

Random Bits

Licking County Computer Society

VOLUME 23

ISSUE ONE 2010

ISSUE 1



<http://www.lccsohio.org>

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

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



Special Notices-pg 2 Jerry Award Goes to LCCS and Ron Sherwood wins photo award

APCUG-pg 3-6 Trips taken and offered plus links to other club newsletters and articles

Digital Photo SIG-pg 7,8 Flashes of genius displayed

Tip or Treat-pg 8,9

Teaching Program-pg 10 Changes contemplated

Linux SIG-pg 11 New meeting area success

Officers - pg 12

Don't forget the Recycling Event
May 7th & 8th, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
Recycling Flyer



Bootleg Canyon Park in Boulder City, NV.

The city built a desert park on the shoulder of Red Mountain just north of the city. Looking 5 miles east from the park you can see Lake Mead and south, within walking distance, is Boulder City. The national park and Boulder City have a paved walking and biking path of 35 miles total length. A large number of unpaved bike and hike trails are available.

JERRY AWARD GOES TO LCCS

Y.E.S. (Youth Engaged in Service)

The Licking County Computer Society was contacted by the Licking County Foundation to see if we could help with their project to upgrade the YES Clubhouse. They told us what the YES program was and said they wanted to have a computer lab for the kids. We decided to take on the project and use computers we get through our recycling/refurbishing program. We just had computers donated from the Newark City school system so I thought it would be fantastic to continue using them for the kids of Newark. With the MAR (Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher) program we could install Windows XP and Office 2003 on all the computers. With MAR the cost for the COA's was \$5.00 for each program or \$10.00 per computer. We had a couple volunteers John Dovjak and George Hreha from our society that set them up and installed them in the computer lab. We were able to donate 10 computers and we also bought a networked laser printer for the new YES clubhouse.

With this project we built great relationships within our community and the great benefits of helping our youth.

User Group: Licking County Computer Society

Contact information: Jim Amore

vicepresident@lccsohio.org 740-404-3963 P. O. Box 612 Newark, Ohio 43058

YES web site:

<http://www.mhalc.org/yes.html>

The Licking County Foundation Grant Document:

http://www.mhalc.org/Programs/YES/YES_Grant_From_LCF.pdf

Club member, Ron Sherwood, won the First Place award in the Parade category last July. It was awarded by the Granville Kiwanis Club and also garnered the Best of Show! Now go to the Digital Photo Sig and pick his brain!

http://www.granvillekiwanisclub.org/public/pub_page.aspx?PageID=15564





Links to information from other computer clubs/societies

2010 Newsletters of the South West International Personal Computer Club
http://www.swipcc.org/swipcc_fluid/archive2010.php

Backing Up and Restoring Files by Ron Hirsch, Member and Contributing Editor, Boca Raton Computer Society, Florida. If Ron had to pick an area where most computer users are extremely lacking, it's in the area of backing up and preserving the documents and other items that they generate during the course of their computer activities. This article discusses backing up personal files and data – not a complete system backup.

[Hirsch.doc](#)

"Disk Failure" Scare by Phil Sorrentino, President, Sarasota PCUG, Florida. Oops, he started the computer and staring him in the face was the dreaded "system disk failure" message. A chill went down his spine...

[Sorrentino.pdf](#)

Things, Thinglets & Thingassoes by Jack Lewtschuk, Columnist, Monterey Bay UG, PG, California. Just as knowing the "computer language" is good to assist communication when seeking help or offering help to others, so is knowing the definition of words to describe cybercrime.

[Lewtschuck.doc](#)

This and That or Things that May Interest You (Windows 7 info)

[w7tips.pdf](#)

By Lynn Page, Editor Crystal River Users Group, Florida

www.crug.com

newsletter (at) crug.com

The previous four articles have been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups; all other uses require the permission of the author (see e-mail address above).

Bob's notice of the [SWICP conference](#) in San Diego 4-6 June, 2010



2010 APCUG Annual Conference Phoenix AZ

Robert Lee Vance (Bob)

I attended the 2010 APCUG Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ on the 20th and 21st of February. Registered attendance was 64, down slightly, from the 69 who signed up for the Ohio Midwest Computer Conference/APCUG Annual 2009 that LCCS held here last August. Concurrently, we held a Face to Face meeting with 14 APCUG Board of Directors and Advisors in attendance.

At the Face to Face we worked all weekend planning short and long term goals to take this organization into the future. One of the objectives will be to make the organization more cross platform friendly. Other goals are to focus on some additional computer technologies including: digital cameras, blackberries, iPads and other computer based products.

The University of Advancing Technology (www.uat.edu) extended the use of their facility and staff members for this conference while continuing to assist many local computer user groups with meeting space as they have in the past.

Also provided were computer stations, projectors in each classroom and a theater for larger groups. We had Wifi coverage throughout the building.

There was a Build Event on Friday evening before the conference. This session was taught by Bruce Jacobs with 4 attendees participating in the step by step of building their own Windows 7 Ultimate and one of the builders decided on Linux for his Operating System.

Saturday morning began with a Keynote on Windows 7 by Jay Ferron and was followed by additional training sessions which included: Mailwasher Pro, Disaster Recovery, How SVE Built a Training Lab, remote presentations on Live Meeting and Second Life, How to get Into Social Media, News from the MVP Summit, Heritage Maker, Windows Mobile, Genealogy, Hardware Install, Security Awareness, Digital Photography and Carey Holzman on Free Software isn't just for Linux.

(Cont'd)



Welcome bag items and door prizes were provided by Microsoft (flash drives, Win 7 copies provided by Jay Ferron, Windows mobile phone provided by Darin Travis). Several items from the MVP Summit were provided by Kathy Jacobs, Mitch Garvis and Jay Ferron. Welcome bag items and prizes included:

Trial software from Tech Smith and a pen

Trial software sent by Ai Squared
Firetrust coupons with a full product code for Mailwasher Pro (provided by Birl Smith)

Free memberships donated by LifeLock donated

NOD 32 Antivirus provided by ESET
Roxio 2010

Pens provided by Cartridge Tech

A discount certificate provided by Doctor Kate

A magazine for everyone, plus subscriptions and T-shirts provided by SmartComputing

Prizes were given out following lunch each day and at the Annual Meeting.

The majority of those attending the conference stayed at the Clarion. They provided excellent shuttle service to and from the airport as well as the conference location, and the Wild Horse Pass Resort and Casino for dinning and entertainment. The hotel had free continental breakfast and a happy hour.

Trenton, NJ Computer Festival
Robert Lee Vance (Bob)
APCUG Region 3 Advisor
APCUG Rep. (LCCS)

10AM to 5PM and Sunday April 25th
10AM to 4PM

If you get a chance you will want to attend the 35th anniversary of the [Trenton Computer Festival](http://www.tcf-nj.org/documents/speakerchart2010.pdf) which is being held Saturday April 24th,

There will be two days of workshops and training sessions:

<http://www.tcf-nj.org/documents/speakerchart2010.pdf>

Trenton Computer Festival Banquet will be held on Saturday evening the 24th of April at 6:00 pm:

Meal will be a variety of Meat, Fish Vegetarian or Vegan. Follow the link:

https://www.tcf-nj.org/zc/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=65&products_id=185&zenid=18ae00db7d3d982078c7fecb63b9dbff



With the 2010 FACUG Technology Conference Bahamas Cruise being such a success the Florida Area Computer User Group has decided to do a Technology at Sea event again next year.

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HOT NEWS

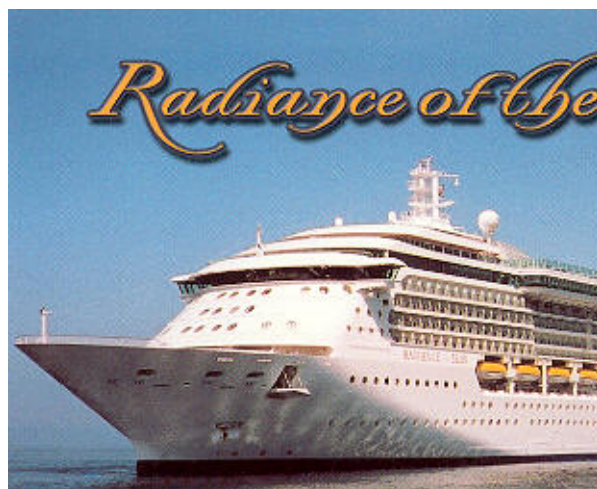
Early Discounts Available NOW!!!

CHECK OUT DETAILS ([click here](#)) in 2011 Conference Section

2011 FACUG Technology Conference Mexico Cruise

January 27th through January 31st - 2011

SAILING FROM TAMPA on Thursday, January 27, 2011, calling on Cozumel, Mexico and returning to Tampa on Monday, January 31, 2011.



Read Bob Vance's report on the trip taken this year!

See his pictures

Digital Imaging SIG

2010 March 9

SIG Leader: David Clement

Submitted by Ron Sherwood

After reviewing images brought by members, SIG leader David Clement discussed diffuser screens for built in and detached flash units. He then showed the group how to make a simple diffuser for a point and shoot camera with a fixed flash. Using a white plastic milk jug, David cut a piece to fit over the flash unit. It could be hand held on the camera or attached using a small piece of cellophane tape or Velcro. He also made a similar diffuser for a flip-up flash. Another was constructed by using an empty coffee creamer container, to be used as a dome diffuser for a larger, hot shoe type flash unit.

Although a diffuser reduces the light on the subject because it spreads over a larger area, the softer light reduces hard shadows typically seen in flash photos. Diffusers can be purchased for various flash types and range in price from around \$15 for small units that work with built in flash to

upwards of \$60 for a detachable flash. David's "home brew" diffusers use recycled products and the cost is a few minutes of time to cut them to shape,

Another way to spread and soften light from a flash is a reflector. David made a small portable reflector to attach to a hot shoe flash. Using art foam available at craft stores for around a dollar a sheet, he sandwiched a loop of wire between a sheet of white and a sheet of black foam using spray adhesive to hold the sheets together. The wire allows the diffuser to hold shape so that it can be curved or opened flat to vary the shape and intensity of the light reflected. The reflector wraps around the flash unit and can be held in place by Velcro or something as simple as a rubber band. Similar commercial units can be purchased in the range of \$30 contrasted with the \$2-3 cost of the home made device.

Continuing with the "using supplemental light" theme, David demonstrated how to use a single light source to illuminate a large area.

(Cont'd)

In Zerger Hall dining room, David demonstrated a method to evenly light the entire room by setting the camera on B(bulb setting) and walking around the room with a light source. The B(bulb setting) causes the camera shutter to stay open as long as the shutter release is held down. Triggering a flash in various parts of the room continues until all areas are exposed. This technique can be used with a continuous light source as well. The process enables a photographer to illuminate a large, dark area which would normally be too big to illuminate with a single small light source.

The group closed the evening "painting with light" which is essentially the same technique used to light a large area with a single light source. This process can also be used to create interesting patterns of light by using a pinpoint source, in this case a small flashlight, pointed toward the camera with the camera shutter on B(bulb setting). Moving the light source freehand in various patterns causes the movement to appear as light patterns on the image.

Scanning prints, slides and negatives are the planned topics for the April meeting. The SIG meets the second Tuesday of the month in the computer classroom at Zerger Hall.

Tip or Treat

In order to create a shortcut in Windows you should right click on the Desktop or in the Start Menu area, then select Create a shortcut. Add the desired action/command in the "Location" area of the shortcut.

You can create a shortcut to kill "Not Responding" applications without going to the Task Manager window by inserting the following line of text

```
taskkill.exe /f /fi "status eq not responding "
```

in the "Location" line of the shortcut. Remember to change the icon and add a hot key while you have the shortcut open.

Audit mode in Windows 7

Audit mode in Windows 7 enables OEMs to customize a Windows installation before shipping the computer to an end-user. Certain programs like Google Chrome sometimes give an installation mode when this is enabled. The error may look like 'Your computer is currently in Windows Audit Mode and is conflicting with the installation. Disable it and proceed.' For this very reason you need to disable audit mode.

Read the rest of the article at <http://www.bizzntech.com/2009/11/04/how-to-turn-off-audit-mode-in-windows-7>

Pskill Terminates Extremely Stubborn Applications

You've hit Ctrl+Alt+Del, you've tried killing the application in Task Manager, but it just won't die. Fire up Pskill to put that application down with surgical precision. A few keystrokes and 99% of the offenders will shutdown.

Read the rest of the article at <http://lifehacker.com/5381076/pskill-terminates-extremely-stubborn-applications>

Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack

A link for those of you are having trouble reading some of the new office file types. Think DOCX, etc.

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=941B3470-3AE9-4AEE-8F43-C6BB74CD1466&displaylang=en>

How To install OpenOffice 3.2 in Ubuntu (Free John)

ubuntugeek.com/how-to-install-openoffice-3-2-in-ubuntu.html

Quick and Dirty with Open Office Base (Free John)

linuxjournal.com/content/quick-and-dirty-open-office-base

90% of risk is removed by running Windows as User and not Administrator!

arstechnica.com/microsoft/news/2010/03/half-of-windows-flaws-mitigated-by-removing-admin-rights.ars

TEACHING UPDATE**George Hreha**

Two gentleman have approached the Teacher's Committee with suggestions about the Teaching Curriculum. They submitted great ideas and are now working to revise the program and make it more basic. This will be a major undertaking for them and it will hopefully serve to instruct any and all Beginner's, whether XP, Vista or Windows 7, in fundamental computer use regardless of the Operating System they are presently using.

Other discussions we are having:

- Issue one is in regard to the amount of time spent in class and the possibility of reducing it down to 6 weeks.
- We are also evaluating the addition of April/May and Nov/Dec sessions as well. These additional months may be scaled back programs.

There will be more to come on these issues.

Suggestions may emailed or you might even volunteer to meet with them to go over your ideas. We wish them the best and know they will get the desired results we would all like to see for the future.

If you would like to help, please contact:

J Kennedy(jakenn@roadrunner.com) or
J David Rinehart (rinehart41@windstream.net)

24 March meeting at Zerger Hall

We had a huge turnout of approximately 15 club members. John Kennedy demonstrated login procedures and explained the use of our classroom system, VirtualBox software. VirtualBox allows one computer to have several operating systems installed and we make a choice of running a Windows 7, XP, Vista or Linux. He also led us through the menus and pointed out they are similar in function to those you see in Windows.

We discussed using a live linux CD to test run linux much like test driving a vehicle. No changes are made to your hard drive so once you log out of linux and reboot there are no lasting effects. Your computer will be a little slow while operating in the live linux CD because every action has to read from the CD which is much slower than a hard drive.

If think you'd like to install the linux system we recommend attending a meeting at the Cherry Valley club house to have us walk you through the installation. We might consider an installation party if there are several people interested.

One member brought a laptop with a specific problem that we were unable to resolve. Pandora, an internet music site, will not play at home but plays everywhere else. We had to table this one due to time constraints but, we intend to have another go at it later.

Discussions were lively and we hope to see you all on April 27, 6pm to 8pm.



Licking County Computer Society, Inc.
 PO Box 612
 Newark, OH 43058-0612
LCCS OFFICERS 2010

President:

Kemp O'Dell, 740-348-0049,
President@lccsohio.org

Vice-president:

Jim Amore, 740-404-3963,
VicePresident@lccsohio.org

Secretary:

JC Deck, deck-101@embarqmail.com

Treasurer:

John Kennedy,
Treasurer@lccsohio.org

Agent:

David Bibler, 740-345-3492,
dbibs@hotmail.com

Trustees:

George Hreha, 740-924-1925,
ghreha@columbus.rr.com

Vicky Atkins, 349-8048,
vmatkins@alink.com

Bob Vance, 779-3218,
vanleer@horizonview.net

Newsletter Editor:

Ken Bixler, Newsletter@lccsohio.org

Publication Distribution:

Vicky Atkins, 349-8048,
vmatkins@alink.com

Membership:

Vicky Atkins, 349-8048,
vmatkins@alink.com

Meeting Programs:

Jim Amore, 740-404-3963,
VicePresident@lccsohio.org

MS Word/Works SIG:

Mary Frances Rauch, 740-522-4710,
rauchhouse@alink.com

Novice SIG:

George Willey, gwilley@alink.com

Repair/Maintenance SIG:

Wyn Davies, 740-366-6314,
aeolus@windstream.net

Web SIG:

Kevin Clement,
clementk777@gmail.com

Digital Imaging SIG:

David Clement,
digitalimagesig@gamil.com

Linux SIG:

Jim Amore, 740-404-3963,
VicePresident@lccsohio.org

Computer Recycling Program:

Jim Amore, Events Coordinator, 740-404-3963,

VicePresident@lccsohio.org

Computer Refurbishing Program:

Position open

Teaching program:

George Hreha, Chairman, 740-924-1925

Webmaster:

Jon Luzio, 740-587-4632,
Webmaster@lccsohio.org

Note: Phone numbers listed are in area code 740 except where listed.