SLO Bytes HardCopy

A publication of the San Luis Obispo PC Users Group
Vol. 21 No. 7   July 2005

Alan's web links from the June 5, 2005 General Windows SIG by Alan Raul

A demonstration of Microsoft's "**Remote Desktop**" and "**Remote Assistance**" software was the main highlight of the June Windows SIG. These are "**remote control utility programs**" which allow you to control your own personal computer or someone else's computer.

Remote Assistance & Remote Desktop web links:
http://informationweek.com/story/IWK20030221S0012
http://snipurl.com/fds4

In the July 2005 issue of PC World magazine there's an article entitled "**Access Your Files and Apps From Anywhere For Free**." This article deals with Windows XP Professional's Remote Desktop and also speaks about other alternatives.
http://snipurl.com/fdvs

June 5, 2005 Main Meeting Review by Bill Avery

We start with a chance to visit in the break room, meet new members, chat about the past month, and share problems and solutions with each other, in our Coffee/Tea and Cookie Break, with great treats served by our volunteer hosts, Nancy Vrooman, and Peter Stonehewer.

Our club guests were also welcomed by President Ray Miklas, and he suggested that they may want to join SLO Bytes at our sign-in table, by speaking to Bob Mires, our Treasurer and Membership Chairman. Ray announced our club activities, which include the HTML and Linux Special Interest Group meetings. The SIGs are scheduled for the first Monday and Thursday evenings of every month, respectively, at Ralph Sutter's home in Arroyo and at the KCBX Training Center in SLO.

If you have pictures to share on our website, please bring your files on a CD-ROM, thumb-drive or floppy, for download to a laptop at the Treasurer's Table, for transfer to our web host, thanks to Ralph Sutter.

The sign-in table is also the place to checkout software which we can loan from our CD-ROM library. Also, recycle any old ink cartridges which you have saved from your printers - just drop them off at the table for Ray Miklas and Dave Grant to pickup after the meeting.

At 2:30 our featured speaker program was a surprise presentation by one of our own members, Jim Buenrostro, on setting up, configuring and using a WiFi home network. He started with a demonstration setting on up a WiFi network in the meeting hall, followed by a Question and Answer session on WiFi. This was a great opportunity to learn from a real expert on the subject. There were two aspects to Jim's demonstration: the Linksys Router/Hub and the laptop WiFi card. He bought these units on sale at Staples, and opened them in front of us, to illustrate how easy it is to install each of them, and set up a link between them. If we had access to a broadband connection in our main meeting hall, the Linksys router could have completed the connection to the Internet. We did see a weak signal from one of our neighbors, and several members had their laptops in operation for the demo.

To check out the available equipment at Staples, visit their site at:
http://staples.com/Catalog/Browse/category.asp?PageType=5&CategoryID=58
Their wireless networking lines include offerings from Linksys, Belkin, and Netgear. The older 802.11B and newer 802.11G standards are available in wireless access points/routers, desktop & notebook cards and adapters, multimedia, print servers, and starter kits. Pricing ranges from about $25 to $200 for most devices, with rebates listed for some units, and the best values are on clearance items, near the bottom of the scale. If you have any questions, call the Staples Broad Street store at 782-9881 or the Madonna Mall store at 546-6100, or email Jim at: jnb3@pge.com .

That's about it for now, and I will see you at the BBQ on the 3rd!

Don Jones' Featured Speaker Programming Schedule by Don Jones

Alan Raul will host his usual informative Q&A session from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. This is always one of our most popular activities primarily due to Alan's amazing ability to answer and clearly explain topics on nearly any computer-related subject.

At 2:00 PM we will break for a SLO Bytes Member's barbecue and their guests, first ever, barbecue picnic. Members are reminded to notify our President as requested earlier, if they intend to attend and/or intend to bring a guest/s, so we can have a good head count on attendance.

On August 7 our featured speaker is **Dennis Johansen**, Owner and Operator of *Jim's Campus Camera* who will give us an update on the fast-changing digital photography field. Most of the manufacturers introduce more equipment for the Holiday shopping season than any other time, and Dennis will give us his latest info on the coming season.

Webmaster's Notes by Ralph Sutter

I've placed some photos of my recent trip to Chile in the SLO Bytes Photo Gallery, http://www.slobytes.org/gallery/. I invite all members to submit their own photos for inclusion too. Bring them in digital form to any SLO Bytes meeting. I'll transfer them to my lap top and upload them to our photo gallery shortly thereafter.

Ralph Sutter
SLO Bytes Webmaster

Digital Photography SIG by Lou Pera

On Tuesday, June 21 a group, consisting of twelve of our members, headed by Don Jones, met at his house to explore the possibility of forming a Digital Photography SIG. It appears that there is, indeed, sufficient interest to do so. It was decided that regular meetings will be held at 7:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of each month. The emphasis will be on digital cameras, software, techniques, etc. with the possibility of future expansion into Camcorders and video production, should interest develop along those lines. The next meeting will take place on July 12, again at Don Jones' home located at 220 Coral Court, Pismo Beach. The location of future meetings has yet to be decided and may depend upon other members offering the use of their homes for the evening.

President's Message

July Meeting Schedule
At our July 3, 2005 meeting
At 1 PM, Alan will moderate a computer question/answer session
At 2:30 PM, We'll have our first ever SLO Bytes BBQ

Plans are well underway for our **July 3rd BBQ**. Bill Avery is heading up the BBQ planning committee consisting of Nancy Vrooman, Peter Stonehewer and Ray Miklas. It looks like we have enough volunteers to fill all the jobs to run this event.

As it looks now, we will have Alan's General SIG from 1-2 PM for members, guests and visitors and then we'll have a free BBQ for all members because SLO Bytes will fund this event. If you have special guest/s you would like to bring to our BBQ, a $5.00 donation by each guest would be appropriate. You will be able to pay for your guest at the Treasure's table at our July 3rd meeting.

August 5-7 Southwest User Group Conference, San Diego. www.swugconf.org Fun in the Sun & Computers, Too! This is the 12th annual conference offering fun-filled days packed with vendor presentations, great food, workshops, a chance to talk with user groupies from other UGs, and much more. The conference begins on Friday evening and ends with lunch on Sunday. Workshops are offered for UG leaders and members, and there are also workshops for enhancing the attendees' computer knowledge.

Editor's note: Admittance to all Workshops & Vendor Fair, plus 6 Meals is $40 if you make reservation by 15 July. Pretty good deal, IMHO.

PUSH 6-05.zip file came to me from **Judy Taylour of APCUG** Region 10 Chair and Editorial PUSH Committee Chair.

Webmastser's note:
I have extracted those zipped files. They are available by clicking on the corresponding files below.
       Adventures in Linux-land
       Another Silent Attack on Our Computers
       Cassette Music to CD
       Computer Hysteria
       Freecycle
       Google
       HandApped Independence
       Simple Passwords
       Tech+ News
(Ralph Sutter)

At www.phptr.com you can buy ***"Firefox & Thunderbird Garage"*** book (price: $24.95) for a 35% discount until 15 July 2005. The discount is extended to SLO Bytes as members of APCUG. The book, Instructions how to order and the coupon code will be available for your inspection at the Treasurer's table on 3 July 2005 meeting.

Peter Stonehewer has already ordered the book and here is what he said about it: "I ordered that book from PH. Used the code and got it for $16.24 plus $1.18 tax total $17.42 , with free ground shipping via UPS. Joined their club thing and got another 35% off my next book. Also they are sending a 35% coupon to give to a friend for the Firefox book. Not too shabby"

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.

Finally, we have a copy of **Windows XP Service Pack 2 info. CD** to check out which has a 20 min. video you can run giving you the overview of what SP 2 has to offer.

If you still are in need of **Windows XP Service Pack 2** CD for upgrading you O/S, contact me and I will give you one.

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
May 24, 2005 - June 24, 2005

    Income

Renewal members	$125.00
New members	50.00
Refreshments	25.40
Donations:	
B. Ward CD sleeves	0.50

    Expenses

Hall rent	75.00

    Bank accounts @4/30/05

Saving Acct Balance	3,177.36
Checking Acct Balance	1,989.55
Interest- year to date	20.31

New members: Two
  Jim & Judy Conklin
  Andrew Blasquez
Renewing members: five

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 General Meeting at Ralph Sutter's home in Arroyo Grande. Call Ralph at (805) 489-8678 for directions.

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

SLO Bytes Officers/Volunteers
Ray Miklas (President, HardCopy Editor) rmiklas@bigfoot.com
Don Jones (V.P./Programs/Publicity) donej@sbcglobal.net
Robert Mires (Treasurer/Membership/Publishing) rmires@sbcglobal.net
Ralph Sutter (Secretary/Webmaster/HTML-Internet SIG) rsutter@cuesta.edu
Bill Avery (Contributing Columnist/Win95/98/XP SIG) wavery@slonet.org
Alan Raul (General SIG/Linux 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