The Outer Edge

Whole No. 305
ISSN 1055-4399

October 2012
Vol. 26, No. 3

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

Attendance at the August general meeting:
51 members and guests.
We welcome three new members.

To Contact CIPCUG

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On the Web: cipcug.org
On Facebook: Facebook.com/groups/cipcug

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By Jim Brown, President

"Promoting the Harmony of Computer Education, and Camaraderie"

Greetings to all of you.

Last month we celebrated our computer group's 25th anniversary with an entertaining program, a morning filled with camaraderie and entertainment. For those who missed this event, you missed something that may not happen again for quite a while.

This event was successful as a result of the efforts of many people who realized that this was the time to honor the individuals who were there in the beginning of this organization. This was the time to relearn our computer group's history and get it right while everyone was still here. This was the time to re-energize ourselves with purpose, to re-evaluate our programs. This event could serve to entertain, and to act as a learning experience. So the question might be asked, "What are we supposed to learn from this?"

Brown

Here is what I think we might learn: This process started in earnest two months ago. At that time there were some who expressed some resistance and concern. This was based on prior experiences with innovation. We had to learn to think big, think out of the box so to speak, and have an image of what we wanted. Visualization and intention are key components of any enterprise. Then, relying on faith to combat some of the lingering doubts expressed at meetings, we remained on course. With these principles in place, members and board members came forth with information to help us get things right and contributed to the overall success of this event.

I think also that we need to relook at the key components of our regular meetings. Members have spoken to me with suggestions regarding topics, teaching classes, the raffles, and special events. The board will discuss these topics in the next few months.

Success can be determined by many factors — financial, entertainment, attendance at this event, participation by our members in the luncheon, donation of raffle prizes, and the purchase of raffle tickets, which, by the way, paid for this event. I, however, gauge the success of this event not only on the above markers but on the camaraderie and participation of all connected with

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2006 Southwest User Group Conference: second place in both the newsletter and Web site contests.

2011 APCUG first place in the newsletter contest (medium groups).

Channel Islands PC Users Group

CIPCUG mailing address:
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Executive Committee
(Elected members of Board of Directors)

President……..……...Jim Brown
…….……president@cipcug.org
Vice President/Program Chairman
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Secretary……..Diane Mortensen
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Treasurer……..……..…Art Lewis
……..….treasurer@cipcug.org
Immediate Past President
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……..…….....trindflo@cipcug.org

(Appointed members of Board of Directors)

Technical Adviser……..Toby Scott
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TOE editor……..……John Weigle
……...editor@cipcug.org
Membership Chairman……...Ken Church
…….membership@cipcug.org

Ex-officio members of Board of Directors

CIPCUG ISP Signups……..Art Lewis
Sound Equipment Technicians
……..David Minkin and Curt Davison
Program Chairman……..…Craig Ladd
Publicity Chairman...……..…Rick Curry
SIG coordinator…..……...Larry Hudson

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Walt Yates……1987-1989
Lois Evans de Violini……...1989-1991
Terry Lee……...1991-1993
Jerry McLoud……...1993-1995
Robert Provart……...1995-1997
Toby Scott……1997-1999
George Lakes ……...1999-2001
Andy Toth……2001-2003
David Harris……2003-2005
Lois Evans de Violini 2005-2007
Paul Westefer……2007-2009
Rick Curry……..……2009-2011
(With the exception of the immediate past president, past presidents are not board members.)

Life members

Frank Segesman*
Toby Scott
Lois Evans de Violini
Art Lewis
Helen Long
*Deceased

CIPCUG is a member of APCUG, The Association of PC Users Groups

The Outer Edge

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Advertising is accepted for computer-related materials, businesses and services only. Rates are for Camera-Ready copy (clear, clean black and white masters). Typesetting and graphics are available at an additional fee.

SIZE	Cost/Issue
FULL-PAGE (9½"H x 7¼"W)	$50.00
HALF-PAGE (4½"H x 7¼"W) or (9½"H x 3½"W)	$30.00
THIRD-PAGE (3"H x 7¼" W)	$25.00
QUARTER-PAGE (4½"H x 3½W)	$20.00
BUSINESS CARD ad	$15.00

Discounts for multiple issues (3, 6, 9 and 12 months)
Ad copy deadline is the 5th of the month of publication.
Make all checks payable to CIPCUG**.**

Members' classified ads are free but are limited to 105 characters, including spaces.

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

Member's phone call lost by editor

Correction: Last month's Q&A report included a question on problems with Firebox. The reference should have been to Firefox, a popular Web browser.

Attention, Mr. Lee

A week or so ago, a member whose last name is Lee called me with a change of address request. Either through my clumsiness or a quirk in my phone/answering machine, the message was deleted when a call came in. Please either call me again or send your address change to our membership chairman, Ken Church, at membership@cipcug.org. I apologize for the problem.

Editor's corner

Weigle

I was wrong

I have to admit that I was skeptical about plans for the 25th Anniversary Celebration as they grew beyond a simple recognition program and after-meeting lunch, but I'm happy to admit I was wrong. Last month's program was masterfully put together by Rick Smith, who combined photos, film clips and other material to present a history of CIPCUG and computing in the past 25 years. I was familiar with some of our history but learned much about why the club was formed and the people who led the effort. Fortunately, I have been in the club long enough to have known and worked with some of those people, although I didn't join until I started working with a computer at The Star and wanted to learn more. When I joined, we were meeting at the Oxnard Airport, and several of us went to lunch at the café there after the meetings. Great fun, not to mention the wonderful tri-tip.

My congratulations to all those who worked on the program, both at the meeting and behind the scenes. You went ahead and made our day. Thanks also to all those honored.

But, as we've been told many times by many people, times have changed, and fewer people feel the need for a user group. Computers are, after all, more familiar to everyone than they were when the club formed. I don't know what's needed to spur new growth in membership, but I do know the board would be happy to hear any ideas you have. We'd also love to have more volunteers to help handle any new projects we take on. As TOE editor, I'm fortunate to have Jim Thornton, Rick Smith and Bob de Violini as regular contributors, but I'd always welcome more, especially if we are forced to become an electronic-only publication. That change would give us almost unlimited space for each issue, and I could quickly use up all the articles supplied by other editors through the Association of PC Users Groups.

— John Weigle, editor

Coming events

Windows 8 is topic of October program

Programs

Toby Scott and Michael Shalkey will discuss Windows 8 at the Oct. 27 meeting at the Camarillo Boys & Girls Club, 1500 Temple Ave. (Ponderosa Drive and Temple Avenue), Camarillo (see the map on the last page). The doors will open at 8 a.m. and the program will start at 8:45 a.m. We expect to have both the Internet and Connectivity SIG led by Toby Scott and a Social Media, Alternative Devices SIG (smartphones, tablets, etc.) led by Jessica Scott.

Of Windows 8, Scott said: "I'm going to give a run-down on the changes from Windows 7 and explain how to make it work for you.

"They have moved so many things around that just finding out how to shut down Windows is tricky. Lots of new things to learn and work with. We'll have fun with it."

More information about Windows 8 is availablet at http://res2.windows.microsoft.com/resbox/en/6.2/main/c41a3f15-615e-4aca-a9a7-dca6fe967005_31.mp4 and many non-Microsoft sites.

Other meeting dates for this year:

(Continued on page 4)

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.

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

Long-time members share CIPCUG memories

By Noel Van Slyke

Before getting to memories of the club, a few words may be in order as to why we bought the Leading Edge computer that led to our being involved with the formation of the club. While working at Point Mugu, I was a member of a group that coordinated bringing speakers to the base. One of these was Adm. (then Commodore) Grace Hopper. The first use of the term "computer bug" is attributed to her. I picked her up at the Officers' Club and had breakfast with her. I was able to get more acquainted with her than I might otherwise. She was quite an amazing person. Her talk later that day about the early days of computing and what she saw for the future made a lasting impression on me. One of her main points was that we should assure that our children were computer literate because computers were going to be a big part of their lives. Very prophetic! At the time I had no visualization of the degree to which computers would become be a part of the lives of my children and grandchildren.

I took Commodore Hopper's words to heart. After bouncing the idea off of Kathy, I ordered a Heathkit H89 computer kit. I had previously built several Heathkits; this would be my most challenging project. Amazingly, after the lengthy assembly process, it worked. I introduced our grade school-aged son and daughter to using a computer. Around then our son learned to type on an old-fashioned typewriter. He had fine motor problems that made writing difficult and typed his school papers. When he got to middle school, the papers became longer. We realized that we needed a computer that had word processing software to make his work easier. After researching what was available, we decided on the Leading Edge computer. There was a Leading Edge store on Main Street in Ventura. At the time, Kathy thought that the Leading Edge was all the computer we would ever need. Now our household of just the two of us has two desktop computers running Windows 7 (his and hers), a laptop computer running Vista (ours for trips), a netbook computer running Windows 7 (mine for doing genealogy research at the library), and our old laptop running XP that is in the ham shack.

To start with, our son was the main user of the computer. Kathy heard about a Leading Edge User Group being formed and went to the initial (or at least an early meeting). She wanted to find out more about what we could do with our new computer. She had been a computer programmer on mainframe computers when she worked at Point Mugu (machine language, Cobol, Fortran, etc.). I forget how many meetings she attended before I first went. She jokingly says that it is unfair that I have member number 19 and she is number 20 when she was there first.

The Leading Edge User Group organized, and we became charter members. We were small at first but slowly grew in numbers. I was either secretary or treasurer on an early board. I do not remember when I started or how many years I was, but I remember that Lois Evans was president (in her first time on the board) while I was on the board. In order to get more members, we decided to change the name to something more inclusive. Thus we became the Channel Islands PC Users Group. Besides Walt Yates and Lois Ev-

(Continued on page 5)

More on coming events ...

(Continued from page 3)

Nov. 17 (**third Saturday**)
Dec. 15 (**third Saturday**)

SIGs

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

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 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 when one occurs is at a location 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) or Internet and connectivity SIG (Toby Scott), 8:45 a.m. The location of Michael Shalkey's after-meeting SIG, on days there is one, is announced at the meeting.

The October and November schedules:

October

Tuesday, Oct. 23: Linux SIG. Bill Wayson will moderate and says, "we no longer have a Windows installation on the CIPCUG PC to demonstrate open source software on. So we will discuss Ext2Fsd and Directshow Filters and try to help anyone with a computer problem or question."

Saturday, Oct. 27: Pre-meeting SIGs on Social Media and Internet and email at 8:45 a.m.

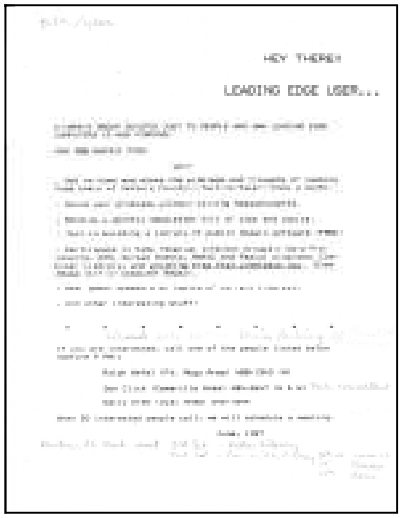
November

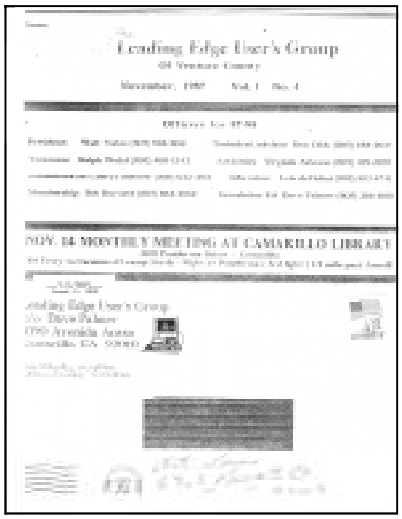
Tuesday, Nov. 24: Linux SIG. Topic TBA.

Saturday, Nov. 27: Pre-meeting SIGs on Social Media and Internet and connectivity at 8:45 a.m..

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

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS





The newsletter through the years, courtesy of Art Lewis: From left, an initial announcement of the group's formation, Vol. 1, No. 4 of the newsletter, and Vol. 1, No. 9 with the new name. The history continues on the next page.

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ans, I think Bob de Violini was also a charter member. If not the first newsletter editor, he was one of the first and filled that position for many years.

By Bob Burnett

My name is Bob Burnett, and I am a charter member of LEUG/CIPCUG. My member number is 006.

In 1987 The Leading Edge Computer was very popular and the company encouraged and supported computer user groups.

Both Oxnard and Ventura College used Leading Edge computers. The college and local dealers encouraged forming clubs.

Several users in Oxnard/Camarillo encouraged forming clubs.

In 1987 those interested were invited to a meeting at the home of Walt Yates. In attendance were Walt Yates, Don Click, Bob and Lois de Violini, Ralph Wafel and Bob Burnett.

Walt Yates was able to control differences and the club was formed.

Walt Yates was elected president; Don Click, vice president; Lois de Violini. secretary; Ralph Wafel, treasurer; Bob de Violini, news editor; and Bob Burnett, membership chairman.

We purchased a Leading Edge computer and had a Saturday meeting each month. We advertised the club through dealers, colleges and computer shows and through the newsletter, The Outer Edge, an immediate success.

BURNETT

We met at the Camarillo Library. As we grew we added a second monitor to improve viewing. I recall that one member named Ericson brought binoculars for a better view.

We purchased a coffee pot and sold coffee and doughnuts at meetings.

I had a truck and transported equipment to and from meetings as well as picked up doughnuts for several years.

We enjoyed two computer publications distributed free to Los Angeles and Ventura. They delivered 200 each to my home in Oxnard, and I brought them to the meetings.

When they discontinued Ventura delivery they delivered to my office in Los Angeles, and I brought them home until meeting day.

Art Fiedler and I printed the mailing labels and attached them to the newsletter. We ran them through the printer twice, once for the name and address and a second time for a graphic.

I am the author of the statement printed in our monthly newsletter "The Friendly Computer Club Helping Make Computers Friendly."

We later changed our name to Chanel Islands PC Users Group (CIPCUG) after the Leading Edge computer company went out of business.

In my opinion the continued success of our club is due to our friendly members, excellent leaders and excellent newsletter. Have you expressed your appreciation to John Wiegle? If you have not, please do!

Robert (not Bob) Provart commented that he joined the club because of the warm welcome received in his first visit.

We wore nametags every meeting and after each meeting, we dumped them in a box. Next meeting several people helped sort them on a table.

When Stan Ranson became the membership chairman, he made wood folding cabinets to store nametags alphabetically. Thanks again, Stan!

When Bob de Violini resigned as editor, many of us worried, but Stan Ranson took over and did a wonderful job as John is doing now.

Lois de Violini saved the club "a tons" of money. We rented the airport location from the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District for $300. Lois provided computer service to the district in exchange for free rent. Thank you again,

(Continued on page 6)

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

The history continues: From left, Vol. 1, No. 12; Vol. 4, No. 1 (note that the group's name has changed to CIPCUG); Vol. 6, No. 1 with a redesigned nameplate.

(Continued from page 5)

Lois!

I enjoyed being an active member for years. Several years ago, Charlotte, my wife of 60-plus years, had a stroke. We moved to West Los Angeles to be close to family. I greatly miss the meetings and my many friends. I enjoy reading the newsletter every month and thank you, Toby and Michael, for the great input.

I'm so sorry I am unable to attend the 25th Anniversary Meeting. Wish all current and past members my greetings and best wishes.

By Arline and George Lakes

Dear CIPCUG board members and volunteers,

Your plans for the 25th Anniversary Event scheduled for Sept. 22, 2012, sound great. It represents a lot of planning and work, but a great idea! We hope it is a wonderful day for everyone. All of you volunteers are so committed to making the club a continued huge success. It takes all of you pulling together to make it so, each doing his or her part.

We congratulate John on The Outer Edge receiving the top APCUG honor. We have enjoyed and prefer the hard copies, but electronic may be the only way to go. We continue to enjoy the ISP even though verbally giving our address seems confusing to some. We have fond memories of all the years we were active in the club. George's presidency, time spent on the board, including the newsletter folding parties and the SIGs that gave us the opportunity to know all of you and form friendships with all of you dedicated people.

We regret, due to health reasons, we will not be able to attend the meeting this Saturday, and probably not many in the future, but we wish all of you the very best!

To your good health and happiness,

God Bless all of you.

The honorees

During the meeting, many longtime members and volunteers received certificates. Pictures of all those who were present appear on the following pages. The complete list:

Charter members (three are still active):

Lois Evans de Violini

Kathy Slyke — member No. 20

Noel Van Slyke — member No. 19

Bob Burnet (still a member but can not attend meetings)

Other awards:

Nita Lang (deceased) — former secretary

Gracia Marks — led many SIGS

Patty Ruzella — sells raffle tickets

Andy Toth — former president, current webmaster

David Minkin — sound technician

Jerry Crocker — photographer

Curt Davidson — assistant sound technician

Larry Hudson — sends the SIG and meeting reminders

Bill Wayson — leads Linux SIG, writes The Penguin's Lair for TOE

Martha Churchyard — former secretary

Robert De Violini — contributor to TOE; son of charter member Bob de Violini.

Sandy Gelso — sells raffle tickets

Helen Long — former secretary, former webmaster, writes Bits & Bytes for TOE

George Lakes — longtime member, former president

Arline Lakes — longtime member who took on many jobs that needed to be done

Roberrt Provart — longtime member, DOS guru

Art Lewis — longtime treasurer

Ken Church — longtime membership chairman

Craig Ladd — vice president and program chairman

Michael Shalkey — SIG leader, program presenter and guru

Rick Smith — longtime supporter of

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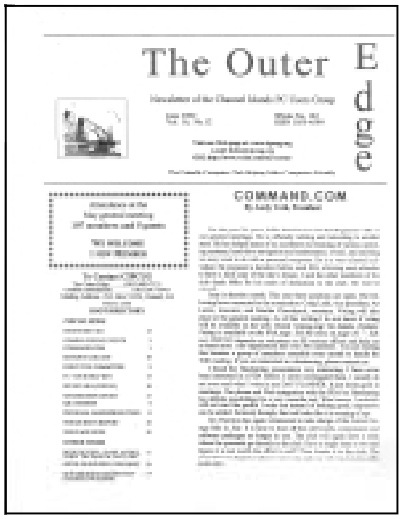
CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS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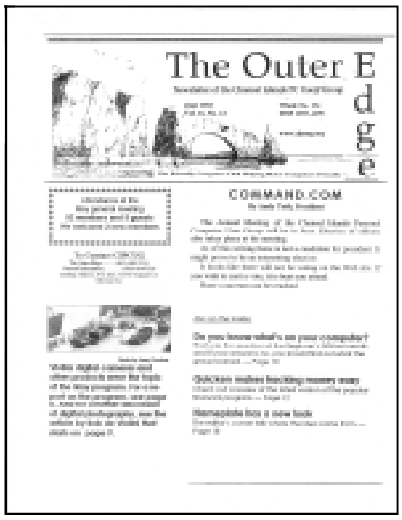
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From left, above, Vol. 16, No. 12 with a small version of the Anacapa Island arch; and Vol. 16, No. 12, with the enlarged arch. In the photos at right, Rick Smith starts a mockup of a Leading Edge computer with a giant floppy drive (top) and Marilyn Monroe (portrayed by Nicolette Holman) pops out and performs. She later posed for pictures with, among others, President Jim Brown.

Seen at the celebration ...

(Continued from page 6)

CIPCUG, partner in Ventura County Computers, author of Rick's Rant for TOE and master of ceremonies for the program

John Weigle — TOE editor

Toby Scott — partner in Ventura County Computers, technical adviser, program presenter, Q&A session leader, former president and guru

Some key dates

1987: Club forms as The Leading Edge Users Group (Leading Edge was an early computer brand)

February 1988: Leading Edge Products files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

March 1988: Newsletter's name becomes The Outer Edge.

May 1988: Frank Segesman starts Y-Not Bulletin Board and first SIGs.

July 1990: Club changes name to Channel Islands PC Users' Group.

1995: CIPCUG signs articles of incorporates.

1997: cipcug.org website is created.

1999: TOE issues are posted online.

This is a Leading Edge Model D computer. It will bring back memories for the early members of CIPCUG, originally the Leading Edge User Group. The machine was an IBM clone computer with dual 5.25-inch flopy drives, 256 KB of RAM and a monochrome monitor.

Photos by Jerry Crocker

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

Photos by Jerry Crocker

Clockwise from top left: Jessica Scott samples one of the anniversary cakes. Windows 95 runs on an older machine. Toby Scott's Osborne computer, which ran on floppies, would not boot. Wine, books and hardware were among the raffle prizes.

More on Command.com ...

(Continued from page 1)

this event. To hear the laughter of the audience, to see the joy and smiles and glow of the faces of those receiving certificates honoring their dedication to this computer group made all this successful. A lasting image is when we were leaving the luncheon about 1:30 p.m. there were members talking and laughing and enjoying themselves.

I would be remiss if I did not thank all of you who put so much effort in this enterprise, but I will not mention anyone by name. I have thanked everyone personally. I want, however, to publicly thank everyone for their hard work, to those who donated items for the raffle, to those who purchased raffle tickets and luncheon tickets, and to everyone who attended, for without you the joy, and friendship would not have added to the success of this event. I also want to again thank the wife of one of our board members who vacuumed the entire room on Friday night. That was a gift I will always remember.

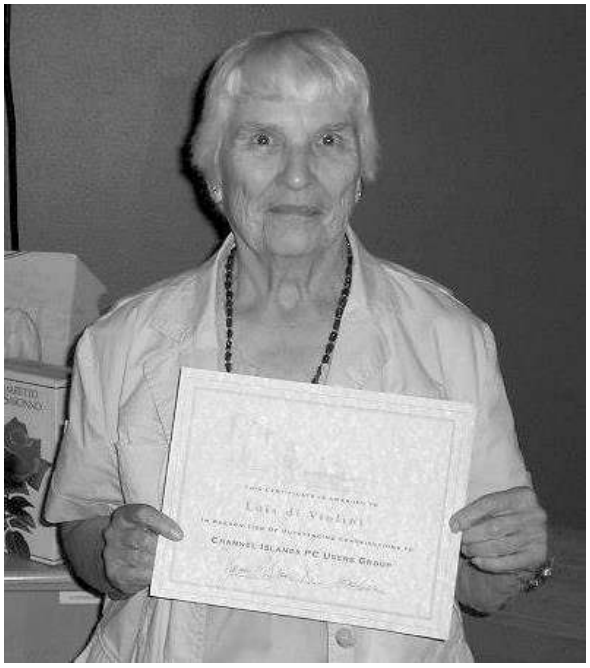
I consider myself to be very fortunate to have been a part of this celebration.

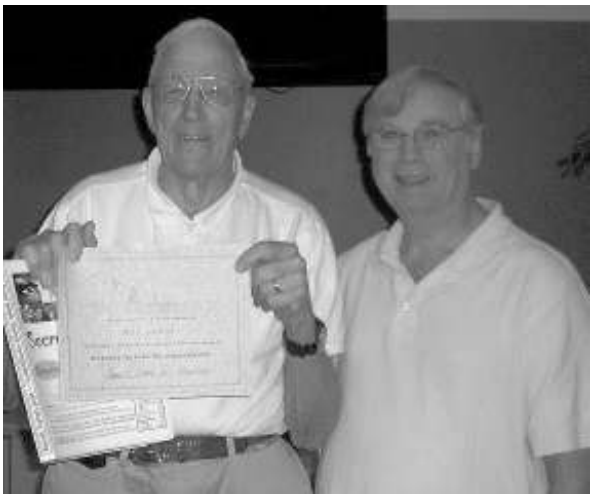
Remember that the October meeting (Oct. 27) will also feature our tech advisers giving an introduction to the new Windows operating system — Windows 8.

Consider bringing a guest — a club brochure will be available.

See you at the meeting.

CIPCUG news and events

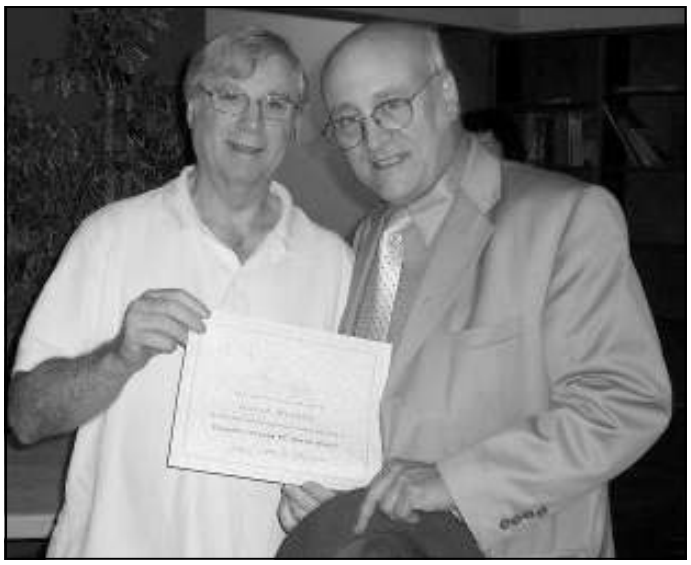




Photos by Jerry Crocker

Vice President Craig Ladd presents certificates to, clockwise from top left, Lois Evans de Violini, Noel Van Slyke (Craig holds the certificate for Kathy Van Slyke), Robert Provart, Art Lewis and Helen Long.

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS



Photos by Jerry Crocker

Recipients of awards presented by Craig Ladd are, clockwise from top left, Jerry Crocker, photographer; David Minkin, sound technician; Sandy Gelso, hospitality and raffle ticket sales; John Weigle, TOE editor, who also received the APCUG newsletter contest award; and Curt Davison, sound technician.

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

Photos by Jerry Crocker

Our chief gurus and program presenters — from top, Rick Smith, Toby Scott and Michael Shalkey — receive their certificates.

Treasurer's report for August 2012

Lewis

By Art Lewis
treasurer@cipcug.org

8-1-2012 through 8-31-2012	
Category Description	
INFLOWS	
Coffee income	-9.00
Donation	10.00
Memberhip Income	
Renewals 215.00	
Total Membership Income	215.00
Publication Sales	20.00
Raffle	80.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	**316.00**
OUTFLOWS	
Corporate Expense	234.00
Equipment	60.00
Raffle prizes	150.00
Rent Paid	150.00
Speaker Fee	200.00
TOE	310.25
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	**999.25**
OVERALL TOTAL	**684.25**
Unrestricted Funds	4,214.71
Restricted funds	0.00
Bank Balance 8-31-12	**4,214.71**
Year to Date Income	940.00
Year to Date Expense	1,529.25
Net Year to Date	-589.25

2012 contributors to The Outer Edge

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

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CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

If you weren't at the event, you should have been

By Helen Long

If you missed the September meeting, you really missed a lot of fun. Our entertainer, Nicolette, emerged from a huge "Leading Edge Computer" (constructed by Rick Smith) and proceeded to sing "Happy Birthday" to CIPCUG, and a few other songs and then offered picture opportunities for members of the audience while Rick proceeded with his master of ceremonies duties. He showed how the computer industry proceeded from Windows 3.1 through Win 7 and 8.

Bits & Bytes

Long

He continued on to read the names of club members who were awarded certificates of appreciation for various services rendered to the club. I swear everyone was listed and those in attendance were able to pick up their certificates.

We had two anniversary cakes (one chocolate and one white cake). Since I am a chocoholic, I had a piece of the chocolate cake and, it was delicious.

We didn't have to traipse down the road to eat lunch. The Pleasant Valley Lions Club prepared the hamburgers, potato salad, and pasta that were absolutely delicious and served it right outside the Boys & Girls Club door. It was warm but not really hot. I am not really supposed to eat red meat, but it's been a couple of years since I had a juicy hamburger and I enjoyed every bite of it. Please don't tell my doctor!

Have you run your anti-spyware programs recently?

Accessing Linux music files from Windows

By Bill Wayson
bwayson@gmail.com

Suppose you are a full-time user of open source software at home. All of your PCs run Linux, all of your applications are open source, and all of your file formats are free, open, and unencumbered by the threat of patent litigation. Your portable hard drive has been reformatted to the ext4 file system, and your entire music collection has been ripped to high-quality flac files. Now, what do you do when you'd like to listen to your music while working on a Windows PC with Windows Media Player? This can be a problem: Windows can't even see your music, and, regardless, Media Player can't play them. Luckily for you, a solution is available with Ext2Fsd and Xiph's Directshow Filters. With them, you can listen to your music with Media Player.

Penguin's Lair

Wayson

The first task is getting Windows to see your music files. This is where Ext2Fsd comes in. Go to the project website, www.ext2fsd.com, to find download links. There are several files available, but you need only the executable installer, Ext2Fsd-0.51.exe or later. Once the file is downloaded, run it from the Windows PC, which must be running Windows 2000 or later. Soon, a dialog box will appear asking you to select additional tasks to perform during installation. Make sure the options are unchecked except for the first one, which will set up Ext2Fsd to run when the PC boots. The installation is quick, and, when it's done, you will be asked if you wish to run Ext2Fsd's Volume Manager to assign drive letters to your Linux storage. I recommend that you do not and, instead, let the installation complete, and then reboot your PC to ensure that Ext2Fsd runs properly. Once the PC is running again, you should see a stylized Ext2 icon in your system tray, indicating that the Ext2Fsd driver was successfully started. Now plug in your portable storage with the Linux file system, wait a moment and then run the Ext2 Volume Manager, which you will find under the Start button, All Programs in the Ext2Fsd program folder, or from the System Tray icon. The Manager displays the hard drives connected to the PC, with their partitions. Your Linux partition will appear as a File system of type RAW and a Partition type of Linux. Select this partition, then select the Tools menu, Mountpoint Management. Here you assign a drive letter to your Linux partition and the method used to mount it. The method to use is the second, Automatic Mount via MountMgr. This allows your drive to be assigned the same drive letter each time you use it. Just remember that this method requires the Ext2 Volume Manager to remain running after the letter is assigned, so remember to minimize it back to the System Tray. The OK button saves your choices and exits you from the dialog. Now the Volume Manager should display your Linux partition along with its drive letter and file system type (ext2, 3, or 4). (Note that on subsequent reboots, you will need to open up the Ext2 Volume Manager after you plug in your Linux portable media and either choose Tools, Reload and Refresh or press the <F5> key in order to assign the drive letter to the media.) Now that your drive has a letter, it should be as visible and useable from Windows Explorer as any other. But still, your music is unplayable.

The codecs distributed by the Xiph Directshow Filters project will give Windows Media Player the ability to play your music. Downloads can be found from the project page at www.xiph.org/dshow — you want the opencodecs .exe installer file. Run it to start the installation, which is quick and requires no decisions from you. When installation is com-

(Continued on page 13)

General news, commentary

(Continued from page 12)

plete, you should be able to find your music and playlist files. Right click one of them, choose Add to Windows Media Player Playlist, and soon hear the music play. Enjoy it!

Not that there aren't some gotchas. One is that Linux allows certain characters, such as ':', '?', '&', and others, to be used in file and folder names that Windows forbids. Any such files and folders will be visible in Windows Explorer and file dialog boxes, but otherwise unusable and unplayable. Issues that others have experienced are receiving a "The parameter is not right" error upon logging into Windows (just disable User Account Control from the Control Panel, User Accounts Settings), and the Driver Signature Enforcement feature in Windows causing problems with the Ext2Fsd service. This can be fixed by pressing the <F8> key at the proper time when booting, then selecting Disable Driver Signature Enforcement option, and then resuming the boot.

Using open source software and Linux at home doesn't mean that you are unable to access your files on a Windows PC or use Windows applications with them. Ext2Fsd and Directshow Filters are two examples of open source utilities that help you do what you want to do no matter what PC you are using. They also illustrate that wherever a need for software is identified, an open source community is bound to sprout up and address the need. Such is the spirit of open source.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about Linux and FOSS, come to the October CIPCUG Linux SIG meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday the 23rd at Ventura County Computers in Ventura. As luck would have it (or, not), we no longer have a Windows installation on the CIPCUG PC to demonstrate open source software on. So we will discuss Ext2Fsd and Directshow Filters and try to help anyone with a computer problem or question.

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

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Ventura County Computers
Congratulates
C.I.P.U.G.
For 25 years of
Helping people use and
understand computers
Keep up the good work!

Beware of messages purportedly from your bank, PayPal or other financial sites asking for personal information, such as your login name, password or Social Security number. They are almost certainly from scammers. If in doubt, go to the site of the institution by typing in a known URL, not by clicking on the email link, and look for messages there.

CIPCUG NEWS AND EVENTS

Membership report:

Is it time to renew?

By Ken Church
email address: *membership@cipcug.org*

Welcome – **CHURCH**
New members: James and Usha Linderman, and Neil McCarthy

Attendance at the September 2012 general meeting: 51 members and guests (that signed-in)

Total membership: 181

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. 27, 2012, meeting.

August 2012 renewals payment due:

Mbr#	Last Name	First Name	Pd to Dt
0867	Pryor	Dorothy	201208
0474	Pryor	John	201208
1223	Reed	Dan	201208
0722	Smith	Gary	201208

September 2012 renewals payment due:

Mbr#	Last Name	First Name	Pd to Dt
1240	Bowman	Steve	201209
0714	Bryan	Bob	201209
0006T	Burnett	Bob	201209
1243	Fizzolio	Jim	201209
0613	Green	Gunnar	201209
1161	Greene	William	201209
0249	Greenway	Frank	201209
0373	Houle	Robert	201209
1241	Jensen	Elaine	201209
1093	Kincaid	Carla	201209
1037	Lerner	Robert	201209
1244	Rosenthal	Mark	201209
1242	Sandoval	Judy	201209
1235	Shaw	Wayne	201209
1036	Smith	Howard	201209
1150	Thomas	Ray	201209
1230A	Tolian	John	201209
1230B	Tolian	Mary	201209
1181T	Toscano	Matthew	201209

October 2012 renewals payment due:

Mbr#	Last Name	First Name	Pd to Dt
0034	Campbell	Gordon	201210
1107T	Carlson	Gordy	201210
0160B	Collier	Shay	201210
0160A	Evans	Brook	201210
0385	Forder	John	201210
1210	Fox	John	201210
1236	Hauge	Doug	201210
0990	Mehr	Steve	201210
1209	Nachian	Paul	201210
0901	Shelton	Charles	201210
0994	Zaas	Robert	201210

GENERAL NEWS, COMMENTARY

Plop, plop, fizz, fizz; oh what a relief it is

By Rick Smith
rants@vcmail.net

For the youngsters reading this, Alka-Seltzer is an effervescent antacid and pain reliever first marketed by the Dr. Miles Medicine Co. in 1931. In 1932 the radio show *Alka-Seltzer Comedy Star of Hollywood* began, with *National Barn Dance* following in 1933, along with many more. The radio sponsorships continued into the 1950s, ending with the *Alka-Seltzer Time* show.

Two years after its launch came the repeal of Prohibition in the U.S., and Alka-Seltzer became Miles' new flagship product, displacing Miles Nervine Tonic.

In 1951, the "Speedy" character was introduced. Originally Sparky, the name was changed to Speedy to align with that year's promotional theme, "Speedy Relief." He appeared in more than 200 TV commercials from 1954 to 1964. Speedy's body was one Alka-Seltzer tablet, while he wore another as a hat; he proclaimed Alka-Seltzer's virtues and sang the "Plop, plop, fizz, fizz" song in his high, squeaky voice (provided by veteran juvenile voice actor Dick Beals. In December 2010, Alka-Seltzer began a series of new commercials featuring Speedy, using CGI effects to re-create the stop-motion puppetry of the 1950s and 1960s, with Speedy voiced by Debi Derryberry. What's really scary is Speedy looks a lot like me as a boy

Rick's rant

Smith

That is exactly how I felt last month when the final hamburger was served. The 25th Year CIPCUG Celebration was over, and I got my life back. I may not be so quick to volunteer for something like that again. Hey, wait! I didn't volunteer. Dr. Brown called me and asked me if I would do it, and I couldn't think of a reason to say no quickly enough. I even thought I could get out of it by saying I would do it only if the board agreed to give me complete control over the whole meeting, something I was sure they would never give up, but they said OK. When that failed, I told them they were going to have to pony up a lot of money because I was planning a "Really Big Show" as Ed Sullivan would say. I thought I was going to get out of the commitment

(Continued on page 16)

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

I have the following Free/For Sale (contribution to CIPCUG):

One SHARP UX-300 FAX machine with Handset Manual (.pdf) http://pdf.textfiles.com/manuals/FAXMACHINES/Sharp%20UX300%20Plain%20Paper%20Fax%20Machine.pdf — David Minkin

I have the following For Sale (contribution to CIPCUG):

2 each Microsoft Mouse, $2 each

Internet Scrollin Mouse (COMP USA), $2

Video Selector Switch (5 inputs/2 outputs), $5 — David Minkin

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@ctimls.com
newsletters@ctimls.com
(941) 371-2743 Fax: (941) 379-2933 (800) 533-1031

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Spreading the knowledge of innovators
oreilly.com

General news, commentary

(Continued from page 15)

right then and there as I watched Art Lewis' face get all contorted when I disclosed the numbers. Yet again the gods were against me as he reluctantly agreed to hand over the cash. Now I thought sarcastically, "this is just great; now I'm actually responsible for making this thing work since they agreed to all my demands. Rick Smith, you really got yourself in over your head with this one." So I proceeded to actually come up with something that everyone, hopefully, would enjoy. After coming up with one bad idea after another, I came across all the old PC commercials and thought, hey, that might just work. Everyone will probably remember those. My next search was for someone to do a "singing telegram" wishing the club a happy 25th birthday. I came across Nicolette Holman from gigsalad.com (http://tinyurl.com/8kdl99l).

Here are a couple of links to some of her demos on YouTube.

- Nicolette's Jazz Demo: http://tinyurl.com/8m7as2o
- Nicolette as Marilyn Monroe: http://vimeo.com/47943021
- Nicolette's Opera Demo: http://tinyurl.com/8cmpnkn
- Satin Glove News Clip: http://tinyurl.com/9tz4ld7

That's when the grand idea hit me. I would construct a giant model of a Leading Edge Model D PC and have Marilyn Monroe pop out of it and open the show. In my ignorance, I had no idea how much work it would be to carry out such a "bold and fresh" idea. I must stop and say a huge THANK YOU to Doogie Seliger of Ojai who helped design and build my grand contraption. Doogie has worked backstage for theatrical performances in Ojai for many years and has lots of experience building props. I did hold the line on his idea of the exploding canon confetti bomb shot as Marilyn popped out. Doogie is licensed to operate pyrotechnics, and he used to order and help shoot all the fireworks for the Ojai Fourth of July for many years. But the more I thought of the confetti bomb idea the more I realized that the potential for trouble outweighed the magic of the moment. All I need was one of you old farts in the crowd to go into cardiac arrest from the shock of a bomb going off in your face. Many thanks to Jim Burke, John Weigle and others who helped clean up my mess. I think even they would have lost patience with me if they had to clean confetti from every object in a 1,000-foot radius. Nonetheless, I think no one really expected her to pop out of the PC so it looks like I pulled off a great surprise. When she started singing "Some Like It Hot" to Dr. Brown I was breaking out in profuse perspiration. I guess I'm not that old after all. For those of you who don't know the words here you go (by Matty Malneck and I.A.L. Diamond):

I got a fever
An inflammation
That's what I got
You turn the heat on me
Some like it hot
Look what you started
A conflagration
Baby, that's what
Don't let the flame go out
Some like it hot
Oh baby, I'm from that old school
I'll play it real cool
But when you kissed me
I lit up
like a four alarm fire
Call out the engine
Ring up the station
I'm on the spot
Love burns you up the most
Like it or not
But baby, I like it hot

Whew! But the crowning glory was her singing "Happy Birthday CIPCUG" like the real Marilyn did to former President Kennedy. It was awesome. So even though we nixed the cannon confetti bomb the show started out with a bang.

I owe many thanks to the current and former members who helped me trace back the club's history. They gave me the background I needed to trace the club's 25-year history. And, of course, anytime I lacked information, I just made it up. Those who were there probably said "wait a minute," but the rest of you who didn't know any better probably bought it. This is where being a salesman comes in handy. The first half of my presentation went well, and we were able to acknowledge most of the people we needed to. If I left out your name you're welcome to verbally abuse me for doing so. The club had a break for cake, and we were off to the second part of the show: The history of computers in the past 25 years. I really could have added much more as computers have changed the daily fabric of our lives so much in the past 25 years. The rise and glory of the Internet could fill volumes, but time being what it was I had to be frugal. I decided to focus on PC hardware first because hardware advancements drove the industry back in the day. PC World supplied me with the material I needed for the "10 worst computers of all time" because I wanted to do some sort of David Letterman 10 worst routine. I was also going to do some sort of Johnny Carson "Carnac" skit where I would dress up and Toby would hand me the envelope with a computer question. I would then telepathically produce the correct and funny answer. But that ended up on the cutting room floor because of time constraints and lack of inspiration. Maybe if the club wants it I could come back and do "Carnac" instead of you listening to Toby's answers. Sim Sala Bim to you all.

PC World also supplied me with the material for the "Worst 25 computing products of all time." Also due to time I limited it to the very worst — you guessed it, AOL. My apoligies to all of you who still use the "Internet service for those who don't know any better." Hey, not my words, go complain to PC World and Toby Scott.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the videos, but I couldn't get the dance chain going to "I'm the computer man." Wrong crowd, I guess. I can still hear that song in my head this very day. Maybe a lot of wine will make it go away. Speaking of wine, I hope the wine we raffled off was good. It was a very expensive chardonny, but time has taken its toll on the corks, and Chardonnay doesn't age real well, but I've gotten some good and some not-so-good cases. I hope yours was one of the good ones. Thanks to the success of the raffle I won't go down in the club's

(Continued on page 17)

GENERAL NEWS, COMMENTARY

Some Windows features and how to tweak them

By Jim Thornton
(jasthorn@gmail.com)

Windows 7 good things

Here's list of four interesting Windows 7 operating features that are totally different from the other Windows operating systems and very useful.

PEEK — On your desktop, you can temporary reduce the size of all opened programs or expand the size of all previously reduced programs.

1. On your desktop, click on the small rectangular button located in the lower right hand corner of your desktop and all open windows are minimized.

2. Click rectangular button again and all reduced programs are restored to back to their previous location and size.

SEARCH — This provides an easy and quick way to find things.

1. Click on the Windows Start.

2. Type the item that you want to search for in the Search programs and files box.

3. Select what you are looking for from the list of programs and/or files that appears.

SNIP — This is a special feature where you can copy or send whatever you selected from a program, a drawing, a photograph, etc.

1. Click on the Windows Start.

2. In the Search programs and files box, type snip.

3. Click on Snipping Tool.

4. Click on new.

5. Drag the special cursor around the area that you want to capture.

6. Now you can save, copy to the same or another program, or send the captured area.

7. If you like, you can arrange the captured areas for viewing side-by-side.

This feature is very similar to the services provided by the popular software program PrintKey Pro.

TASKBAR — It is very convenient to have your popular programs easy to access without the need to use your Start Menu.

1. If the program is already on your desktop, but not on your taskbar, right-click the program's icon.

2. Click Pin this program to the taskbar.

3. Now your program icon will always to be listed on your taskbar.

4. You can pin a file, folder, or even a website, such as the CIPCUG website, to your taskbar.

Possible improvements

There are several common and frequently used Windows XP and 7 features that I like to improve. These features include changing the quantity of mouse clicks required from two to only a single click; turning off all Windows sounds; and easily renaming a group of files. In all my instructions. "to click" means a left mouse click and for any right clicks, I will state a right click.

CHANGING FROM TWO MOUSE CLICKS TO A SINGLE ONE — This makes it much easier when using your mouse as only a single click is needed and no longer two clicks.

1. Click on your Start Menu.

2. On the right side of all the programs listed, click on Control Panel.

3. Click on Folder Options.

4. On the General page, click on Single-click to open an item.

5. Click Apply at the bottom of the page.

You now have the easy single mouse click feature.

WINDOWS SOUNDS — This turns off all of your Windows sounds, which I find very nice. This does not change the sounds in any of your other programs.

1. Click on your Start Menu.

2. On the right side of all the programs listed, click on Control Panel.

3. Click on Sound or Sound and Audio Devices.

4. Select the Sounds tab.

5. In the Sound Scheme box, click on the down arrowhead.

6. Select No Sounds, and click on Apply and then OK.

RENAMING A GROUP OF FILES — I find this very helpful in renaming vacation photos.

1. Go to Windows Explorer and select all the files that you want to rename.

2. Press F2 and type the proposed name of all of the selected files.

3. Now press Enter. Each photo will have the same name, but there will be a number in parentheses following the name starting with number 1. For example, London (1), London (2), etc.

More on Rick's rant ...

(Continued from page 16)

history as the one who sank the CIPCUG ship financally. It's bad enough they're taking about stopping mailing the TOE but for me to put the nail in the coffin would be too much to bear.

The lunch afterward was good, and I thought, hey, I can at least cook this well. Maybe the club can start doing some of its own barbecues in the future. I certainlly enjoyed the company, the ambience of dining right after the meeting with everybody.

All in all I am glad I had an opportunity to give something back to the club that has shown so much faith and support to me.

If you missed the meeting, you probably won't see anything like that anytime soon again.

For those of you who stayed through the rap video at the end, poor ol' Toby walked out the first time I played it. Come to think of it. I listened to it so many times I remember the words;

My PC has varity, if you don't surf you're not down with me. If you don't cut and paste you better tell your mother about your digital waste. My PC has varity.

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

GRAHICS 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

Initials	Name	(805)
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 10-02-12)

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

PCMag: www.pcmag.com

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

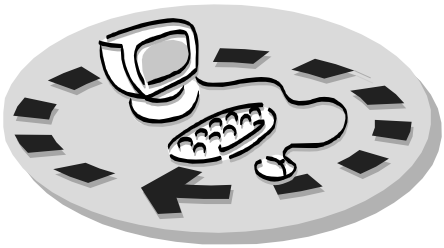
Ventura County Computers (Rick and Toby's shop): www.vccomputers.com

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 email 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? Please list on separate sheet. If necessary.

For CIPCUG use:

Date _____

Member # _____

Channel Islands PC Users Group Inc.

P.O.Box 51354
Oxnard, CA: 93031

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Please Do Not Delay

DUES REMINDER

If the code above your name is 2012 OCTOBER, your membership dues are payable in OCTOBER 2012.

October 2012 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. 27, at the Boys & Girls Club, 1500 Temple Ave. (Ponderosa Drive and Temple Avenue), Camarillo.

Meeting schedule:

8:00 a.m.	**Doors open**
8:30	**SIGs (Depending on available space we will have a connectivity and email SIG and a social media/tablet/ smartphone SIG**
9:30	**Business meeting**
10:00	**Q&A**
10:30	**Break**
11:00	**Program (Toby Scott and Michael Shalkey on Windows 8). Drawing**