

Random Bits

Licking County Computer Society

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<http://www.lccsohio.org>

<http://lccsohio.org/meeting.htm>

<http://www.apcug.net/>



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**December
Election!!**

SPECIAL NOTICE

The November meeting is very important!

The LCCS is in a precarious position due to our increasing membership. The bylaws force us to have a large number of members present to conduct business at the monthly General Meeting. Without the number of members present we don't reach a quorum and cannot vote on issues. The Executive Committee has proposed a change to the bylaws and we intend to vote at the dinner/netbook raffle/General Meeting, November 5th.

Currently 20% (45) members are required for a constitutional change. The Executive Committee would like to change the percentage to 10%. This would reflect a number within the usual attendance range.



While on vacation in Hawaii, on the island of Kauai, City of Kapaa, we saw this sign. The island is so small it has no taxi service and yet, here is a computer hospital! The main highway is 1 hour and 30 minutes end to end. The longest secondary road is 28 miles long. One side of the island has cacti while the north side is a rain forest and the highest point receives 480 inches of rain per year. This is the most relaxed vacation spot we have ever found.

The Licking County Computer Society will have their Annual Banquet on November 5th, 2009 at 6:00pm at Zerger Hall in the large banquet room.

All members are urged to attend.

The cost for the meal will be \$6 per member. The cost for a nonmember is \$12.

The menu this year will be:

ENTRÉE: Roast Beef and Parmesan Crusted Chicken

POTATO: Mashed with gravy

VEGETABLES: Green Beans

SALAD CHOICES: Tossed Salads (Choice of 3 dressings)

DESSERT: Cake

APPETIZERS: To be announced

We will have our November General Membership Meeting this night at 7 pm, followed by a demonstration by our Digital Photography SIG. The drawing for either a Laptop or Netbook is next. This drawing is FREE to members only, this is a door prize for the general meeting and members can purchase additional chances for \$1 each.

Please plan to attend. If a quorum is NOT achieved at that evenings General Membership Meeting the laptop/netbook WILL NOT be given away. You need not attend the banquet to be counted for quorum or receive the raffle ticket.

Reservations are required for the dinner.

Please contact Fay Mills 740-364-9973 or email:

mmils15@roadrunner.com.

You may also Contact Lori Brown 740-323-3562 or

email: ambrown1@windstream.net.

A third option is mailing a check with your name and address and phone number on it.

We need a quorum for a constitution/bylaw change. Right now we need 20% of paid members to vote at the general meeting and since we have around 200 members that means we need 40 at a meeting. We want to change 20% to 10% to be sure of a quorum at future meetings.

NEW LAPTOP OR NETBOOK WILL BE GIVEN AWAY AT
THE GENERAL MEETING IF WE HAVE A QUORUM.

Folks, it's been a wild summer.

Bob Vance ramrodded the APCUG National/Regional meeting at Cherry Valley Lodge and Jim Amore, once again, led the Recycling Event. John Dovjak has provided many hours of support on two fronts; refurbishing and recycling. George Hreha is guiding the Teaching/Zerger Classroom while Dave Clement, Dave Rauch, JC Deck and John Kennedy worked many many hours to install the new teaching computers. The Executive Committee has had to wrestle several difficult problems. Dave Bibler, Jon Luzio and the Trustees are a few of the others who make our club function.

Our Coumputer Society has many active members ranging from age 18 to 90+. There were at least two people over 90 at the Recycling event, all three days. for 6 to 8 hours each day. Men and women worked side by side in the hot sun to reclaim equipment from the waste cycle. There will be more than 50 pallets of scrap counted when the final tally is available. More than 20 computers were rescued for refurbishing.

Teachers and aides currently have 9 active classes with approximately 82 students enrolled in basic and advanced courses. Zerger Hall has an existing spring class waiting list so, if you want to take a class you should enroll early.

The most popular current SIG(Special Interest Group) is the Digital Image SIG. The different SIGs have enjoyed periods of high attendance and low. We have been flexible with SIGs, suspending them when interest wanes and creating new when appropriate.

What's my point? The above tasks are more like work but done for pleasure. They are demanding of time, a test of personal will and ability, and a service to like minded individuals in our LCCS. Our core group has been extremely busy this summer and I would like to thank all the volunteers for the hard work and personal sacrifice they've given.

Forgive me for missing names. Like many members, I don't hear or see all the behind the scenes actions.

The Editor



APCUG ANNUAL OHIO MIDWEST REGIONAL COMPUTER CONFERENCE

Friday Night:

The conference began Friday afternoon with a sign in and pickup of the welcome bags in the lobby of the Cherry Valley Lodge. Following the sign in was the required Annual Business Meeting.

During the Business Meeting, attendees got a chance to know each other by introducing themselves. Some information shared with the other attendees was their name the name of the club they were affiliated with, and what position they held in the club. Also they shared what hobbies they are interested in and anything unusual that they did or any special honors they might have had.

At this event the many volunteers from the Licking County Computer Society and other clubs were thanked and presented with a certificate. Of special mention was Peter Hess for his A/V Technical and for video taping the various workshop sessions. Also I would like to mention Rose Conley who has supported and publicize the conference from it's inception.

After the business meeting there was a meet and greet with free pizza provided by the Licking County Computer Society. The pizza and meet and greet was held in the beautiful lobby area of the Cherry Valley Lodge. Later in the evening Jim Amore, President of the Licking County Computer Society, provided a tour of our recycling/repair facility at the A-Frame.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spMlx0nVmhQ>

Saturday:

The morning started off with a breakfast consisting of fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, danish, muffins, and fresh orange juice and cranberry juice. Coffee and Tea were also available.

After the breakfast there as a very informative presentation by Scott Moore from Ai Squared. As VP of Marketing, Scott manages the marketing staff in the development and creation of: product manuals.

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

The morning meal and vendor presentation concluded and the attendees moved on to select from the various workshops or technical sessions that were offered.



**APCUG ANNUAL
OHIO MIDWEST REGIONAL
COMPUTER CONFERENCE**
Saturday continued:

In the Technology track there was a presentation by John Kennedy of the Licking County Computer Society on Portable Applications.

The User Group Information Track provide a chance for the attendees to learn about Live Meeting and how it works. This presentation was done as a remote presentation by Don Singleton who was conducting the session from Oklahoma to the attendees in Newark, Ohio

In the IT Professional Track a presentation on the Evolution of PC Operating Systems was conducted by Bethy Lynn Eicher from the Ohio Linux Fest Corporation. Her workshop focused on the declining market share of Microsoft in the Personal Computer Market. She also pointed out the increase interest in the Linux and Open source based options.

The second workshop technical sessions were

limited to two choices since one of the User Group Information sessions had an unforeseen cancellation.

This still left two very interesting and informative presentations in the Technology track and the IT Professional Track.

Raynola StClair from the Licking County Computer Society and President of the (LCGS) Licking County Genealogical Society provide a workshop session on using a computer to facilitate your genealogical research. She also provided some excellent web sites to aid in your research.

Please go to the document link below to read the full report.

http://sites.google.com/site/lccsnewsletter/linked_documents/OhioMidwestRegional09.odt?attredirects=0

There are more than 50 web links for genealogy in the document.

Other presenters on Saturday and Sunday have important links also. We have responses from attendees in addition to links at the end of the article.

COMPUTER RECYCLING EVENT**By Jim Amore**

We cancelled the usual recycling event in May due to economic reasons. Our recycler felt they needed to charge us to get rid of the scrap. We decided it would be inappropriate for the club to pay for what amounted to an environmental cleanup.

We tried to work with our original recycler for the September event but, as the date approached, he was no longer working at the same company. As the deadline drew within a couple weeks of the event, Terry Hill found a contact in Columbus that would take everything and possibly pay a little for the scrap. We again attempted to contact Joe, but he had given us a wrong number so we were thankful Terry was able to bail us out.

The event went flawlessly.

We even had some new people on the fork lift to help us out...we have pictures. Be sure to check the link at the end of the article to see the pictures of the event. The new recycler had us stretch wrap everything to the skids which meant we had to learn how to secure the loads on the skids.

We had two beautiful days for the event. Sunshine without being oppressively hot and a hint of a breeze through the warehouse saved us when we needed a break.

The donations from the public were enough to cover our expenses and we made a couple hundred profit. As always, the event would not happen without all the volunteers and everyone working together. This is a great event that everyone can join in and have fun.

TUX Note

What do you do when your windows installation dies and you don't have a windows install disk? Load a linux CD, save important files from the drive, INSTALL LINUX, reinstall important files. Done.



This is what Saturday morning looked like. We had to evaluate and sort this mess.



The evaluation area. We had as many as six workers at the tables.



The best driver we could find. JC Deck, the loose nut behind the wheel.



About half the pallets stacked and packed for environmentally sound recycling.

All 21 pictures at Picasa by Jim Amore
<http://picasaweb.google.com/fireattack109/Sept2009#>

November Speaker - Don Tillman

Donald Tillman
President
Safe Data Destruction
<http://www.safedata1.net>

Background:

Mr. Tillman has been working with computers since 1982 and has been working as a computer professional since 1987.

During that time he focused on computers and electronics which led him to his Associates in Electronics (Owens Community College) and his Bachelors in Computer Science from BGSU. During that time he worked as a lab consultant and as a private computer consultant and as an instructor.

After completing his tenure at BGSU (1993), he started working full-time at Wright State University Department of Psychology with a focus on research psychology for over 12 years that involved work with the Army, Air Force and NASA. Throughout his career he has worked with many operating systems (Sun OS, SGI Irix, Linux, DEC VMS, DOS, Windows,

Macintosh) and also was active in virtualization on the Macintosh starting with SoftPC (1990) using it for client projects. Since then he has been working with and experimenting with many VM's including VirtualPC, VMWare server and Parallels.

Mr. Tillman also ventured into hard disk data destruction and started Safe Data Destruction (<http://www.safedata1.net>) more than a year ago. His experience in data destruction started at Wright State University, then with a "large bank" in Columbus and with Columbus FreeGeek. With all that cumulative experience and market knowledge he realized that businesses and government needed on-site data destruction that meets DoD (Department of Defense), NSA and NIST requirements.

Safe Data
Website:
<http://www.safedata1.net>
(614) 313-1312

Digital Imaging SIG**September 2009****Sig Leader: David Clement****Submitted by Ron Sherwood**

SIG member John Kennedy opened the meeting for SIG leader David Clement. John addressed a question raised at the August SIG about creating slide shows. First, John demonstrated how to create a slide show quickly using the free application FastStone Image Viewer

(<http://www.faststone.org/>). By choosing the images to be included then opening the Slide Show Builder, users can create a slide show in a minimum amount of time. FastStone has 156 possible transitions, allows random or consecutive playback order for images, offers a "loop" option for continuous playback as well as other options. Slide Show Builder limits most effects to the entire slide show. That is, transitions apply to all images and cannot differ image to image within the show. A benefit of FastStone's Slide Show Builder is the ability to save shows as an executable file so that it may be played back by others without installing a specific application.

John then demonstrated Photo Story 3, a free application from Microsoft (<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photo-story/default.mspx>), to develop a slide presentation. Photo Story 3 offers the user much more control over individual images within the presentation. Transitions may differ from image to image. Users may add sound on a per slide basis or for a group of slides. John showed some creative transitions including some that emulated the "Ken Burns Effect" of panning and zooming individual images to create a sense of motion in static images.

Following John's presentation, Ron Sherwood demonstrated XnView (<http://www.xnview.com/en/xnview.html>), a free, multi-platform (Windows, MacOS X, Linux x86, Linux ppc, FreeBSD x86, OpenBSD x86, NetBSD x86, Solaris sparc, Solaris x86, Irix mips, HP-UX, AIX) application to view and modify image files. XnView reads nearly 400 graphic formats including raw files from popular brand digital cameras. While XnView provides the usual actions found in applications of this type, it has one feature that may be unique to this software, the ability to save a

Digital Imaging SIG
September 2009
Continued

"multi-page" file. This feature enables the user to create a single bitmap file that contains multiple images. Opening this file in some applications, Paint Shop Pro (PSP) for example, results in each image being opened as a separate graphic.

Ron used this feature to save three images to be used in creating a panorama into a single file. Then he opened the file in PSP resulting in three

separate images he used to develop a panorama. By adjusting the opacity of an image, he could manually drag a portion of an image over another photo to manually superimpose them to create a panorama. To eliminate artifacts left where the images overlapped, he used the eraser tool at a low setting to blend the transition area.

In closing the meeting John "assigned" members "homework" for the next meeting: create a slide show or a panorama to show at the next meeting.

Tip or Treat

**Change Default Formatting
in Word 2007**

In Word 2007 you probably notice that the default formatting is Calibri, line spacing is expanded, and space is added automatically after a paragraph.

Today we will show you how to change the default document format into a style of your own.

<http://www.howtogeek.com>

**Create Bootable Backups For
Your Mac**

It seems a little mini-series has emerged on getting backups sorted. The original post, Backup Solutions For The Mac, mentioned three different methods of backup, Time Machine, Bootable Drives and Online Backup Solutions. I can't stress enough how important backup's are.

<http://www.mactricksandtips.com>

TEACHING UPDATE**George Hreha**

The leaves are turning, the air is starting to have a little nip in it. This means that we are looking at our Fall schedule as being very productive. It has been a great experience for us to come to the Computer Lab after the Maintenance Crew has worked so hard over the summer months rebuilding it. Thanks to Dave Clement for spear heading the group. Also thanks to the guys who dedicated so much time and effort in the rebuilding. They are David Rausch, J C Deck, Kevin Clement and of course FREE John Kennedy. Without their effort we could not have such a successful school session. Thanks guys from all of us. Looking forward, we are thinking seriously in having John Kennedy, who by the way is our new addition to the Teaching Staff and is Teaching Open Office in 2 classes, develop an Advanced Open Office. As John said "it looks promising for us to pursue this based on the attendance this session of the Basic Open Office." I tend to agree and when we have a Teacher's Committee meeting will discuss this as well as other courses to offer the people.

Windows 7 will also have to be looked at as a new course to offer up, maybe in January or

the March time frame. Much has to be worked out. Do we continue to offer XP? Do we drop XP and just offer Vista and 7. All of these problems will get hashed over and I will report back our finds as well as the committees decisions.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Teacher's and Aides for their time. Thanks gang, you're great.

I also want to extend a invitation to the yearly Banquet, November 5 at 6pm. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. The meal is \$6 for member and \$12 for non members, MEMBERS don't forget at the conclusion of the meal is our General Membership Meeting with a Digital Photography presentation. After the presentation IF a quorum is reached we will be giving out a door prize of a laptop to members. The tickets are free for one chance, additional tickets to members are \$1. How can you go wrong? Plan on attending the November 5th banquet at 6pm and the Presentation at 7pm.

See you there

George Hreha

Linux SIG
29 September
Zerger Hall

Our first Zerger Hall Linux SIG meeting was Tuesday evening, 29 September, from 6pm to 8pm. The facility is great for the intended meeting type. We have access for personal computers, a large display screen and seating where we can see the presentation.

The permanent computers are configured for virtual machines (VM) and have Ubuntu installed as a VM. Network connections allow us software updates and access to download programs as desired. Ten work stations are available to club members the last Tuesday evening of the month.

At the open house we had several curious members come in to see what the fuss is about. Fred Davis and Dottie Futrell had many questions about the Ubuntu operating system and Open Office compatibility with Windows. SIG members demonstrated features of the OS to club members when asked.

Please join us 6-8pm Tuesday, October 27th at Zerger Hall if you are interested in linux.

We will have an introduction to command line usage and the fun/useful features to find there. It is informal and open communication rather than teacher/student interaction.

Linux command line cheat sheet collection

This is a compilation of approx 70 cheat sheets for Linux users. There are a grip load of commands that Linux users have at hand which can seem very daunting to a novice. This collection will make Linux just a little less of a headache to learn.

Suggestion: Look through all of them and then choose the top 5-10 you think will help you the most. Print them out and then get creative. You can laminate and hang them on the wall around your desk, or create a small binder that you always keep in reach. Or you can use them all for inspiration to create your own master sheet that suites you best.

<http://www.scottklarr.com/topic/15/linux-unix-cheat-sheets---the-ultimate-collection/>

Open Office Extensions

Our good friend Free John (Kennedy) sends us the link for Open Office Extensions download page.

These programs make tasks easier to accomplish in Open Office.

They are listed in categories: By Application; By Operating System; Dictionaries; Highest Rated; Most Popular and Most Recent. A search box is also provided.

Lower on the left side of the page are Tags. You can hover your mouse over a tag to see how many helpers are available for a given tag. Today there are 14 extensions for the presentations tag so, there are many choices available.

<http://extensions.services.openoffice.org/>

APCUG Conference Pictures

Bob Vance provides us with pictures from the APCUG conference at Cherry Valley Lodge in September. Following is a link to all the pictures.

<http://picasaweb.google.com/rleevance.apcug/CONFERENCEHANDBOOKINVOICE?authkey=GvlsRgCOSMlsuP7rXXOQ#>



The meet and greet conference kickoff



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