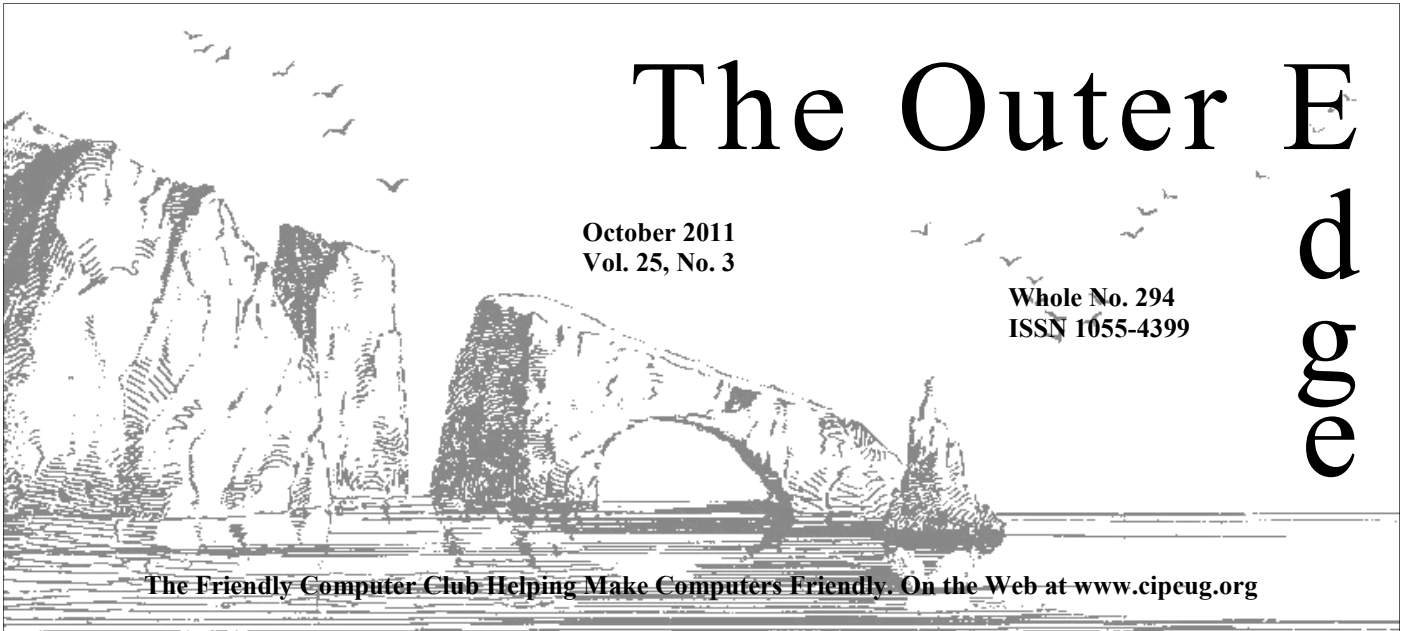


The Outer Edge

October 2011
Vol. 25, No. 3

Whole No. 294
ISSN 1055-4399



The Friendly Computer Club Helping Make Computers Friendly. On the Web at www.cipcug.org

★ Attendance at the
★ September general meeting:
★ **52 members and guests.**
★ **We welcome 1 new member and**
★ **a returning member.**
★ *****

To Contact CIPCUG

The Outer Edge.....805-485-7121
General Information.....805-289-3960
Mailing Address...P.O. Box 51354, Oxnard, CA
93031-1354
On the Web: cipcug.org
On Facebook: [Facebook.com/groups/cipcug](https://www.facebook.com/groups/cipcug)

Inside

Speedy RAID recovery

Intel's Rapid Storage Technology makes use of RAID much easier. — **Page 8**

Luck of the draws

Pretty Good Solitaire offers more than 700 games. — **Page 12**

Toby's tantrum

Musings on DigiNotar certificates and what they mean to us. — **Page 13**

And more ...

COMMAND.COM

By Jim Brown, President

"Promoting the Harmony of Computer Education, and Camaraderie"

Another month has flown by. I have had seminars and other business that caused me to miss the September meeting. However, your board and presenters and others who work behind the scenes are very capable of keeping things going. My appreciation extends to all of them.

In addition, I extend my appreciation to you, the members at large, not only for your attendance at the meetings but also for your efforts to bring a guest to our meetings. We have gained in membership numbers, and that is a direct result of your efforts.



Brown

In addition, the board is working to increase our exposure within the greater Ventura area, and we should see results of the efforts soon. If you have ideas on any aspect of our group, please see a board member or use the CIPCUG website. We welcome your input.

If you haven't joined the Facebook crowd, please do so and go to "groups" and then to CIPCUG. John Weigle especially has been posting the latest changes that Facebook has been making for your security. There are many good discussions there, and I, for one, have learned a few things.

Please see Helen Long and sign up for "The Secret Guide to Computers." This very complete book would also make a very nice gift. (The holidays are coming, you know).

So until next month, keep dry, and I hope to see you all (providing the creek don't rise).

Coming events

Staples to show tablets at October meeting

Programs

Staples will demonstrate a variety of tablets at October's meeting, which starts at 8:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Camarillo Boys & Girls Club, 1500 Temple Ave. (Ponderosa Drive and Temple Avenue), Camarillo. (See the map on the last page.)

Please remember that there are five Sundays this month, so our meeting will not be on the last Saturday of the month.

The doors open at 8 a.m. The Internet and Networking SIG and the Social Media SIG will start at 8:45 a.m.

Other meeting dates this year:

Nov. 19 (**third Saturday**): Topaz Labs.

Dec. 17 (**third Saturday**): Toby Scott and Michael Shalkey on a topic TBA.

Vice President Craig Ladd is working on presentations by the FBI and Gene Barlow for next year.

SIGs

The Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are sponsored by CIPCUG and led by volunteer club members. They are free to CIPCUG members.

Door prizes

We have two types of raffle tickets: one for prizes offered by the presenter and one for club-provided prizes. The tickets for the presenter's prizes are free and limited to one per member.

The tickets for the club-provided prizes are \$1 each, \$5 for six tickets, \$10 for 13 tickets, \$15 for 20 tickets and \$20 for 27 tickets and are available to anyone. Those who can't stay until the drawing may sign their tickets and give the person selling the tickets a list of the prizes they would like in the order they'd pick them. Winners' prizes will be held until the next meeting.

Consignment table

A consignment table is set up at every meeting. Anyone can buy, but only members can sell.

The club gets 10 percent of the sales price. Sold items must be picked up at the end of the day's meeting.

Any items not picked up will become the property of CIPCUG and will be subject to disposal at the club's discretion.

CIPCUG is not responsible in any way for items bought or sold at the table. Each item is sold as-is unless otherwise stated.

Meeting, SIG notices

If you would like e-mail notices of regular meetings and SIGs, go to www.cipcug.org, where you'll find a link on the home page to sign up. The URL is cipcug.org/listserv.cfm.

You will need your membership number, which is on the back cover of TOE, to complete the sign-up.

Other than those presented during or just after the regular meeting, the SIGs run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Ventura County Computers, 2175 Goodyear Ave., Unit 117, Ventura; phone 289-3960.

From the 101 Freeway, exit at Telephone, take Telephone south to McGrath, turn left and go one block. Turn right on Goodyear and right again into the second

(Continued on page 4)

Minutes of the September board meeting

By Diane Mortensen

CIPCUG Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on Sept. 24, 2011. In attendance were Rick Curry, Craig Ladd, Art Lewis, John Weigle, Helen Long, Ken Church, and David Minkin. Absent: Jim Brown, Toby Scott, and Diane Mortensen.



Mortensen

A correction is to be made to an article in the September TOE that the October meeting would be Saturday, Oct. 27, 2011. That date should have been the fourth Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011, as noted on CIPCUG website.

Art Lewis presented the treasurer's report showing a bank balance of \$5,755.95 as of Aug. 31, 2011. The noted miscellaneous income was for the computer auctioned off at the July 2011 meeting.

Art announced that Mark Maidel vol-

unteered to audit the club's accounting books for 2010.

John Weigle brought up the problem the club has been experiencing almost monthly — the shortage of coffee money. As an alternative, Art said, we might consider having a coffee truck come by during the club's break time. Later, another proposal was offered to continue with the current coffee service and having a club or board member stand by the moneybox to collect the money. How this problem will be resolved was tabled for the next board meeting.

Art Lewis brought up the fact that the E.P. Foster Library's newsletter reported that teens were teaching tech classes at the library in Ventura on the third Saturday of each month. It is open to anyone who needs help with gizmos and gadgets. The teens teach people how to use and understand today's technology. It was put to the board whether or not we could be

doing something similar to that at the Camarillo Library. This was tabled to be discussed at next month's board meeting.

Art also noted that there are 53 reservations for The Secret Guide. The book reservations will continue into October and money needs to be collected by then. If someone is planning to be out of town in October, they need to have paid in order to get their copy.

Art suggested that the board consider raising the cost of a CIPCUG email address from \$15 to \$20 annually. Currently, there are 15 subscribers, and the rate has been the same for nearly 15 years. A motion was made that the price for the CIPCUG email address will be raised from \$15 to \$20 beginning in 2012. The motion was seconded and carried.

Michael Shalkey said club members can take the opportunity of having their floppies (3½-inch or 5¼-inch) and other

(Continued on page 4)

Social Media SIG, Q&A

Facebook photos, automatic reboots discussed

Reported by John Weigle

Social Media SIG

Unless otherwise noted, questions were answered by Jessica Scott.

Much of the SIG and the regular Q&A were conducted using a developers' version of Windows 8 and Internet Explorer 10. Windows 8 — it might have a different name when it's released — is considerably different than Windows 7 because Microsoft is trying to develop a Windows version that will operate well on PCs, tablets and smartphones.— Editor

The room was set up for what we assumed was a function later on Saturday, so we had only the Social Media SIG because it would have been difficult to close the wall to create two rooms. As a result, Toby and Jessica Scott bantered about who should narrate and who should run the computer. Toby said he had nothing to say, and Jessica responded he should still narrate because “you sound better at saying nothing than I do.”

This SIG occurred just a few days

after Facebook made a lot of changes to its interface and announced that more are coming, so some of the answers might not be valid for long.

Facebook pictures

Q: I put pictures in Facebook, but they seem to roll down as other people put things in. What's the point of it if the photos just disappear?

A: Michael Shalkey: There's a difference between photos in the stream and photos in an album. If you use Photos under your name, the picture will scroll down to older posts. If you use the album, people can find the photos anytime.

Jessica Scott: It used to be that photos you posted on the wall went to an album called Wall Photos.

If you go to your Home page, one of the menu items above the “What's on your mind?” box is Add Photo. Clicking on it brings up the choices of Upload Photo or Video, Use Webcam and Create Photo Album. Clicking on each one brings up choices related to the task you

picked. Each option lets you determine where the photo or video will be posted. If you create an album, you can name the album and select the photos to put in it.

Michael Shalkey: Click on your name, and you'll find Photos. Click on that to get to the albums. There should be an easy way to arrange them by date, but I haven't found it.

Many people are abandoning Facebook and moving to Google+, which is now open to anyone who wants to join. Many people have been using Facebook for long enough that they think they've messed it up and would like to start over. You can go to Google+ and start over with new friends and layouts. You can see photos from your circles in Google+ and your own photos. You can drag and drop photos in albums to rearrange them, label them and tag them (add people's names to the pictures). You can also pick who can see your photos.

Google also has a feature to hold a

(Continued on page 5)

More on coming events ...

(Continued from page 3)

driveway. Unit 117 is the back, right corner of the building.

The pre-meeting SIGs are at 8:45 a.m. at the Boys & Girls Club. The after-meeting SIG will be conducted at locations to be announced on the meeting day.

The general schedule:

Fourth Tuesday: Linux.

Fourth Saturday (or the regular meeting day): Social Media SIG (Jessica Scott and Mark Maidel) and Internet and

connectivity SIG (Toby Scott), 8:45 a.m. Michael Shalkey's after-meeting SIG is at locations to be announced on the meeting day.

The October and November schedules:

October

Saturday, Oct. 22: Regular meeting, pre-meeting Social Media and Internet, connectivity SIGs.

Tuesday, Oct. 25: Linux SIG. The CIPCUG Linux PC will be upgraded to

Ubuntu 11.10 (see this month's Penguin's Lair), which will give us plenty of time to take, ask and answer questions.

November

Saturday, Oct. 19: Regular meeting, pre-meeting Social Media and Internet, connectivity SIGs.

Tuesday, Oct. 22: Linux SIG. Topic: TBA.

Be sure to check the calendar on cipcug.org for updates on event programs, dates and times.

More on minutes ...

(Continued from page 3)

media copied on to their preferred medium. Club members who want to take advantage of this service should direct an email to mshalky@cipcug.org to be sure the proper computer will be at the meeting. Otherwise, he won't haul it around

every month.

Craig Ladd announced that Staples will make a presentation about tablets at the October meeting and Topaz Labs will be November's presenter. Toby and Michael will handle the December meeting. Craig is asking for ideas on what to buy

for door prizes. He welcomes any suggestions and requested that they be directed to him at vicepresident@cipcug.org.

There being no additional business to discuss, the board meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.

(Continued from page 4)

videoconference with up to 10 people.

Toby Scott: Be careful with that, though. It's not always available because of the server space and bandwidth required.

Michael Shalkey: You can put friends and people you follow in categories. I can have circles for CIPCUG, family, and people who think they're my friends but I really don't want to follow them. You can mute conversations in both Facebook and Google.

This has been a significant month for the computer world because the first version of Windows 8 became available; Google+ opened to everyone; and changes were announced at Facebook and Netflix.

Recording TV programs

Q: How can I record programs now that VHS tapes and VCRs have effectively disappeared?

A: Michael Shalkey: The movie, TV and recording companies don't want you to be able to record shows so you can show them outside your home or share them with other people. There are ways to record from some cable company and satellite boxes, but the legality is questionable.

Audience member: My Direct TV has a USB input and you can plug in an external hard drive.

Michael Shalkey: Rick Smith tried that and it didn't work. That's really there just to be able to reconfigure your recorder. When you unplug the drive, whatever you recorded is scrambled.

From the audience: My TV box has a jack that lets me record to a capture device.

Toby: You can do that, but you'll lose some quality. The companies that provide the entertainment to the cable and satellite companies don't want them to allow recording to another device, so making it possible would violate the contract.

Michael: There's a "sort of solution" to bypass the problem. You can go to Amazon or iTunes and buy an episode. That's probably easier than trying to do it with a VCR and finding a VHS tape, but not all TV networks allow this. The free Hulu service is getting less and less and programming, and even the paid version has issues and is getting more limits placed on its programs. Not all shows are

This month's Q&A topics:

- Social Media SIG**
- Facebook pictures
- Recording TV programs
- Group pages
- Deleting photos

Regular Q&A

- Posting photos on Facebook
- Problems after power outage
- Internet Explorer 10
- Automatic reboots
- IE add-ons message
- DigiNotar
- Opening email links

available. TV networks prefer that you go to their websites, but even they don't make all programs available. "Fringe," for instance, is really locked down on a paid site.

Toby: The networks cite ratings problems as one reason they don't want this kind of time sharing.

Michael: I don't buy that argument because the industry can get details on every time a show is watched via streaming or download. The Nielsen ratings are based on estimates resulting from a comparatively small number of households with diaries or other monitoring methods for what's being watched, but advertisers are hesitant to accept any other estimates, especially for online viewing. Nielsen ratings have been found to be very inaccurate.

We were talking about Facebook, Google+ and sharing your life. Your grandchildren will have a life you'll never know because of the Internet and services available. They'll never have to reconnect with people because they'll never lose contact with them. They'll all be able to find people in ways you can't today.

Many people are saying that Google+ will be a Twitter killer instead of a Facebook killer.

Group pages

Toby: I've pretty much given up on my personal Facebook page because I don't really care what people are having for breakfast or the high score in the game of the week. It's become somewhere between useless and unnecessary. But I do find the Groups pages quite useful, and Google+ does not have anything similar. I've used group pages for CIPCUG, my class reunion committee and Ventura County Computers. I'm also using Twitter for limited technical posts.

Regular Q&A

Unless otherwise noted, Toby Scott of Ventura County Computers answered the

questions and Michael Shalkey handled the computer duties. — Editor

Posting photos on Facebook

A: Michael Shalkey: Just as the Social Media SIG was ending, a question came up on using the Snipping Tool. We didn't have time to answer it, so here is the method. Click on the button for the Start menu and in the search box type the first few letters of the program you want to find, in this case the Snipping Tool. Generally, that will bring up the program you want. Highlight the area of the screen you want to copy and save the file on your computer.

To add the photos to Facebook, use the Add Photo link above the "What's on your mind?" box at the top of your Facebook home page. The picture might not show up right after you paste it in if you use the copy and paste method but should become visible when you post it.

Toby Scott: You have to know where you saved the picture. If you don't pick a spot, the picture is likely to be saved to your temporary Internet files directory, where you'll never find it.

Michael Shalkey: Use the Add Photo button, which will give you three options: Upload Photo or Video, Use Webcam and Create Photo Album. You can comment on and like photos and comments, as you can on most other pages. If you're following me on Facebook, the picture we just posted will be available to you. Pictures can be posted on the CIPCUG group page if you're a member of the group.

Jessica Scott: You can add comments and Like comments, but there's no dislike for any Facebook page.

Problems after power outage

Q: I have an APC uninterruptible power supply. When we had the big power failure in Ventura recently, the computer just closed down. I thought the idea of the UPS was that it kept the com-

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

puter on long enough for me to close documents and shut down properly. Does what happened mean my UPS wasn't working, even though it was beeping? The questioner said both the computer and monitor were plugged in to the UPS.

Michael Shalkey: Some of the products, such as the one that's a door prize today, have two rows of plugs, one to protect only against power surges and the other to be the battery backup. Check to see if that's the case in your UPS. If it is, be sure you're plugged into the right bank of plugs.

Audience member: Two other possibilities are that the UPS battery is dead or that the feature that shuts the computer down after a certain time without new power was not set up.

Toby Scott: To make that feature work you have to install the program and attach the UPS to the computer, usually with a USB cable, so the UPS can communicate with the computer.

Q: If I'm not home but leave the computer on and files open, does a UPS take care of those?

Toby Scott: Anything that was worked on but not saved will not be properly closed, and anything input after the last save will disappear when the computer is turned off. Otherwise, it will be just like a manual shutdown by clicking on the Start Menu and Shutdown.

Michael Shalkey: In Windows 8, we're going to have to develop new terms, because it has apps — as opposed to applications like a word processor — that are never shut down. The apps don't have Save or Save As, so backups are being done automatically.

Toby Scott: Microsoft has been working hard to prevent data loss by including automatic saves in many of its programs, including OneNote, Word, Excel and PowerPoint. You can pick the time between automatic saves.

Q: When the power failure occurred, I had Firefox and Windows Mail open. When the computer came back on, I started getting 3-month-old messages in Windows Mail and my wife's sub-account didn't work. When I called AT&T, they said they couldn't help me with Windows Mail because it's not their program, but they said I probably wasn't

deleting mail from the server. I checked, and it said save for five days. I'm not sure why it was bringing up mail from three months ago.

Michael Shalkey: This is just a guess, but if the power failure also affected AT&T it might have switched to a backup server.

Toby Scott: I doubt that's the reason. You're probably not seeing the correct settings for deleting the messages. There should be a setting that says to save on server or leave a copy. You have to pick one and the time.

Q: If I don't check the save a copy on the server box, will the messages go away automatically?

A: Yes. The default is to delete messages after they've been downloaded.

Q: I downloaded the messages in Outlook? Doesn't that delete the messages from the server? When we go on a trip, I put my wife's email address on my laptop so we can get her mail. But if we go to a different place, we start getting a lot of her emails that we've already downloaded.

A: Check your settings, but generally with a setting of delete messages, the messages should be deleted after they're downloaded.

Michael Shalkey: And after the server gets a message back that the download was successful.

Toby Scott: Malformed messages can blow up email programs. In these cases, you'll usually download a batch of messages and then the malformed one won't download and the server doesn't get the download successful message. When you try again, you get all the messages that came in before the malformed one, and the process keeps repeating. If that's the case, you need to call your Internet Service Provider to get the malformed message deleted.

Q: I noticed when I set up my wife's account on my machine that I have to make all the settings again.

A: You have to create the settings that tell the machine the name of the account, its servers and, if you sign in automatically, the password. But you want only one computer controlling when or if messages are deleted from the server. Let's say you want to get your work email both at work and at home. On the work com-

puter, set the number of days you want to keep the messages on the server. On the home computer, say to leave the messages on the computer with no expiration date. That way, if you use the laptop on your trip and have told it to leave the messages on the server forever, they'll still be there you get home and you can download the messages to the work computer. When you download them on the work computer, the instructions to delete after a specific number of days will take effect. You need to control the stream on only one computer. If you try to do it on both computers, you'll never get the accounts in sync and there will be no master copy with all the messages.

Internet Explorer 10

Q: What are the differences between IE 9 and 10? Should I upgrade?

A: Michael Shalkey: Don't worry about it yet. It's still in beta and only developers are seeing it to download.

Toby Scott: Whatever we tell you now is written in sand, not stone. It's all subject to change.

Michael Shalkey: The person in charge of Windows 8 development has a reputation of not allowing his work to be seen outside of Microsoft until it's almost finished. I don't think a lot of changes are likely in what we're seeing now.

Automatic reboots

Q: If I'm starting a maintenance program that says not to stop it and I get a message from Windows Update or some other update that my computer is going to be shut down automatically, what can I do?

A: Generally, the warning box will have a Postpone button. Use that and reboot when you're ready to do so.

IE add-ons message

Q: I keep getting notices in IE that I might be able to make it run faster by disabling add-ons. Is there some way to stop that message?

A: Toby Scott: Switch to Chrome or Firefox. Michael and I can't stand Internet Explorer. Michael likes Chrome and I like Firefox and Opera.

Michael Shalkey: On the second Tuesday of every month, and sometimes more often, Microsoft issues patches for Windows. Some of those happen quietly

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

in the background, but others need the computer to be rebooted. In that case, you might start seeing the messages again. Try answering the questions that come up, and that should stop the messages from appearing at least for a while. Sometimes patches might change the setting back.

DigiNotar

Toby Scott: If you get a notice from your browser that you are at a secure website (https rather than just http), it means that some authoritative website certificate creator has certified that this is the authentic site. A couple of years ago, the Hong Kong post office supposedly issued two fictitious certificates that were used by the Chinese government. One of the largest companies in Europe that issued certificates, DigiNotar of Netherlands, was hacked and issued some 570 and some suspect in the thousands or tens of thousands. Many of the world's biggest companies, including Google mail, Microsoft, Verizon and almost any big commercial operation were affected. InfoSecurity (<http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/20957/dutch-government-revokes-diginotars-ca-root-certificates>) said, "more than 500 bogus digital certificates were issued in the names of major web properties, as well as intelligence services, such as the CIA, MI6, and Mossad." The issue was so severe that the company, which was profitable a year ago, issued the phony certificates on July 19 and filed for bankruptcy the week before the CIPCUG meeting because it faced millions of dollars in liability for the fictitious certificates.

If you've been keeping your browser up to date, you're protected from the DigiNotar problem because it has been removed from the trusted certificate authorities. You can self-certify and set up an https site, but there will be no certificate for it.

Rick Curry: One of the complaints was that DigiNotar waited a month after it discovered the problem to make an announcement. There have also been complaints that certificate authorities are not regulated by any central body.

Toby Scott: I'd be leery of government-run certificate controls because of other possible dangers. Do you really want the Chinese government authorizing certificates? My first Internet account was two weeks after the Internet was available, and you had to make your decisions on what you trusted. The Mozilla Foundation, which makes Firefox, has its own list of trusted authorities. You can override others' lists of trusted authorities if you want to.

Michael Shalkey: The lesson to be learned here is to keep your browser up to date. You can usually update browsers with a tool in the upper right corner.

Toby Scott: If you're using an old browser, update it, especially if you're doing online banking.

From the audience: Doesn't IE update with automatic updates?

A: Yes, but many people have turned automatic updates off.

Opening email links

Q: Is there a safe way to open links in email? I have a technology friend who regularly sends links I want to open. Is there a way to check the link? If I let the

message sit for a week or so and watch for reports of problems from the link is that safe?

A: The problem with email links is that, for the most part, they are not checked by anyone or by most programs. Outlook does a reasonably good job, but many programs do not. Email accounts can be hacked, and you start getting messages that you think are from someone you know, but the sender's address has been faked. Waiting a week might help. By then a user should realize his email account has been hacked and been able to send a message to people to beware of mail supposedly sent from it. Still, it's caveat emptor.

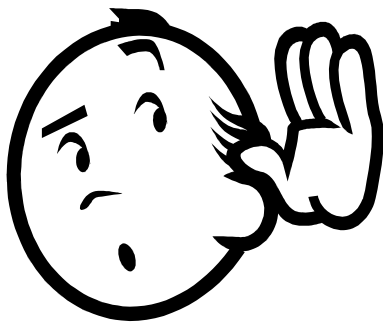
Q: Can I send a message to the person who sent the message asking if he really sent it?

A: Yes, but the sender will probably just stop sending you links.

Michael Shalkey: We got a warning at my office with the subject "Storage Exceeded." Fortunately, the woman who opened it is afraid of computers and sent the message to me before clicking on the link. The message was from a domain that made no sense but asked for information about an account we didn't have and said we couldn't send any more "mails" because we had exceeded our storage limit. Even if we had the account and had exceeded the storage limit, that should not affect our ability to send messages.

From audience: It would be safe to open it in Sandboxie, wouldn't it?

Toby Scott: It's still somewhat dangerous, but it could be done safely with a bootable Linux CD because nothing is written to the hard drive.



Important Q&A reminder: Please wait for the microphone to ask, answer or comment on a question. Although we have several microphones during the Q&A sessions, they do not pick up sounds from far away. While this eliminates the general background noise from the recording, it also means that useful information offered without a microphone is not recorded and, therefore, can not be transcribed for TOE.

Program: Rapid Storage Technology

Intel software simplifies setting up RAID discs

By John Weigle

jweigle@vcnet.com

A September demonstration of Intel's Rapid Storage Technology on solid state drives showed how a C: drive could be backed up to an external drive, how the computer would boot from the external drive when the C: drive was disconnected, and how the external drive could restore the hard drive when it was reinstalled, all within 45 minutes.

Rick Smith, Toby Scott and Michael Shalkey demonstrated how to make the recovery drive that Smith had discussed briefly at the August meeting and left many of us surprised at how quickly the task could be done. The length of time needed, of course, depends on how much material is on the C: drive.

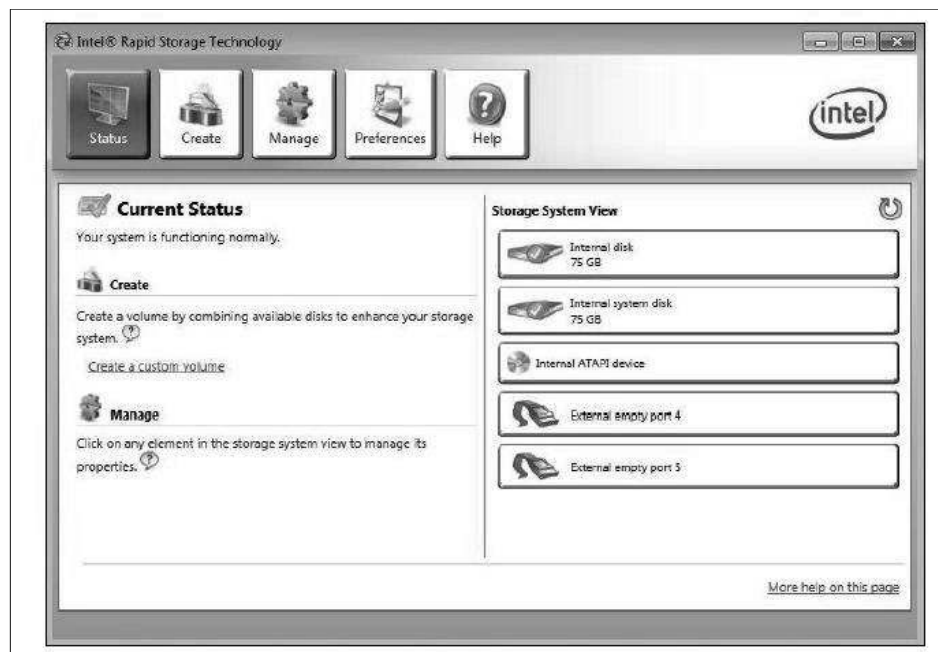
Rapid Storage Technology is described in the Intel manual as "a code module built into the system BIOS that provides boot support for RAID volumes as well as a user interface for configuring and managing RAID volumes."

It requires an Intel 6-series motherboard, a new processor, a compatible operating system, and new DDR3 RAM because the new board changed the design of memory slots. By the time you've bought those you might as well buy a new computer that you know will be fully compatible, Smith said.

"It's really hard just to upgrade one part of a computer anymore," he added.

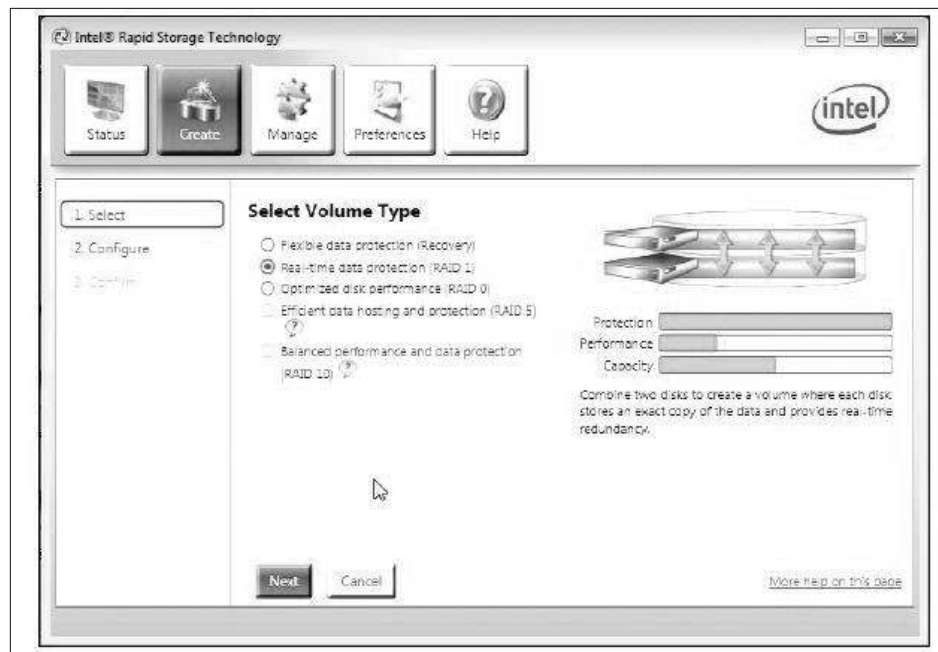
Intel says the technology is supported in Microsoft Windows 7, 32-bit*, Microsoft Windows 7, 64-bit*, Microsoft Windows Vista, 32-bit*, Microsoft Windows Vista, 64-bit*, Microsoft Windows Server 2008* (1), Microsoft Windows Server 2008 x64 Edition* (1), Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition*, Microsoft Windows Media Center Edition*, Microsoft Windows XP Professional*. Microsoft Windows XP Professional x64 Edition*, Microsoft Windows Server 2003* (1), Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Standard x64 Edition* (1), and Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Enterprise x64 Edition*. (1) means not supported on mobile platforms.

The technology works with an inter-



All screen shots from the Intel manual for Rapid Storage Technology

This is the opening screen to create the RAID drive.



On this screen, you choose the volume type.

nal or external SATA drive. The drives do not have to be solid state. Users will also need a patch for Microsoft Windows — KB922976. The patch allows users to switch their computer from AHCI hard

drive access to RAID. Smith said he also needed to download and install a new RAID driver for the machine built for the demonstration.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

For hardware that meets all the requirements, Smith led us through the steps to set up the RAID system. The computer had an 80 Gig C: drive and a DVD drive on the other SATA port. The external drive was plugged into an eSATA port as well as a USB port just to provide power.

Install the SATA drive if you're using it as an internal drive.

Download and install the Microsoft patch. The Rapid Storage Technology is on the CD that came with the motherboard or can be downloaded separately. Install it if it isn't already installed. (The illustrations with this report are taken from the manual for the software. The choices made in the screen shots might differ from the choices made in the demonstration, but the method to make either choice should be clear.)

Reboot the computer and hit the F2 key to enter the BIOS, the standard method on Intel motherboards.

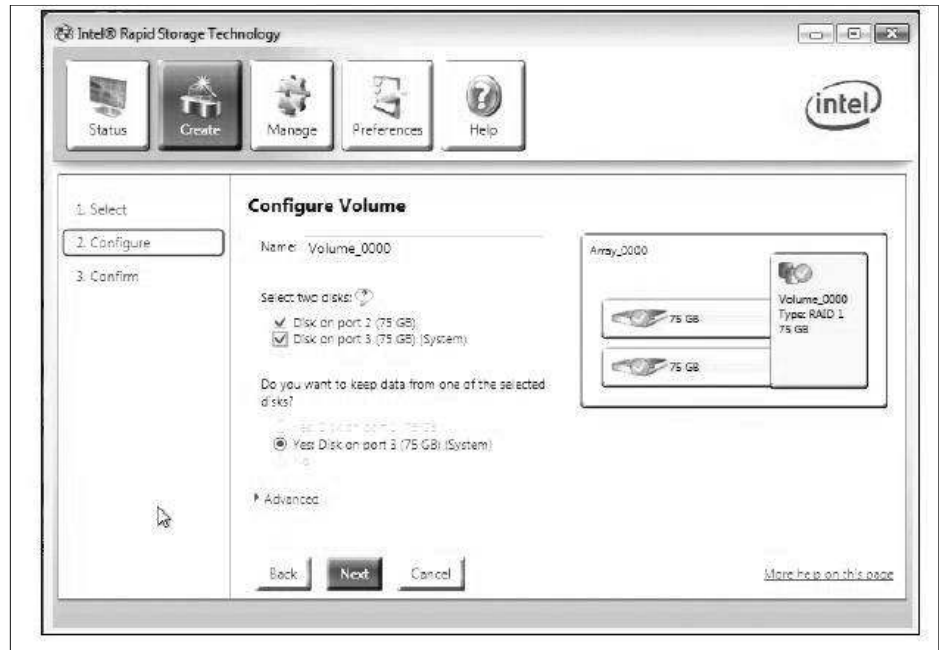
In the BIOS configuration, go to the SATA drive and change Chipset SATA drive from AHCI to RAID.

Plug in the eSATA drive if you're using it as an external drive and connect it to the computer. If you're using the USB dongle, plugging in the Y end gives you power plus the computer access. The other end gives you only computer access. Use the other end, not USB access.

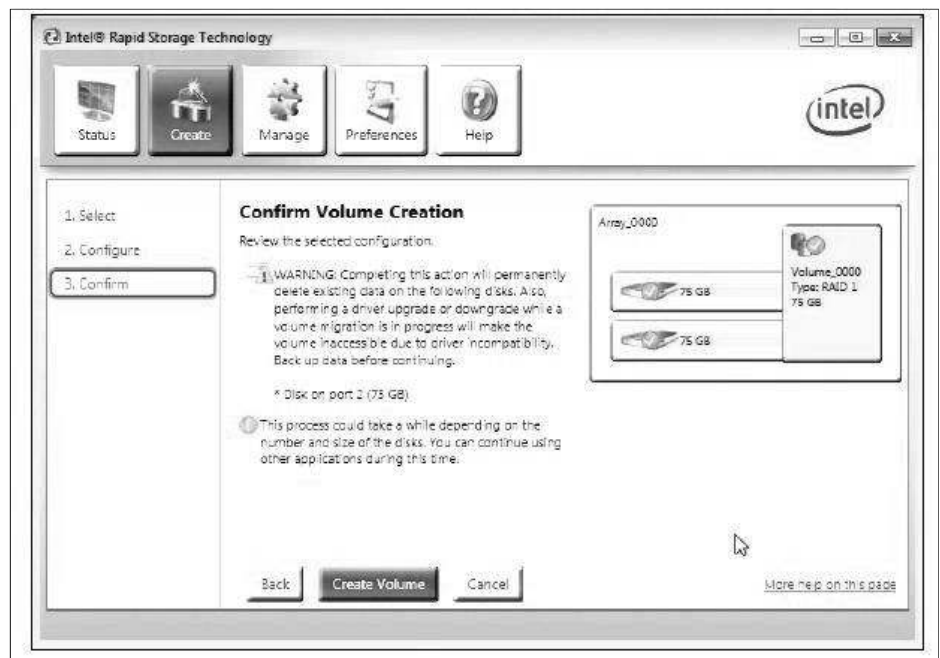
Open the Rapid Storage Technology program.

Highlight the disk you want the C: drive to be copied to (in this case, the external drive) and pick the USB or eSATA connection. If you have two internal SATA drives you can configure them as a RAID 1 by clicking on the first option (automatic update), where all data is simultaneously written to both drives. If one drive fails you can install a new, blank disk and re-create the RAID. If you are using an external drive, you'll want to have a manual backup, so you can back up when the drive is connected. For the demonstration, Smith chose manual. The third choice in the program combines the two drives but leaves you with no protection because if one of the drives fails, you lose all your data. Smith does not recommend this choice.

Configure the recovery disc by setting it to on request. You'll be told all infor-



This is the Configure Volume page.



This page confirms the volume creation. It's almost your last chance to back out if you made a mistake in the settings.

mation on the external drive will be destroyed. Click yes. The process of copying the C: drive will begin.

In answer to a question, Smith said that the process he was showing was creating a RAID drive on a drive that was not a RAID drive without destroying any data. "We've gotten more sophisticated, where now Microsoft has given you a patch that you can download and install

and then change it to a different disc access mode."

An audience member asked how this method differs from a non-RAID backup. RAID happens automatically, Smith said. RAID 1 makes an exact copy as the data is written. Other backups are done by software and are catching up after the fact. Another difference is that the com-

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

puter will boot directly from the second RAID drive if the C: drive is unplugged, removed or fails.

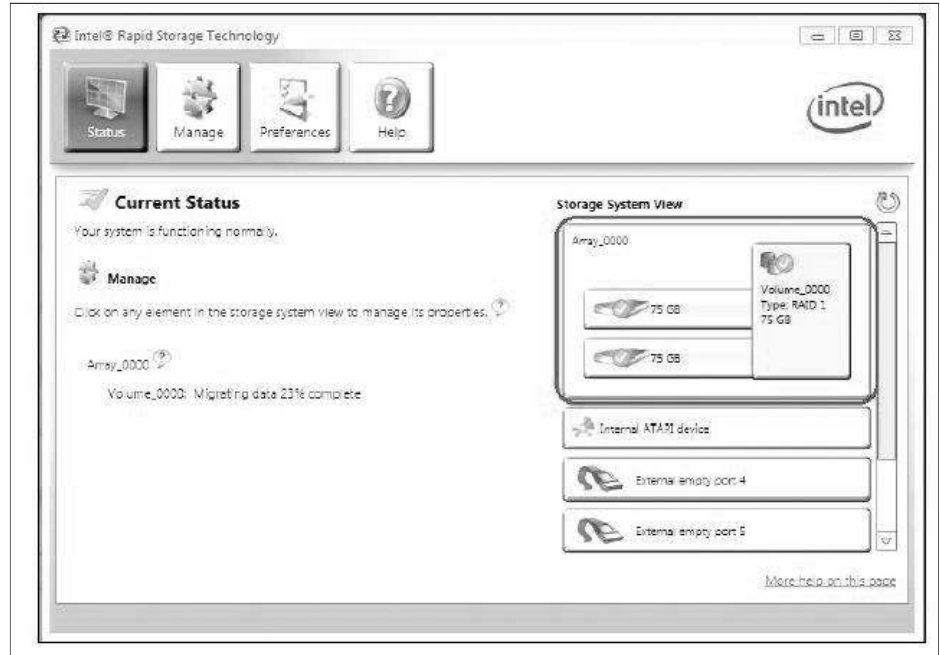
The backup drive is a full working backup of the C: drive, Scott said, and it will automatically rebuild the C: drive when a new one is installed.

As he waited for the RAID drive to be built, Smith promoted the remote support tool on the Ventura County Computers website. If a user downloads the application and opens it, it will provide a number that Rick, Toby or Michael can use to take control of your computer to try to fix problems. Once the connection is broken, they can not log back in until you provide a new number code.

Once the copying is completed, the external drive is automatically taken offline because they had asked for the manual updates rather than the automatic ones. When the copying of the C: drive was completed, Shalkey shut down the computer, opened it and unplugged the power and data cables from the C: drive. He then restarted the computer, simulating a hard drive meltdown. The computer booted from the external drive.

“To me, that’s pretty incredible. That is the power of eSATA, and it is really a nice technology,” Smith said.

You can buy any SATA enclosure and any compatible SATA drive to use as the external drive. Normally, Smith said, he wouldn’t use a Solid State Drive as the backup drive, but he wanted to show the speed that’s possible with solid state drives. The computer was shut down again, the C: drive was plugged back in, and the computer was rebooted. As soon



This page shows the status of your system after the process is completed. Two other smaller screen appear before this one. The first asks you to confirm you want to create the volume and warns that you’ll wipe out any information on the external (in the demonstration) drive, and the second says the volume was successfully created.

as it was rebooted this time, the rebuilding of the C: drive began automatically.

It takes the same amount of time to recover the hard drive as it took to create the backup.

Notebooks generally can’t be upgraded to RAID, Smith said in answer to a question.

A member of the audience asked if there’s an advantage to having more than one type of backup. Yes, Smith said. If you do the process on an internal drive, it does not have to be a SATA drive.

Shalkey noted that most backup experts say you should always have a backup offsite in case of disaster or theft so backing up to an external drive and keeping it elsewhere is an excellent plan.

Since OS X, Apple has been able to boot from an external drive, he said.

This technology does have the advantage of being able to get computers back up and running faster than other methods. There are also several types of RAID, he said, but most of them are used for servers rather than home computers.

What is RAID?

The manual for Rapid Storage Technology describes RAID and the varieties it supports this way:

RAID: Redundant Array of Independent Drives: allows data to be distributed across multiple hard drives to provide data redundancy or to enhance data storage performance.

RAID 0 (striping): The data in the RAID volume is striped across the array’s members. Striping divides data into units and distributes those units across the members without creating data redundancy, but improving read/write performance.

RAID 1 (mirroring): The data in the RAID

volume is mirrored across the RAID array’s members. Mirroring is the term used to describe the key feature of RAID 1, which writes duplicate data to each member; therefore, creating data redundancy and increasing fault tolerance.

RAID 5 (striping with parity): The data in the RAID volume and parity are striped across the array’s members. Parity information is written with the data in a rotating sequence across the members of the array. This RAID level is a preferred configuration for efficiency, fault-tolerance, and performance.

RAID 10 (striping and mirroring): The RAID level where information is striped across a two disk array for system performance. Each of the drives in the array has a

mirror for fault tolerance. RAID 10 provides the performance benefits of RAID 0 and the redundancy of RAID 1. However, it requires four hard drives

RAID Array: A logical grouping of physical hard drives.

RAID Level Migration: The process of converting a system’s data storage configuration from one RAID level to another.

RAID Volume: A fixed amount of space across a RAID array that appears as a single physical hard drive to the operating system. Each RAID volume is created with a specific RAID level to provide data redundancy or to enhance data storage performance.

The next Ubuntu — Oneiric Ocelot

By Bill Wayson

bwayson@gmail.com

Autumn is here, and as sure as its arrival, the weather is a bit more chilly, the daylight hours are fewer, and the next version of the open source Ubuntu PC operating system is right around the corner. Yes, Oct. 13 is the scheduled release date for Ubuntu 11.10, which has been dubbed Oneiric Ocelot (*ōnīrik* Adjective: Of or relating to dreams or dreaming). What can we expect in this next iteration of Ubuntu? Let's take a look. (What follows is based on the Beta 2 release of Ubuntu 11.10, and may differ slightly from the released version.)

Penguin's Lair



Wayson

Oneiric Ocelot is based on the Linux kernel version 3.x series, one of the first distributions to do so. The new kernel major number (the number to the left of the first decimal point) doesn't boast major changes or new features. Rather, it is more to introduce a new kernel version numbering scheme that benefits the kernel maintainers and distributions more than the everyday user. Oneiric adopts it to give its users the benefits of the latest kernel releases.

Oneiric improves the ability to run 32-bit applications on PCs running the 64-bit version of Ubuntu. This should bring 64-bit installations of Ubuntu closer to the ideal of just working out of the box, and should simplify the effort of maintaining the 64-bit distribution of Ubuntu.

Oneiric adds support for more ARM (Advanced RISC Machine) architectures. Since many new portable computing devices, such as netbooks and tablets, use ARM chip sets, this will help make Ubuntu an option for users and distributors of, and developers for, those devices.

User experience improvements in 11.10 include LightDM, a new and distinctive login screen and dialog. Once logged in, the user should see several improvements focused primarily around Unity, Ubuntu's next-generation desktop

Deja Dup is a new tool that strives to simplify the task of backing up and restoring all your personal home folder files, a task many users do not do because of its perceived complexities, and later come to regret.

environment. There is new artwork, of course; improvements in the side Panel, such as counters displaying the number of unread email and instant messages; an improved application search window that more sensibly lists the returned hits, and provides easier access to the various categories of applications. The Alt-Tab functionality for switching among your running applications returns, working across multiple desktops, and sporting some of the Mac OS X look. Common user preference and system applications, such as software update and monitor settings, are made more accessible by placing them under the rightmost top panel Power icon. And Unity should now require only 2D video acceleration support. Unity 2D will be the default environment on PCs that do not support Unity 3D. This means, unfortunately, that the Ubuntu Classic Desktop — the default up to version 10.04 — will likely be removed from Oneiric.

Oneiric introduces new and changed default applications for common user tasks and needs. Deja Dup is a new tool that strives to simplify the task of backing up and restoring all your personal home folder files, a task many users do not do because of its perceived complexities, and later come to regret. Thunderbird replaces Evolution as the default email client. Gwibber is now installed to help users keep their Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, and other popular social networking web service information up to date. The OneConf utility has been added to help keep your installed apps in sync across computers. It looks like the Synaptic Package Manager will no longer be installed by de-

fault, although it is still listed as a supported application and available for installation from the default software repositories. I suspect that Ubuntu will ultimately use the Ubuntu Software Center as the default software management application.

Oneiric is rounded out by upgrades of many standard applications to the latest versions. These should include Gnome 3.2, Firefox 7.0, LibreOffice 3.4, Nautilus 3 for simplified file management, and many changes to Ubuntu Software Center.

Those who dislike the directions taken by the popular desktop environment projects such as Unity, Gnome, and KDE, will be relieved to learn that the Lubuntu flavor of Ubuntu, which uses LXDE (the Lightweight X Desktop Environment) as its default, has become a supported Ubuntu variant distribution with Oneiric. LXDE is worth a test drive by those wishing to run Ubuntu on less powerful and older computers.

Oneiric Ocelot continues Ubuntu's six-month release cycle and its reputation for keeping the distribution as close to the crest of the latest software development as possible while remaining as stable and usable as required by the non-technical computer user. While Ubuntu works hard to maintain this delicate balance, its choice of Unity remains controversial within the Ubuntu user community: most either love it or hate it. Ubuntu remains committed to Unity, and I wish the developers luck in working out all of its kinks and issues and primarily in improving its performance across a wide range of PCs.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about Linux and FOSS, come to the Linux SIG meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 6:30 p.m. at Ventura County Computers in Ventura. The CIPCUG Linux PC will be upgraded to Ubuntu 11.10, which will give us plenty of time to ask and answer questions. See the CIPCUG web site for more information.

If you have a question or topic you would like the Lair or Linux SIG to cover, drop me a line at bwayson@gmail.com. Until next month, happy computing.

Review: Pretty Good Solitaire

More than 700 games available in this version

By Jim Thornton

jasthorn@gmail.com

I'm a longtime player of the solitaires that come with Windows 2000, XP, Vista, and 7. These solitaires are FreeCell, Klondike, and Spider. But I wanted more of a variety of good solitaires, and I found the popular Pretty Good Solitaire program, which currently offers 770 different solitaires. Some of the most popular solitaires are Ace and Kings, Aces Up, Australian Patience, Beleaguered Castle, Canfield, Crazy Quilt, Cruel, Demons and Thieves, Double Klondike, Eight Off, Forty Thieves, FreeCell, Golf, Interchange, Klondike, La Belle Lucie, Lady Jane, Osmosis, Penguin, Pyramid, Russian Solitaire, Scorpion, Sea Towers, Spider, Spider One Suit, Spider Two Suits, Terrace, Thieves of Egypt, and Yukon.

The Pretty Good Solitaire program is nice because you can select several different viewing options:

Card Size — you can select one of five different card sizes or select automatic, which automatically adjusts the card size to fit your computer screen.

Background Color — you can select one of 64 different background colors.

Card Backs — you can select one of 16 different card back designs and colors. In addition to these items that come with the program, you can expand your selection of background colors and card back designs by going to the website of Pretty Good Solitaire or you can even make your own designs.

You move the cards by using your mouse and doing the standard drag and drop or click using the right button on your mouse, which automatically moves the card. Another nice feature is the Snapshot Position. If you get into a tough decision with two or more likely choices of moves and you are not sure which to make, select Snapshot Position from the Options menu or press Control P. Then continue playing and if you discover that you made the wrong move and want to go back to try a different move, select "Undo to Snapshot" from the Options menu or



These are two of the card backs available in Pretty Good Solitaire, as shown on the program's website.

press Control Q, and you will automatically return to the position where you were when you selected to take a snapshot.

With so many solitaires that you may be unfamiliar with, Pretty Good Solitaire has a Rules tab on each of its solitaire and when selected, the playing rules for that solitaire are displayed. In addition, what is displayed is the hardness or difficulty of the solitaire, the object, the layout of the cards, the options, the notes, the history of the solitaire, and a list of other similar solitaires.

Other tabs that are at the top of the solitaire screen include (1) Undo — reverse your last move; (2) Redo — restore your last move; (3) Snapshot — remembers the position of all of the cards when you click on it; (4) Undosnap — restores the position of the cards back where you were when you took the snapshot; (5) New — start a new game; (6) Restart — restart the current game from its beginning; (7) Select — select a specific game (there is a large variety of games and I estimate about 100 games per solitaire); (8) Statistics — display your current scores of the games that you have played; (9) Rules — the rules of the solitaire; and (10) Exit — exit the program.

If you need to leave the game that you are playing and return to it later, pushing the F7 keyboard key saves the game for you. Later, when you re-enter the same solitaire, pushing F5 makes the game that you were previously playing reappear right where you left off. Another

unusual feature is that you can create your own solitaire by using the Pretty Good Solitaire wizard.

When you're playing a game and you don't see any more moves, you can push the Ctrl (control) and H keyboard keys together, and the game will make the next available move for you if there are any moves available.

You can sign up to receive the free Pretty Good Solitaire newsletter, which frequently announces new versions, answers fellow readers' questions, describes what other new features are available, etc. As you become more efficient in winning games, you can post your scores on the Pretty Good Solitaire website with all of the other players worldwide and see if you do have the highest score.

I have five favorite solitaires that I play frequently. These solitaires are (1) Klondike, a medium hard solitaire; (2) Northwest Territory, an easy solitaire and a combination of Klondike and Flower Garden; (3) Pyramid, a medium solitaire; (4) Russian Solitaire, a hard solitaire and a variation of Yukon; and (5) Siberia, a medium solitaire.

The Pretty Good Solitaire program costs \$24.95 for the download. If you prefer a CD, the cost is \$32.45. The website of Pretty Good Solitaire is www.goodsol.com. The current version, 13.1.0, which was released Sept. 23, 2011, contains 10 new games. You can download the 8 MB program and use it for 30 days free. The program is totally compatible with Windows 98/Me/XP/Vista/7. There is a special version for Apple computers — Mac X, but it has only 300 solitaires instead of the 770 that Windows has. When you currently purchase Pretty Good Solitaire, you will continue to receive free upgrades through the end of 2015. If for some reason within the first 30 days after you purchase Pretty Good Solitaire you are not satisfied, you can return Pretty Good Solitaire for a full refund.

In addition to solitaire, Pretty Good Solitaire offers a Mahjongg both for Windows and for Mac.

Company goes bankrupt after bad certificates

By Toby Scott

No Rick's Rant this month. Sorry about that. Today's topic was just too complicated for him so we had to bring out the tall timber.

Toby's tantrum



Scott

Today we talk about SSL, certificates and trust. At the heart of the Internet, there are organizations we don't think about — might not even know about — that are at the center of our online safety. At a time when businesses and individuals are moving to the cloud in huge numbers, being secure online has become far more important than ever before.

Certificates are issued by recognized Root Certificate Authorities, who assure us that when we go to a secure website (they start with https:// rather than the more common http:// and most browsers change the color in the Address Bar) that

the site is who it says it is. One of the ways we can make sure we are going to our real bank online is that the site has the Certificate that validates its identity. If I don't see that https:// I get out of there fast. Same thing for making purchases on Amazon.

Over the years, there has been quite a bit of theorizing over the Chinese government's control of certificates issued by the Hong Kong Post Office.

There have been rumors of fake certificates that allow the Chinese government to create man-in-the-middle attacks on various western websites.

Whether any of these rumors are true is open to question.


But one Root Certificate Authority, DigiNotar, has put a definite end to speculation about the issuance of fake certificates. DigiNotar is one of Europe's larger certificate issuers, issuing certificates for all of the Dutch government's sites. Someone calling himself "Comodo Hacker" managed to get into their site

and create more than 500 fake certificates, including some for Gmail. Researchers at F-Secure have pinpointed the location of the certificates as the government of Iran. Apparently they were eavesdropping on email transactions for Iranians that Iranian citizens thought were secure. The Iranian DNS servers were using the fake certificates to point the user to a fake site, and then using the login credential to create a real connection to the Gmail account. This "man-in-the-middle" attack allows the Iranian government to eavesdrop on supposedly secure connections without the user being aware that anything is amiss.

DigiNotar earned the irritation of the security community by having a weak password and leaving its SQL server vulnerable to a SQL injection. But what really sunk them was that they tried to cover it up for several weeks.

Microsoft, Firefox, Google, Opera, Safari and nearly all other browsers have

(Continued on page 14)



Ventura County Computers
Fast, Friendly, Humorous Service... Most of the time

(805) 289-3960


2175 Goodyear Ave. #117 Ventura 93003

Learn how you can benefit from this exciting new technology from Intel. If you're not driving an SSD you're missing out. Come on by and drive one out today.

Speed Meets Capacity

Want Solid-State Drive (SSD)-like storage performance with Hard Disk Drive (HDD) capacity, at a lower cost than a large SSD?

Combine an Intel® Solid-State Drive 311 Series, a HDD, and Intel® Smart Response Technology for a simple way to accelerate storage performance. Intel Smart Response Technology — enabled by systems utilizing the Intel® Z68 Express Chipset with Intel® Rapid Storage Technology version 10.5 and second-generation Intel® Core processors — seamlessly combines responsiveness similar to a high-performance SSD with the capacity and low cost of a hard drive. The two technologies appear as a single C:\ driver letter that provides you with the familiar storage identifier. The system automatically learns which files are accessed frequently and copies them from the HDD to the SSD.



SugarSync a sweet synchronizing solution

By Vinny LaBash

Regular Columnist, Sarasota PCUG, Florida
August 2011 issue, Sarasota Monitor
www.spcug.org
labash (at) spcug.org

There was once a time when having a rotary telephone put you in the front lines of innovation. That was long ago, and modern communications technology is as far advanced from that day as communicating by smoke signal. If you have any combination of desktop computer, laptop, smartphone, tablet, and whatever, you need some way to coordinate information so that every device you own has the same up-to-date information.

One way to make sure all your files are equally up-to-date is

(Continued on page 15)

More on Toby's tantrum ...

(Continued from page 13)

removed the DigiNotar certificates from their list of Root Certificate Authorities.

The upshot of this is that less than a month after being hacked, DigiNotar has filed for bankruptcy. Any company that paid for a DigiNotar certificate is probably going to have to pay someone else for a replacement certificate.

There is no possibility that DigiNotar can come back. Once you have lost trust with the Internet community, you are cooked.

Comodo Hacker, who claims to be a 21-year-old Iranian student, has said he's hacked three other certificate issuers and will begin issuing fake certificates through them. If that's not an empty boast it's going to be an interesting time in an area of the Internet that most of us have paid little or no attention to. Not any more.

Most of us won't suffer much more than inconvenience from these attacks, even if they do manifest themselves. Unless our DNS servers are compromised, they will use the real certificate for authentication and we will go to the proper location. The way Iran hijacked the accounts was to control both the certificates and the DNS. DNS is the service that translates www.google.com into 74.125.224.114 or similar. Iranian DNS had to point to their own sites rather than Google's and then have a certificate authority recognized by the computer say that the IP address was the correct IP address for the certificate. It's a two-step process. For most of us, we don't have to worry about the DNS being hacked, so we don't have to worry about the hacked certificates. Our DNS servers will still point us to the correct site, despite the fact that there is a new certificate pointing elsewhere. Until the primary certificate is revoked, we'll still go to the right place.

Members' classified ads

Classified ads are free to members. Each ad is limited to 105 characters, including spaces and to one ad per member per month. Copy has to be to John Weigle, editor of TOE (editor@cipcug.org), within the week after the regular meeting. Otherwise, the ad is held to the following month.

Free

For sale

Wanted

Other categories as needed

The Outer Edge is printed and prepared for mailing by:

Bob Weisensee
Production Supervisor



CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY
of Sarasota, Inc.

5959 Palmer Boulevard
Sarasota, FL 34232-2841

bob@ctims.com
newsletters@ctims.com

(941) 371-2743 Fax: (941) 379-2933 (800) 533-1031

User group members
SAVE 40% off print
and **50%** off ebooks

ENTER DISCOUNT
CODE: DSUG

O'REILLY



Spreading the knowledge of Innovators

oreilly.com

Be sure to keep your anti-malware programs up to date and run regular scans.

We're losing money on coffee, doughnuts

By Helen Long

We discussed the problem with the coffee money at the board meeting. We keep coming up a bit short with this, and I think the honor system may not be functioning too well. We have decided to put a club member on the money box, just to see if it makes a difference. You really wouldn't miss any of the meeting, but you may have to scramble to be at the head of the line. We aren't really accusing the club members of dishonesty, but we need to know why we are coming up short each month. If we can't break even on the coffee-doughnut money, we may have to cease providing the service.

We also decided that it was time to increase the price of the club's domain name users for email addresses. We don't have very many members left, but Toby

Bits & Bytes



Long

has let this slide for about 15 years now, and we felt that it was about time for a modest price increase. The price is being increased from \$15 to \$20 annually. I know I have enjoyed my helen@cipcug.org email account. It sure is handy when you are changing Internet providers periodically to not have to change your email address each time.

Art Lewis is taking reservations for the "Secret Guide" by Russ Walter. We haven't had the book for sale for a while, so it might be a good time to update your copy. The 31st edition of the "Secret Guide to Computers and Tricky Living" has 703 pages in 52 chapters grouped into 10 sections. It has more than 40,000 improvements over the previous edition, and

covers Windows 7, modern browsers, websites, email systems, MS Office 2010, modern programming languages, and much more. The retail cost for this book is \$25 and CIPCUG will sell copies for \$20. The book makes a wonderful Christmas present. You can stop by the registration desk to sign up for the book. He will be collecting money in October and November, and the books should be here by December.

Staples will be presenting the program in October on "tablets." We have not had a program on them before, and it should be interesting.

Nov. 19 will be TOPAZ, which has promised to come with its video and image enhancement products that use the most advanced technology available.

HAVE YOU RUN YOUR ANTI-SPYWARE PROGRAMS LATELY?

More on SugarSync ...

(Continued from page 14)

using a popular cloud-based utility known as Dropbox. However, there is a lesser-known tool that gives you more for less. We're talking about SugarSync, which is constantly evolving into a service similar to Dropbox, but with better mobile support, advanced file control, and superior price performance.

When you open your account at www.sugarsync.com, you supply a user name and password and then install the application. As long as you're connected to the Internet, the files you drag into your local SugarSync folder magically appear on all PCs, laptops, phones, and iPads that also have SugarSync installed and are attached to the same SugarSync account. The files also appear online when you sign into the SugarSync site and specify the same user name and password.

SugarSync sets up your system to start backing up your data as soon as you initiate the program. Don't worry, it won't do anything without your permission, and there is no need to be concerned about

your information getting out of control. The interface is clunky compared to the more intuitive IE browser window, which is one of the few downsides to SugarSync. The developers are probably still concerned about legacy issues, a fear that will probably disappear over time, but may cost them customers before it's eliminated.

Support for mobile devices is nothing less than outstanding. It supports more mobile devices than any other product. If you're using Windows 7 or Symbian, SugarSync is there for you. These platforms may be relatively unimportant in the grand scheme of things today, but if you happen to use one of them SugarSync should be of interest.

SugarSync has a unique design feature for your Pictures folder. Of course synchronizing and viewing pictures from mobile devices is supported, but the process is treated as much more than a casual concession to photo buffs. It does more than back up your pictures. It creates online galleries to share with colleagues and friends. You don't have to back up

your photographs to one location and upload them. If you take a picture with your mobile device it's automatically sent to SugarSync and downloaded to your computer. The gallery layout is superb for a Web-based product, and the photo viewers are excellent.

Music lovers will appreciate their MP3 files following them like puppy dogs. The computer does not have to be turned on because music files are being streamed from SugarSync. Audiophiles can listen to music no matter where they are.

SugarSync continuously backs up your files in real time, not just once or twice a day. So if you edit a document in the morning, and accidentally delete it in the afternoon you can restore it quickly with no hassles. The program stores the five latest versions of any backed-up file so it's not a quandary if you need an earlier version. The downside to this is that five versions of multiple files can take up a lot of storage. The upside is that only the most recent version of a file is

(Continued on page 16)

Gremlins win a couple

CORRECTIONS: Last issue in this column I referred to Jennifer Scott rather than Jessica. Two issues ago, in the Q&A, I referred to Toby Scott as Toby School. I apologize to both of them for the blunders. Also in the last issue in the Coming events report, the date of the October meeting was incorrect near the end of the article.

Facebook debates rage on

The changes at Facebook — both those that have already been implemented and others that, as this is written, have been announced but not fully implemented — are generating lots of comments, especially from people who aren't happy with what's going on.

The biggest change, which was being rolled out slowly when this was written, is the Timeline, which is supposed to arrange all your posts and information about you chronologically. To an extent, of course, that's what happens how as your older posts scroll off the screen to be replaced by newer posts from you and others.

I've posted a couple of links on the CIPCUG page in Facebook, including one to a PC World report on suggested privacy settings for the new look. Here's the link if you're interested but don't have a Facebook account:

http://www.pcworld.com/article/240891/facebook_timeline_privacy_settings_youll_want_to_set.html#tk.nl_dnx_h_crawl.

If you read this online, there's an extra space after timeline_ to make it fit in this space. — **John Weigle, editor**

More on SugarSync ...

(Continued from page 15)

counted toward your storage quota.

If you are having trouble thinking of some uses for SugarSync here are some suggestions:

Inadvertently overwriting a file is no longer a potential disaster as SugarSync keeps a copy of the older file making restoration easy and painless.

Many people treasure their old photographs. Keeping pictures safely backed up in digital format means storing them as long as necessary with no deterioration in quality.

Roboform users can synchronize passwords safely and securely.

You can retrieve files no matter where you are or what device you happen to be using.

Share folders with family members. Any great vacation pictures, new additions to the family, celebrations, and other memorable events are instantly available.

Listen to music anywhere.

Synchronize documents such as invoices across multiple devices. Accountants will love it.

SugarSync can act as an insurance policy against losing important information. Backups are no longer a hassle or a nuisance.

Treasurer's report for August 2011

By Art Lewis

treasurer@cipcug.org

8-1-2011 through

8-31-2011

Category Description

INFLOWS

Coffee income	-7.75
Membership Income	
Renewals	305.00
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	305.00
Misc. Income	170.00
Raffle	82.00

TOTAL INFLOWS 549.25

OUTFLOWS

Misc. expense	128.00
Raffle prizes	90.16
Rent Paid	150.00
TOE	201.56

TOTAL OUTFLOWS 569.72

OVERALL TOTAL -20.47

Unrestricted Funds	5,755.95
Restricted Funds	0.00
Bank Balance 8-31-11	5,755.95
Year to Date Income	1,092.25
Year to Date Expense	1,123.63
Net Year to Date	-31.38



Lewis

Editor's corner



Weigle

2011 contributors to The Outer Edge

Your name can appear here, too. Share your knowledge with other members by sending an article, letter or computer tip to editor@cipcug.org.

Ken Church
Rick Curry
Bob de Violini
Bill Kenworthy
Jeff Levy
Art Lewis
Brian K. Lewis (APCUG)
Helen Long
Warner Mach (APCUG)
Dick Maybach (APCUG)
Diane Mortensen
Sr. Dorothy Robinson (APCUG)

SANS Institute
Sharon Parq Associates Inc.
Toby Scott
Michael Shalkey
Rick Smith
Smart Computing magazine
Les Townsing A0CUG)
US-CERT
Bill Wayson
John Weigle
Jonathan Wylie
Worldstart computer tips,
www.worldstart.com

Membership report:

Is it time to renew?

By Ken Church

email address: membership@cipcug.org



CHURCH

Welcome —

Returning Member: Shay Collier

New Member: Brook Evans

Attendance at the September 2011 general meeting:
52 members and guests

Total membership: 196

MEMBER RENEWAL INFORMATION

\$30 for single membership,
\$35 for two or more family membership.

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

\$40 first year for single membership,
\$55 first year for two or more family membership in same household.

Please send your payment to:

CIPCUG MEMBERSHIP
P.O. BOX 51354
OXNARD, CA 93031-1354

Or bring your payment to the sign in table for the Oct. 22, 2011, meeting.

August 2011 renewals payment due:

Mbr#	Last Name	First Name	Pd to Dt
1193	Abbate	Mannie	201108
0985	Bartels	Pat	201108
0028	Fiedler	Art	201108
0806T	Hurme	Seppo	201108
0986	Kennedy, Jr.	Robert	201108
0368	Long	Helen	201108
0867	Pryor	Dorothy	201108
0474	Pryor	John	201108
1223	Reed	Dan	201108
0498	Ruzella	Paddy	201108

September 2011 renewals payment due:

Mbr#	Last Name	First Name	Pd to Dt
0714	Bryan	Bob	201109
0006T	Burnett	Bob	201109
0613	Green	Gunnar	201109
1161	Greene	William	201109
0249	Greenway	Frank	201109
0373	Houle	Robert	201109
0773T	Lang	Nita	201109
1037	Lerner	Robert	201109
1235	Shaw	Wayne	201109
1208	Sheffield	Craig	201109
1036	Smith	Howard	201109
1230A	Tolian	John	201109
1230B	Tolian	Mary	201109
1181T	Toscano	Matthew	201109

October 2011 renewals payment due:

Mbr#	Last Name	First Name	Pd to Dt
1224	Alexander	Doug	201110
0034	Campbell	Gordon	201110
1107T	Carlson	Gordy	201110
0385	Forder	John	201110
1210	Fox	John	201110
1236	Hauge	Doug	201110
0990	Mehr	Steve	201110
0942	Mickey	Barbara	201110
1209	Nachian	Paul	201110
0901	Shelton	Charles	201110
0158	Volpi	Ralph	201110
0994	Zaas	Robert	201110



F1—Your Help Key

(Revised Sept. 7, 2008)

COMMUNICATIONS/INTERNET (GENERAL)

World Wide Web DM

DATABASES

Access BR

DOS

RP

E-MAIL

Outlook MS
 Outlook Express BR, DM
 Thunderbird MS

GRAPHICS PROGRAMS

IrfanView MS
 Paint Shop Pro DM
 Photo Shop Elements BR
 Print Shop BR

SPREADSHEETS

Microsoft Excel DM

WORD PROCESSING

Microsoft Word DM
 WordPerfect DM

WINDOWS

Windows 98, 95 DM, MS (98)
 Windows 2000 BDV
 Windows XP DM

<u>Initials</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>(805)</u>
BDV	Bob de Violini	rjddev@gmail.com
BR	Bill Robinson	389-2997 (b) bill@bzus.com
DM	David Minkin	469-6970 (cell); 484-2974 (home); dddave@cipcug.org
MS	Michael Shalkey	mshalkey@cipcug.org
RP	Robert Provart	498-8477 (b)

Phone: (d) = days; (e) = evenings; (b) = both

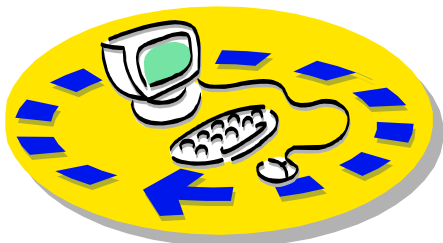
If you would like to volunteer to help others, please send your contact information and programs you're willing to help on to editor@cipcug.org.

.....

WEB HELP SITES (Updated 4-5-11)

Annoyances Central blog (from authors of the O'Reilly Annoyances series, including Steve Bass):
www.annoyancescentral.com
 Steve Bass TechBite Newsletter registration page:
www.techbite.com
 DSL reports: www.dslreports.com
 Steve Gibson: www.grc.com
 Kim Komando: www.komando.com
 Leo Laporte: www.leoville.com
 Jeff Levy: www.jefflevy.com
 Linux distributions: www.DistroWatch.com
 Microsoft: www.microsoft.com
 OnGuard Online: <http://www.onguardonline.gov>
 Online safety tips: www.OnGuardOnline.gov
 PC Pitstop: www.pcpitstop.com
 PC World: www.pcworld.com
 Recalled products: www.recalls.gov
 SANS Institute — Computer Security Education and Information Security Training: www.sans.org
 Smart Computing: www.smartcomputing.com
 Spyware Warrior: www.spywarewarrior.com
 User Group Relations (Gene Barlow): www.ugr.com
 Ventura County Computers (Rick and Toby's shop):
www.vccomputers.com
 Virus Bulletin: www.virusbtn.com/index
 Windows Secrets: www.windowssecrets.com
 Windows The Official Magazine (UK):
www.officialwindowsmagazine.com/

If you have a favorite help site on the Web, please forward it, so we can expand the section. If you find a link that doesn't work, please tell us that, too.



Why join Channel Islands PC Users Group (CIPCUG)?

Every month, members of the Channel Islands PC Users Group have access to:

◆ The Outer Edge newsletter, which includes a list of members willing to help other members.

◆ The general meeting, featuring a question-and-answer session and program on new software or hardware.

◆ Special Interest Groups — special meetings held several times a month.

◆ Door prizes at the regular meeting. Other benefits include:

◆ Special user group discounts on books and software.

◆ A flash drive containing many useful freeware programs.

◆ A chance to make friends with people who have similar interests.

◆ The ability to put your knowledge to good use by helping other members.

The whole concept of user groups is members helping members.

Please clip the coupon below and send with payment to CIPCUG-Membership, P.O. Box 51354, Oxnard, CA 93031-1354.

Please make checks payable to CIPCUG.

Dues for new members

Individual member, \$40.

Family membership (same address), \$55.

Renewals are \$30 and \$35 per year respectively.

TOE subscription only (in the U.S.), \$20.

CIPCUG E-MAIL ADDRESS

Members who would like to have an e-mail address through CIPCUG in the form of YourName@cipcug.org may obtain one for \$20 per year.

CIPCUG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Amount enclosed: _____

Please Print the following information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____

ZIP Code: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____

E-mail address: _____

User level: Novice ____; Intermediate ____; Advanced ____

Can you help the club as a volunteer? If so, what would you be interested in working on?

Date _____ Member # _____

Channel Islands PC Users Group Inc.

P.O.Box 51354
Oxnard, CA: 93031

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OXNARD, CA
PERMIT NO. 1785

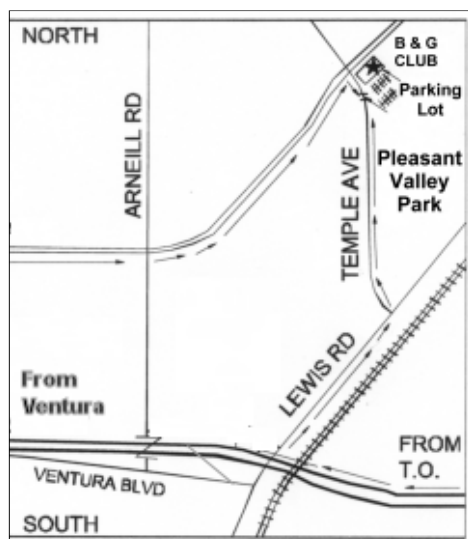
DATED MATERIAL
Please Do Not Delay

DUES REMINDER

If the number above your name is 2011OCTOBER, your membership dues are payable in October 2011.

OCTOBER 2011 MEETING OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS PC USERS GROUP

The map shows the easiest route to the Boys & Girls Club, but if you prefer, you can take the Carmen Drive offramp to Ponderosa Drive, which leads to Temple Avenue.



Saturday morning, Oct. 22, at the Boys & Girls Club, 1500 Temple Ave. (Ponderosa Drive and Temple Avenue), Camarillo.

Meeting Schedule:

8:30 a.m.	Doors open
8:45-9:30	Internet and networking SIG, Social Media SIG
9:30-10:30	Business meeting, Q&A
10:30-11:00	Break — Please contribute requested amounts for coffee and doughnuts
11:00-12:00	Program — Staples on tablets Drawing