutter, uploads these articles to our website. The actual PUSH articles are hyperlinked from Judy's reviews.

Take a look at <http://www.kcbx.net/training.html> 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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**February 2009 Treasurer's Report** by Robert Mires

<b>Income</b> (February)	
Renewing members	\$175.00
Refreshments receipts	37.00
<b>Expenses</b> (November)	
Hall rent	90.00
<b>Bank accounts @ 12-31-08</b>	
CD#44686	1,297.29
CD #41626	2,846.65
Saving Acct bal	54.72
Checking Acct bal	1,098.66
Interest YTD	179.00

**Renewing members:** Earl Gustafson, Dave McLaughlin, Robert Mires, Richard Rall, Martin Reed, David Shaw, and Peter Stonehewer

**New members:** none

Robert Mires, Treasurer

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**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](http://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 Officers/Volunteers**

- Ray Miklas - President (HardCopy Editor) rmiklas at pacbell.net
- Kaye Raul - Vice President (Programs Chair/Publicity) kmraul at sbcglobal.net
- Robert Mires - Treasurer (Membership/Publishing) rmires at sbcglobal.net
- Ralph Sutter - Secretary (Webmaster/HTML-Internet SIG) rsutter at cuesta.edu
- Alan Raul (General SIG/Linux SIG)
- Ben Hansen (Beginners SIG)
- Eugene Rheingans (Beginners SIG)
- Fred Cook (Beginners SIG)
- Don Jones (Photography SIG)
- John Waller (Contributing Columnist/Main Meeting Review)
- Nancy Vrooman (Refreshments/Contributing Columnist Photography SIG)
- Peter Stonehewer (Refreshments)
- Ken Stilts (Set-up/Clean-up)
- John Enos (Set-up/Clean-up)
- Bill Palmerston (Set-up/Clean-up)

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**SLO Bytes Website** <http://www.slobytes.org>