

The
Gigabyte Gazette

The Monthly Newsletter

of the

***Sun City Summerlin
Computer Club***

August 2009

The Gigabyte Gazette

Table of Contents

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE 3

ISSUE CONTRIBUTORS 4

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS 4

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 4

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 5

AUGUST 2009 CALENDARS..... 5

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS 6

KAFFEE KLATCHES..... 8

AUGUST 2009 CLASSES..... 9

AUGUST 2009 SEMINARS12

WEB SURFING.....16

THE MAC CORNER.....18

SCSCC AUGUST LAB MONITORS20



President's Message

by Tom Burt

General Meeting

The Computer Club June General Membership Meeting will be held 7 PM Thursday, August 6th, at Desert Vista. Our program will feature Tom Burt (me), providing an overview of the Association's Information Technology systems and operations.

Our **September 3** program will feature John Fountain of Cox Communications talking about features and futures for Cox high-speed Internet service, along with some tips on how to get the most out of your Cox Internet connection.

Membership

As of July 23, we have **1124** new or renewed members. Our "**half year**" **dues rate** is in effect for the rest of 2009. See the [Membership](#) page for full details.

Education Activities for August

Rich Walko, Howard Verne and Edith Einhorn are our education program coordinators. We have a good line-up of classes, seminars and SIGs for August. See the [August calendar](#) as well as the Seminars, Classes, "SIGs" and "KKs" pages for full details. Our education program is one of the great benefits of belonging to the Club. No matter what your experience or skill level, you should find something to suit your needs.

Seminar Presenters and Class Instructors Needed

We would welcome a few more seminar presenters and class instructors to help share their knowledge with our members. If you're interested, send me an e-mail (tnburt@ieee.org) or call me at **702-341-7095**.

Lab Updates

The replacement HP 2015DN laser printer is installed and operational. We've added a video capture device to the iMac in the lab, along with a VCR player.

Technical News

On July 22, Microsoft released the Windows 7 operating system to manufacturing. We expect to have images of the final setup DVD in the lab in a few weeks, though members will have to buy their own Windows 7 product keys.

Issue Contributors

Carol Warman – Manager / Editor

Irene Burt	Tom Burt	Edith Einhorn
Nilda Fernandez	Dick Kling	Pat LeMay
Ed Rogers	Howard Verne	Rich Walko

Board of Directors Actions

There was no Computer Club Board of Directors meeting in July.

General Membership Meeting

The Computer Club August General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 6th, 7PM at Desert Vista. Tom Burt will be making a presentation on Sun City Summerlin Community Association's Information Technology Operations. Join us for this informative presentation, refreshments and fellowship. For Club information go to www.scsc.com , call Tom Burt, President at 341-7095 or email Tom at tburt@ieee.org.

Welcome New Members

Robert Altomondo
Anne Boozer
Dabbie Bowron
Donald Davidson
Reta Davidson
Kathleen Elle

Barbara Ford
Steven Peterson
Clara Vichare
Gangaram Vichare
Marilyn Watt

August 2009 Calendars

To view the August calendars, click the following hyperlink:

<http://www.scsc.com/Calendars/scsc calendar 2009-aug.pdf>

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide a forum for general discussion on a specific computer related subject. Admission to all SIGs is on a first-come, first-seated basis and is subject to the maximum allowed by fire code regulations. All of the following meetings are held in the Classroom.

The <W> or <M> indicate whether a SIG would be of interest to Windows or Macintosh users.

Creative Graphics <W/M>

1st and 3rd Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.

Mel Neiman (228-6727)

Featuring tips, tricks, demonstrations and giveaways with information on greeting cards, business cards, labels, simple desktop publishing, digital photo tips and using photos in your projects, creating slide show informational frames, using fonts and creating your own clipart from fonts, e-mail stationery and animated signatures, journaling, and scrapbooking using computers, new tools for publishing found in Printmaster.

Very basic photo imaging processing, using small utilities related to graphics, fonts and catalog.

Digital Media <W>

3rd Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

Tom Burt (341-7095)

The Digital Media SIG provides a forum for members interested in all aspects of computer-based digital sound and video to meet, discuss, and learn more about the topic. The SIG's target audience is intermediate to advanced digital media users, but all members are welcome.

Genealogy <W>

3rd Thursday, 1:00 p.m. (new time)

Charles Johnson (804-4943)

Genealogy is one of America's most popular and rewarding hobbies. Come; let us help you find your ancestors on the Internet. We will explore helpful, free, sites and assist you in building your family tree.

Hardware <W >

Every Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

George Lobue (256-0822)

This SIG provides **club members only** with no cost assistance for those having upgrades and/or problems with their computers. Bring in only your PC tower and your problems. Our TECH team will give you our best effort. Be sure to mark your cables so you can re-connect when you get home.

Linux SIG

2nd Wednesday at 1:00 P.M. and 4th Wednesday at 9:00 A.M., in the Classroom

Sy Bensky (242-6695)

Apart from the fact that it's **freely** distributed, Linux's functionality, adaptability and robustness, have made it a main alternative to Microsoft's operating systems. IBM, Hewlett-Packard and

The Gigabyte Gazette

other giants of the computing world have embraced Linux and support its ongoing development. More than a decade after its initial release, Linux is being adopted worldwide primarily as a server platform. Its use as a home and office desktop operating system is also on the rise. This Special Interest Group will investigate Linux's potentials and attributes.

Macintosh Users' Group <M>

2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Rose Mary D'Aloisio (255-2813)

Bill Euler (233-2351)

This is for Macintosh users of all experience levels. We will have Q&A, so bring your questions and/or problems.

Photoshop <W>

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

David Alexman (341-6533) and Zoltan Steiner (256-1161)

This SIG will provide you with an overview of many of the basic elements found in both Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Photoshop Elements, two extraordinary photo retouching, image editing, and color painting software programs. The Adobe Photoshop programs offer the tools to get professional-quality results. If you wish to enhance your photographs, this SIG will be most helpful and of great value. This SIG's target audience is intermediate to advanced digital imaging users, but all members are welcome.

Sun City Wings <W/M>

3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.

Ted Wagner (256-4037)

Using Microsoft's Flight Simulator program, we fly all kinds of airplanes from the 1903 Wright Flyer to a 400-passenger 747 jet airliner. Even helicopters are available. You can learn to fly airplanes or you can just enjoy beautiful sceneries around the world. The unrestricted view from the cockpit is something to experience. Those simulator programs have gotten "as real as it gets". We have a lot of fun. Please join us and take a look into the world of Flying.

KAFFEE KLATCHES

Kaffee Klatches provide a forum for general discussion on all computer-related subjects. Admission to all Kaffee Klatches is on a first-come, first-seated basis and is subject to the maximum allowed by fire code regulations. All of the following meetings are held in the Classroom.

Beginners Kaffee Klatch <W/M>

Every Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

Bill Wilkinson (233-4977)

If you are a novice or near-beginner computer user, or if you just want some refresher information together with a refreshing cup of coffee, then jump-start or recharge your computing knowledge by attending the BKK sessions. At each session, attendees will explore from one to four topics of particular interest to beginners and near-beginners. The topics are always announced a couple of days in advance via e-mail to SCSCC members who have subscribed to the club's message board. Each topic is presented in a step-by-step manner and is supported by "how to" notes that can be easily and conveniently downloaded from the BKK web page. Following each "up front" presentation of one or more topics (approximately 60 minutes in duration), an informal open-ended Question and Answer period takes place for those who wish to participate, listen, reflect, or inquire.

Q&A Kaffee Klatch <W/M>

Every Monday at 8:30 a.m.

Helen Perryman (363-7760)

This is a Q&A meeting is designed for everyone to ask questions and exchange ideas in a friendly atmosphere. No one knows it all and no question is too "dumb". We learn from answers to others' questions. If you need help with a computing problem, this just might be where you find the answer. We're here and you'll get a warm welcome!

"Intermediate / Advanced" Kaffee Klatch <W/M>

Every Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

Helen Perryman (363-7760)

This KK is aimed at intermediate and advanced users. However, all users are welcome. The KK discussions are not restricted to any one subject, but should be computer or technology related. We will try to help you keep your systems updated and provide some "tips and tricks". If you have a tip or information you would like to share, we encourage you to bring it in and share since the SCSCC is built on "neighbor helping neighbor". The fellowship is great, the coffee is good, and the education received from the KK attendees is priceless. If you are an intermediate or advanced user, stop by and have a cup of coffee with us

August 2009 Classes

Because there are a limited number of computer stations available for hands-on participation, pre-registration is necessary for all classes. See individual descriptions for details on how to register.



THE NEWLY UPDATED AND UPGRADED BOOT CAMP CURRICULUM WILL BE OFFERED IN AUGUST! Openings are Available to Novice Computer Users

In an effort to make the Boot Camp curriculum keep up with the times as well as comply with the perceived interests of the club's novice computer users, Boot Camp Instructor Bill Wilkinson has updated and upgraded the Boot Camp curriculum to include several more modules (chapters) and more than 20 additional step-by-step practice sets. Overall, the new curriculum (previously revised exactly a year ago) contains 32 pages of additional information. It was launched in May.

The next class will be held on August 3, 4, 6, 10 and 11, with each session scheduled from 9:00 AM until 12 noon.



Registration Details:

To register or seek additional information, please telephone **Susie Scott at 242-9745 or 239-8986 (cell)**. She will arrange to register your friends for an upcoming class and collect the course fee.

Prerequisites: Must be a Club member (\$20 fee for new members) and own a computer with the Microsoft WINDOWS operating system installed.

Fee: Fifteen dollars (\$15.00), which includes a 126-page participant's manual, a CD, and a portable flash drive.

Course Description:

The Gigabyte Gazette

Boot Camp is an introductory course designed for members who are new to computing and/or the Microsoft Windows operating system. This hands-on class has a limited enrollment of 12 with each participant working at an individual computer station in the Computer Lab. A multi-member team of lead instructor and coaches will provide step-by-step instruction that will include demonstrations, guided practice and individual coaching assistance.

Participants will be introduced to the basic vocabulary and concepts necessary to establish an understanding of Windows. They will be instructed in practical strategies for managing and organizing their own data files, will be introduced to word processing, email, and the Internet, and will learn how to read and write data from and to a compact disk and a portable thumb drive. Those participants who own a digital camera will enjoy a demonstration on how to copy and paste photos from the camera to their hard drive, utilizing the newly acquired skills of file management.



Firefox

Wednesday, Aug 19, at 1PM

Location: Computer Lab

Instructor: Howard Verne

Mozilla Firefox is a fast, full-featured Web browser. Version 3 includes a bevy of new features and changes, including a redesigned address bar pull-down menu that includes bookmarks and history, a new add-on manager, the ability to pause and resume downloads, malware protection, a better password manager, and OS-specific themes. No longer a fledgling upstart, Firefox 3 is full-featured, lightning fast, and an able Internet Explorer foe. Many knowledgeable computer users have moved from Microsoft's Internet Explorer to Firefox. Firefox 3 makes that decision even more appealing.

This hands-on class has a limited enrollment of 12 with each participant working at an individual computer station. A multi-member team of lead instructor and coaches will provide step-by-step instruction that will include demonstrations, guided practice and individual coaching assistance. There is no fee for this class.

Registration: To register, send an email with your first and last name, association number, and the words "**FIREFOX**" in the body of your message to hverne@yahoo.com. If you do not receive a reply from Howard within 24 hours, please contact him at 363-5337.

Handout: Can be found at <http://www.scsc.com/smnr/FireFox.pdf>. Please print it out and bring it to class.



Introduction to Word Processing

Wednesday, August 26, at 1:00 pm

Location: Computer Lab

Instructor: Marilyn Gramms

Using *Microsoft Word 2003*, one of the industry's premier word processing programs, learn basic concepts applicable to all word processing programs and many other computer applications. Skills include creating, formatting, and editing a document; using cut, copy and paste; and saving a document using the "save" and "save as" commands.

Prerequisites: Must be a Club member who has completed Boot Camp or have comparable experience with the Windows operating system. This hands-on class is limited to 12 participants.

Registration: Although there is no fee for this course, advanced registration is required. To register, send an e-mail message to mgramms@cox.net. In the text area of the message, include your first and last name, your Sun City Association number, plus the words "**WORD PROCESSING**". Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. All registration requests will be acknowledged.

August 2009 Seminars

No advanced registration is necessary for any of our seminars unless otherwise noted. Seating is on a “first-come, first-seated” basis.



Advanced Search Techniques and Alternative Search Engines: From Google to Ebay

Wednesday, August 12, 1PM

Location: Computer Classroom

Presenter: Howard Verne

A search engine is a program that searches for information and Websites on the Internet. AltaVista, Excite, Yahoo, Ask (aka AskJeeves), Bing, and Google are just a few of the most popular search engines. This seminar will provide some practical suggestions for conducting an advanced search and in so doing provide you with some ways to narrow your search list down to a manageable and useful size (Most search engines today have an advanced search capability). Strategies to be discussed include stemming, wildcards, category searches, image searches, news item searches, language tools (including translation), product searches, mail order catalog searches, document title searches, and Weblog (aka blog) searches.

A single search engine is not always sufficient, however. For example, less than half the searchable Web is fully searchable in Google. Overlap studies show that more than 80% of the pages in a major search engine's database exist only in that database. Getting a "second opinion" is therefore often worth your time. This presentation will include some of these second opinion recommendations.

The techniques used to find things at *Google* can also be used at many other sites such as *Amazon* and *EBay*.

Handout: Can be found at <http://www.scsc.com/smnt/Search%20Engines6.pdf>. Please print it out and bring it to the seminar.



Seminar: Gmail and Other Google Programs

Presenter: Pat Lemay

Location: The SCSCC Classroom

Wednesday, August 19, at 9:30 AM

Do you think Gmail (aka Google Mail) is just another email program? If you do, you are wrong. Gmail has nearly three gigabytes of free storage, so you can keep emails stored on their server – not on your computer. Email attachments open on their server so the chance of getting a virus is almost impossible. The best part is that with a Gmail account you have access to numerous other programs.

This Seminar will also cover creating documents and spreadsheets that will be stored on their server. Would you like to safely store 4,000 photographs on their server? This Seminar will show you how.

If your computer ever crashes, you will **never** lose the information in your Google email account, or your documents, spreadsheets and photographs. You can also access the above information from any computer in the world with your user name and password.

The best part – it is all FREE! Pat’s presentation notes are available by clicking this link:

http://scscc.com/smnr/GMAIL_and_Other_Google_Programs.pdf



Basic Home Networking—Wired and Wireless

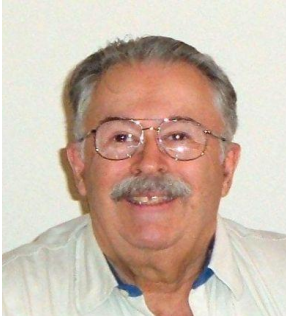
Thursday, August 27, at 9AM

Location: Computer Classroom

Presenter: Tom Burt

Many households now have two (or more) PCs. How do you take advantage of the power of networking to get the most out of your multiple systems? This 2 1/2 hour seminar describes all aspects of setting up and securing a mixed wired and wireless home network. We will survey both wired and wireless networking equipment and software. We'll demonstrate how to set up your wireless network equipment to create a mixed wired and wireless LAN and how to secure it from undesired outside access. We'll also briefly review how to share files, printers and your cable or DSL Internet connection between two or more PCs. And we'll keep some time open to answer your networking questions. This seminar will include wired and wireless networking on both Windows XP and Vista. This seminar's target audience is users who are pretty comfortable with their PC and Windows and want to move up to taking better advantage of having multiple PCs.

Handout: Can be found at http://www.scscc.com/smnr/basic_home_networking.pdf. Please print it out and bring it to class.



Basic Mail Merge

Thursday, August 27, at 1:00 PM

Location: Computer Classroom

Presenter: Paul Warman

Do you have address lists on your computer that you want to use to send “snail-mail” to a large group of people? How can you do this without having to address every envelope one-by-one? Do you send out a Holiday letter every year which is identical except for some personalization?

Join us for a Word seminar that will explore the Mail-Merge function in detail using a step-by-step demonstration. We will build a file of addresses for those who don't already have one on their computer. Once we have created an address list and used this list to create labels and letters, other uses of mail merge will be explored, time permitting. The seminar will be held on Thursday afternoon, August 27th, at 1 P.M. in the Computer Club Classroom.

This is the first time in recent history (since 2005) that this topic will be explored in depth in an SCSCC setting. Do not miss this opportunity to make your computer do what you want it to do!

There will be a handout in the seminar section of the website:
<http://www.scsc.com/smnr/Basic Mail Merge by the Numbers.pdf>.

Please print this handout and bring it with you to this exciting seminar.



**Welcome to the Computer Club!
New Member Orientation**

**Presenter: Tom Burt
Monday, August 31, at 1:00 pm, in the Classroom**

This session is designed to introduce new members to the many benefits that are available to them as participants in the Sun City Summerlin Computer Club. We will provide you with an overview of our Website, our monthly online newsletter (the Gigabyte Gazette), our electronic bulletin board, our three Kaffee klatches, our ten Special Interest Groups, our classes, our seminars, and our monthly meetings. In addition, we will show participants how to gain access to our exclusive chatline (Helpinghandsonline) and our club announcement line (Admin List). Further, we will provide a physical survey of the equipment that is available for use in our lab facility and show you how you can use our library of instructional books, manuals, compact disks, and video tapes. Last, but not least, we will respond to any questions that you may have about any aspect of the club.



Web Surfing by Dick Kling

How You View the World

Get inspired thanks to these fascinating videos from the TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) Conference. The list of "Ten Videos to Change How You View the World" includes such notable speakers as Richard Dawkins, Stephen Petranek, and Hans Rosling.

<http://tr.im/nbt8>

A Wiser Earth

Welcome to WiserEarth.Org, a cool community directory that connects non-governmental organizations (NGO) and individuals who are active in addressing the central issues of our day. Like-minded activists and organizations are able to use the site to network and work together in fighting global challenges related to Climate Change, Poverty, the Environment, Peace, Water, Hunger, Human Rights, Etc.

Search the Wiser Earth website and virtual directory to find organizations, employment opportunities, fellow activists, upcoming events, and other resources related to a specific cause. The entire site's content is created and edited by the people who share the common desire for a "Just and Sustainable World Created by Community".

<http://wiserearth.org/>

The Food Museum

Welcome to "The Food Museum", a tasty online resource for gastronomes, epicureans, chefs, cooks, homemakers, and enthusiastic eaters everywhere. The delicious website is fully stocked with food-related photography, news, exhibits, history, and much more information about the wide world of food and drink.

The Gigabyte Gazette

Search for a specific food or simply rummage through the site's many categories, which include Temporary, Seasonal, and Permanent Exhibitions, Articles, as well an interesting section on Food Heritage.

<http://www.foodmuseum.com/>

Flight Delay Info

The holidays are here, which means that many of us will have to endure the chaos of airline travel in order to experience the joy of seeing family or the peace of taking a sunny vacation. Travelers will want to bookmark this useful government website, which provides flight delay information directly from the FAA's "Air Traffic Control System Command Center".

Passengers, as well as friends and family members, can easily search the site's virtual map by entering a specific Region, Airport, Airport Code, or City. This is a great way to track flights and monitor delays at every commercial airport in the United States, from the comfort of your computer. Happy Trails!

<http://www.fly.faa.gov/flyfaa/usmap.jsp>

Why Oh Why?

Of all the questions that have ever been posed, none is as potent or dangerous as the seemingly innocent query "Why?". Asking "Why?" has arguably been the greatest driving force behind our curiosities, interests, passions, pain, suffering, progress, existential crises, discovery, and philosophical ponderings.

The "Tell Me Why Facts Blogspot" is an informative site that provides concise answers to pondering questions on a wide range of interesting, random, and eccentric topics. Check out the site to "tap into the collective wisdom of factual knowledge" and answer such pressing questions as "Why is the Sky Blue?" and "Why do Stars Twinkle?"

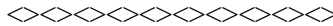
<http://www.tellmewhyfacts.com/>



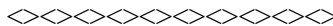
The Mac Corner

by Ed Rogers

“*PosteRazor*,” [<http://tr.im/tV9N>] is a terrific, free, easy-to-use app, with a wizard-like interface, designed to split up an image and separate the parts onto multiple pages. As a result you can make posters to cover just about any size area you wish.

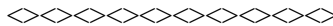


If you’re a Mac newbie, or need a few refreshers, [<http://tr.im/tVjV>] is an “About.com:Mac” website with simple to understand directions for a number of questions you might have. Go there to learn about or solve problems with System Preferences, Creating Accounts, Using the Finder, Backups and Archiving, FAQs and a Glossary of Mac and Apple Terminology.

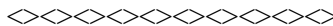


Want to create your own keyboard shortcut? Recent versions of the Mac OS allow you to create keyboard shortcuts for many applications. To do what you’re after, launch System Preferences, select the Keyboard & Mouse item, and in the resulting window click the Keyboard Shortcuts tab. At the bottom of the window click the Plus (+) button.

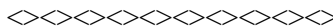
In the sheet that appears choose Safari from the Application pop-up menu and, in the Menu Title field enter Merge All Windows. Click in the Keyboard Shortcut field and enter a shortcut—Command-Option-M, for example. Click the Add button in the sheet and close System Preferences. When you return to Safari you’ll discover the keyboard shortcut assigned to the Merge All Windows command in the Windows menu.



E-mail a link: A very handy shortcut is Shift + Command + I. This neat shortcut will automatically set up an e-mail in your main e-mail application with a link to the web page you are currently browsing.



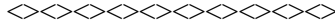
Print Selection Service 2.0 [<http://tr.im/uOfI>] adds a “Print Selection” command to the Services menu that allows you to print the current selection in any Services-savvy application. This is not only a time saver, but adds a feature still missing from Mac OS’s. (See next paragraph for more information on “Services.”)



The Gigabyte Gazette

The Services menu resides in a program's application menu (in Safari, for instance, go to Safari: Services). When you visit the Services menu, you'll find both stand-alone commands (such as Spotlight or Search With Google) and the names of certain programs, each with its own submenu of actions. All Apple software works with Services.

Services provide system wide commands that allow you to quickly accomplish a variety of tasks, such as sending Mail messages lickety-split or making a new Stickies note from a selection. If you're not already using the Services menu, check it out; you'll soon discover how it can boost your productivity.



The Computer Club's Mac SIG meets the 2nd and 4th
Tuesday of each month in the Classroom At 6:30 PM.
Come to learn, ask questions, and share ideas with fellow Mac users.

SCSCC August LAB MONITORS

Mallonee, Bill Pickell, Don	August 1 Sat
Taylor, Millie Wessler, Norm	August 3 Mon
Jarzomb, Leo Warhaftig, Ann	August 5 Wed
Cohen, Fred Mannlein, Lowana	August 8 Sat
Bulach, Edna Hopkins, Enid	August 10 Mon
Scott, Susie Brennan, Tom	August 12 Wed
Smith, Opal York, Blanche	August 15 Sat
Halvorson, Marilyn Hamilton, Marti	August 17 Mon
Collins, Tamara Palubinskas, John	August 19 Wed
Zuzich, John Enlow, Jim	August 22 Sat
Ayers, Lois Ayers, John	August 24 Mon
Lehr, Charles Brennan, Tom	August 26 Wed
Kinn, Rebecca Wiens, Ed	August 29 Sat
Burt, Irene Southwell, Jeff	August 31 Mon