

The
Gigabyte Gazette

The Monthly Newsletter

of the

***Sun City Summerlin
Computer Club***

March 2010

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President's Message

by Edith Einhorn

General Meeting:

We meet monthly on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in Desert Vista. Our guest speaker at the **March 4th** meeting is SMSgt Daniel Oien, Squadron Superintendent at Creech Air Base. Sgt. Oien will speak about the Predator drone, remotely controlled from Nevada, and its role in our current military operations. Please join us for a very interesting program and refreshments.

Membership: If you haven't yet renewed your membership, Lab monitors are available to take your check every Wednesday and Saturday morning between 9:00 am and noon or every Monday afternoon from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Dues are \$15.00 for one person and \$25.00 for two people living in the same household. This is probably the best deal in town when you consider all the activities, educational opportunities and computer services available to members at no additional cost.

Communications: A new member recently asked me how she could learn about Computer Club activities. Here were my suggestions.

1. Arrange to receive email messages from the Club by subscribing to the **Admin Line**, our major form of communication with our members. You will receive information regarding meetings, seminars, classes and SIGs. To find out how to subscribe, go to www.scs-cc.com, click on About SCSCC in the upper right hand corner, and then look at the left-hand column.
2. While you are on our website, read the **Gigabyte Gazette**, our monthly newsletter. Here you can read descriptions of all the seminars and classes being offered in the current month.
3. Subscribe to **Helping Hands on Line**. This is an interactive chat line dedicated to computer related issues. Once you are a subscriber, you can ask questions or simply read others' questions and responses. To find out how to subscribe, go to www.scs-cc.com, click on About SCSCC in the upper right hand corner, and then look at the left-hand column.
4. If you prefer to speak to someone in person, go to the lab during any of **the Open Lab** times (Mondays 1-4 pm or Wednesdays and Saturdays 9 am – noon).

In a continuing effort to make the **Gigabyte Gazette** more interesting and useful to our members, Editor Carol Warman is seeking your input. Click on the following hyperlink:

http://www.scs-cc.com/index_survey.html to take a short survey telling us what you find most and least valuable, together with your suggestions.

I'm looking forward to see you all on March 4th.

With all best wishes,

Edith

838-7267

Issue Contributors

Carol Warman – Manager / Editor

Irene Burt	Tom Burt	Edith Einhorn
Nilda Fernandez	Pat LeMay	Howard Verne
Rich Walko		

Board of Directors Actions

The Computer Club Board of Directors took the following actions on Wed. Feb. 10, 2010.

Carol Warman made a motion that the agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded by Ed Barkin and approved by the Board.

Carol Warman made a motion that December 25, 2010 and January 1, 2011 be added to the Club holiday closing calendar. The motion was seconded by Irene Burt and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.

General Membership Meeting

The Computer Club March General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 4th 7PM at Desert Vista. Senior Master Sergeant Dan Oien from Creech Air Force Base, NV will be discussing the Predator and its role in the current situation. Join us for this informative presentation, refreshments and fellowship. For Club information go to www.scs-cc.com, call Edith Einhorn, President at 838-7267 or email Edith at eunicorn@cox.net.

Welcome New Members

David Ambacher
Delores Carney
Sol Catain
Patricia Eastley
Iris Fleming
Donald Khouri
Warren Knight
Marilyn Kristal
Dean Malloy
Greg Moo

Jan Moo
Stuart Newman
John Novicky
Judy Otteson
Susan Papilion
Daniel Quesada
Norley Sirott
Jo Tomey
June Tuma
Art Withington

March 2010 Calendars

To view the March calendars, click the following hyperlink:

http://www.scs-cc.com/Calendars/scscc_calendar_2010-mar.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>

2nd Thursday, 10:00 a.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), Chuck Wolff (233-6634)

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 inherent security, functionality, adaptability and robustness, have made it a viable alternative to Microsoft Windows. IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Oracle, Intel and 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 (e.g. Google runs on Linux). In addition, its use as a home and office desktop operating system is on the rise. More recently, Linux is being adopted for use in Netbook computers and is the operating system of choice in many handheld devices such as smart phones. This Special Interest Group will provide help and information about using Linux on the desktop and investigate Linux's potentials and attributes.

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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)

Dark until further notice

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.

Sy Bensky (242-6695)

This KK is aimed at intermediate and advanced users. However, all users are welcome. The KK discussions are not restricted to any one subject--or computer platform--but should be computer or technology related. We will try to answer your questions, help you keep your systems updated and provide some useful "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.

March 2010 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.



Advanced Windows 7

Tuesday March 9, 1 PM

Location: SCSCC Computer Lab

Instructor: Howard Verne

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.

Prerequisites: Completion of *Windows7 Basics* class.

Registration: To register, send an email with your first and last name, association number, and the words “**ADVANCED Win7**” 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.scs-cc.com/smnr/Win7Adv.pdf>. Please print it out and bring it to class.



Boot Camp: For Members New to Computing or Windows

Dates: March 22, 23, 25, 29, 30 - all from 9 am to 12 noon

Each Boot Camp class is comprised of five three-hour sessions

Location: SCSCC Lab

Lead Instructor: Bill Wilkinson

Dates for the April Class:

APRIL 19, 20, 22, 26, 27, ALL FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON

Registration:

To be added to the wait list or seek additional information, please telephone **Faye Andrew at 242-4404** or revfave2000@aol.com. She will arrange to register you for an upcoming class, issue you the class materials and collect the course fee.

Course Description:

Boot Camp is an introductory course designed for members who are new to computing and/or the Microsoft Windows operating system. It also serves as an excellent review for intermediate users who want to fill some gaps in their computer knowledge.

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 four 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 important strategies for working successfully with word processing documents, 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 actively participate in a demonstration on copying photos from a camera to their hard drive, utilizing their newly acquired skills of file management.

Registration Details:

If you know of friends in the Sun City Summerlin community who may be interested in taking this class (see below for course description), would you let them know that this program is available? The class is designed to accommodate both the brand new computer user as well as the individual who would like to fill some gaps in his/her computer knowledge and experiences. The student manual is geared toward participants who use Windows XP, Windows Vista, or the new WINDOWS 7.

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To register or seek additional information, please telephone **Faye Andrew** at **242-4404** after 3:00 PM daily. She will arrange to register your friends for an upcoming class and collect the course fee.

Prerequisites: Must be a 2010 Club member (\$15 membership dues) and own a computer with the Microsoft WINDOWS XP, WINDOWS VISTA, or WINDOWS 7 operating system installed.

Course Fee Fifteen dollars (\$15.00); materials include a participant's manual, a CD, and a portable flash drive.



Excel 2007 For Beginners: For Members New to Excel

Tuesday, Mar 23; Thursday, Mar 25, 2010, 1 pm – 4 pm

Instructor: Malcolm Singer

Location: SCSCC Lab

Excel for Beginners is an introductory course designed for members who want to learn what they can do with Excel and how to do it. This hands-on class has a limited enrollment of 12 with each participant working at an individual computer station in the Computer Lab. A team, consisting of a lead instructor and two or three coaches, will provide step-by-step instruction that will include demonstrations, guided practice and individual coaching assistance.

Participants will learn the basic vocabulary and concepts necessary to understand Excel. They will learn to open existing files, and create, format, and save files of their own design. They will learn the basics of formulas and how to move, copy, insert and delete cells, columns, and rows. They will also learn about cell protection.

The course is composed of two (2) three-hour sessions. We will use the Windows Vista operating system. However, XP and Open Office users are welcome. References will be made to Excel 2003 under XP. The main difference is Excel 2007 uses ribbons instead of drop down menus.

Prerequisites: Must be a Club member and own or have access to a computer using Excel, Open Office, or compatible spreadsheet.

Fee: None

Registration: To register or seek additional information, please email **Malcolm Singer** malcolm@fedragons.com.



Google Chrome

Wednesday, March 31st, at 1:00 PM

Instructor: Howard Verne

Location: SCSCC Lab

Google Chrome is a fast, full-featured Web browser. The latest version includes a bevy of new features and changes, including a new extension manager, the ability to import bookmarks/favorites and the ability to sync them with Google Sync. No longer a fledgling upstart, Google Chrome is full-featured, lightning fast, and an able Internet Explorer foe. Many knowledgeable computer users have moved from Microsoft's Internet Explorer to Google Chrome. If you have been using Firefox, you will like Chrome. Most of the Firefox Add-ons are now available in Chrome.

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 "GOOGLE CHROME" 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 www.scs-cc.com/smnr. Please print it out and bring it to class.

March 2010 Seminars

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



How to Operate Your Digital Camera Workshop Part 1

Mon, March 1, 1 PM

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Presenter: Stu Gershon

Stu will present a workshop on how to operate your digital camera.

Workshop attendance is limited to 15, so pre-registration is required.
Register by e-mailing Stu Gershon at: stugershon@gmail.com.



Gmail and Other Google Programs

Wed March 3, 9 AM

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Presenter: Pat LeMay

Gmail is a **free**, search-based webmail service that combines the best features of traditional email with Google's search technology. Gmail makes locating messages so easy that you'll never need to shuffle mail in your inbox again. Besides offering an entirely new way of reading and tracking messages, Gmail includes over 7.4 GB of storage space -- and storage space is increasing daily. Email attachments open on their server which makes getting a virus almost impossible. Don't waste time with junk mail and unwanted messages. Gmail blocks spam before it gets to your inbox. If an unwanted message ever finds its way through, you can fight back by reporting it and help make their spam filters even better.

With a Gmail account you have access to numerous other programs such as creating and storing documents, spreadsheets and photographs. The storage of your email, documents, spreadsheets and photographs is on their server so you have access to your information from any computer by logging in with your user name and password. If your computer ever crashes, you will never lose your information since it is not stored on your hard drive.

Pat's presentation notes are available by clicking:

http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/GMAIL_and_Other_Google_Programs.pdf



Special Projects with Photos

Mon, March 15, 1:00 PM

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Presenter Stu Gershon

Stu will discuss interesting things you can do with your digital photos. Stu's outline may be viewed at: http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/Digital_Photos_Special_Projects.pdf



State of Nevada Security Freeze Program

Wed March 17, 9 AM

Location: SCSCC Classroom

Presenter: Pat LeMay

This seminar describes how senior Nevada residents (age 65 and older) can notify the three major credit monitoring agencies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) to place a Security Credit Freeze on their accounts for free. When you place a credit freeze on your credit report, you are telling the credit bureau not to release your credit report in situations where creditors are trying to open new credit accounts in your name. You will also learn how stop pre-approved credit offers through the mail as well as how to stop or limit the junk mail you receive.

Pat's presentation notes are available by clicking:

<http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr>



Introduction to PC Databases - CANCELLED

Thursday, March 25 at 9:00 AM
Location: SCSCC Classroom
Presenter: Tom Burt

Databases come in many forms and degrees of power. They are useful for organizing and retrieving information. Many PC applications are essentially pre-programmed interfaces to databases. This seminar will introduce you to database concepts and terminology and then look at several database programs that you can use to create customized database applications. We'll cover MS Excel, MS Access, the free Open-Office BASE and the free MS SQL Server Express. We'll also introduce the Structured Query Language (SQL) as well as visual query designers and we'll look at some basic relational database concepts.

The target audience for this seminar is intermediate to advanced PC users, but all members are welcome.

The presentation handout can be found at www.scs-cc.com/smnr.



Las Vegas & Beyond History and Travel in LV

Mon, March 29, 1 PM
Location: SCSCC Classroom
Presenter: Stu Gershon

Join Stu Gershon and relive the history, geography and culture of Las Vegas and it's surrounding areas in pictures and words at his presentation of "Las Vegas and Beyond" on Monday, March 29th at 1PM in the Classroom.

For your added enjoyment of the class, Stu suggests that you bring a copy of the Handout:

http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/Las_Vegas_and_Beyond.pdf

AND a copy of the included MAP: http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/Las_Vegas_Map.pdf.

SCSCC March LAB MONITORS

Taylor, Millie Wessler, Norm	March 1 Mon
Jarzomb, Leo Lehr, Charles	March 3 Wed
Pickell, John Mannlein, Lowana	March 6 Sat
York, Blanche Hopkins, Enid	March 8 Mon
Scott, Susie Brennan, Tom	March 10 Wed
Cohen, Fred Enlow, Jim	March 13 Sat
Halvorson, Marilyn Hamilton, Marti	March 15 Mon
Mallonee, Bill Collins, Tammy	March 17 Wed
Helling, Bonnie Helling, Dean	March 20 Sat
Ayers, John Ayers, Lois	March 22 Mon
Palubinskas, John Scott, Susie	March 24 Wed
Pun, Raymond Zuzich, John	March 27 Sat
Southwell, Jeff Gramms, Marilyn	March 29 Mon
Pollet, John Raldiris, Ralph	March 31 Wed