



# JULY 2015 Newsletter

## Glendora Seniors Computer Club

*A Friendly Seniors Group Serving All Computer Skill Levels*

General Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 p.m.

Board Meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

Volume 20, Issue 7



HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
USA

### GSCC General Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2015

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**President Barbara Denny** called the Meeting to order at 1 PM and welcomed 22 members.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Next meeting June 24 is our Summer Potluck.
- 2) President Denny invited the Harringtons as guests to the upcoming potluck.

#### Program:

**Michael and Berta Harrington, Bright Ideas Technologies** presented a very informative program "How Does This Thing Work?" covering :

- 1) Parts/Computer Components :
  - a. Mother Board:
    - Nervous system connecting all together.
  - b. CPU/Processor
  - c. Video/graphics card - AMD and Intel

PROGRAMS BY: Program Chair:  
Annemarie Hunt  
(All programs subject to change)

#### July 8th

Backing up strategies  
Elliot Stern

#### July 22nd

Windows 10 Preview  
Francis Chao

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- d. Hard Drive – permanent long time storage (magnets and moveable parts)
- e. Solid State Drive (SSD) – no moving parts
- f. Random Access Memory (RAM) – temporary storage
- g. Power supply – distributes electricity
- h. Optical Drive – DVD/CD drives

## 2) Home Group (Networking/wifi)

- a. Intra – internal
- b. Inter -- Internet
  - 1. Wireless
  - 2. Wired – hard connection (Verizon, TimeWarner)
  - 3. Bluetooth – one on one

**Break:** Thanked **Ruthann (Barbara Klein)** for today's cookies.

## **Q & A - Jim Glass and Barbara Denny answered questions covering:**

- 1) Home Group sharing (Windows 7 & 8)
- 2) Apple – sharing control panel
- 3) Google Calendar setup
- 4) Picture sharing – Faststone
- 5) Google unlimited backup
- 6) Windows 10 availability – free from Microsoft (get the coupon)

**Next meeting: Wednesday June 24, 2015. Summer Potluck Party**

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3 pm.

***Submitted by:***

**Secretary Ruthann Mayrose**

***Approved By:***

**President Barbara Denny**

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**COMPUTER CLASS (Summer Session)****Windows 8.1**

Thursdays, July 9th — August 27th

1:00 pm—3:00 pm

\$45 to be paid one week before the first class

Includes study guide book

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SUBMITTED ARTICLES, FURNISHED BY Judy Taylour, of the Santa Clarita  
Computer Club

**The Tip Corner** – November 2014

By Bill Sheff, Lehigh Valley Computer Group, Pennsylvania

November 2014 issue, The LVCG Journal

[www.lvcg.org](http://www.lvcg.org)

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**Deleting .EXE files**

There is no problem with deleting any .exe files that you have in your download folder. Most of these files are setup files for programs. With unlimited storage, keeping them is not that big a problem, in case you ever want to reinstall a program that might be misbehaving. However, let me offer a word of caution. While some setup programs have the name of the program, many don't and just say "setup file.exe, so you have no way to know one from the other. What I do is set up a folder (within my download folder) with the name of the program. I then save the setup file in that folder. This is also a good idea since some setup files come in .zip format. Remember once the program has been installed the setup file is not really needed unless you plan to reinstall the program. If you end up with a lot of

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them, including some large downloaded files, you might consider saving them to a CD or DVD, possibly by year.

### **SD Card Class – What Does It Mean?**

We all know that SD cards come in various capacities, these cards, no larger than a finger nail go from a meager 32MB up to a whooping 128GB and maybe more. Most tablets today limit the capacity of an SD to a max of 32GB. But not all SDs are created equal, and that is where class comes in.

Basically it all comes down to transfer speed. Manufacturers use different types of flash memory to make the card. The class rating is designed to indicate the minimum writing performance to ensure smooth transfer of streaming content like videos. There are basically two kinds of speed designation. Speed class is a number surrounded by a large C and Ultra High Speed Class is a number enclosed by a large U. The defined classes are 2, 4, 6 and 10 and apply to regular mini and micro cards.

Ultra high speed class only works on specific devices designed to record video at this level. They are not interchangeable with other cards. The USH Speed Classes are U1 and U2.

All speeds can transfer photos and documents. Class 2 is good enough for recording in standard definition but class 4 and 6 would be needed for full HD video recording. Class 10 would enable you to record full HD video and also grab HD-quality stills from that video.

If the tablet manufacturer states a specific or minimum class requirement you cannot use a card with a lower class. For example, a class speed requirement of 4 will work with 4, 6 or 10 but not 2.

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A review of The TUG – MOAA Computer User Group meeting featuring social networks

Jim Fromm, Editor of The TUG newsletter. MOAA Computer User Group, Hawai'i

February 2015 issue of The TUG newsletter

[www.the-tug.org](http://www.the-tug.org)

editor (at) the-tug.org



We've all, most likely, heard of Facebook, Google +, Twitter, LinkedIn and others. These are the most popular, and populated, sites used by hundreds of millions of people worldwide.



But have you ever heard of Share this, or Pinterest, or SlideShare? If you are not an active social network participant, perhaps you haven't.

There are hundreds, if not, thousands of open and closed social networks available on the Internet. Go to the link I had in the article and you can see the entire listing.

With the prevalent and rather large 'bad actor' community on the Internet, Bear Maher, Program Co-chair, gave attendees a primer on steps to take to ensure their on-line safety.

1. Never use your actual name when setting up your profile.
2. Use an alias.
3. Teach your children and grand-children to not enter into on-line conversations with strangers.
4. Never post your home address or telephone number.

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5. Use **STRONG** passwords to access your account.
6. Don't post a picture of yourself or your family. If you must, limit access to the people you trust.
7. Don't be a narcissist and see how many 'friends' you can accumulate. In this case, there **is** danger in large numbers. See #9.
8. Don't click on links unless they are from a trustworthy source.
9. All networks let you restrict access to what it is you have posted. Others have to be given permission, by you, in order to view your thoughts, pictures and travel plans. Use this feature.

These networks can be very useful for folks who are house-bound; stationed overseas and want to talk and see (via Skype or Facetime) their loved ones back home; communicate with realtors when moving to a new geographical location or to just wish Grandma and/or Grandpa a Happy Birthday or Happy Anniversary; or to hit them up for a loan -- it happens you know. Or if you just want to make some idle chatter with a close friend.

There have been reports of social networks being used to help in emergencies.

Someone posts their intent to commit suicide, someone sees it and alerts the authorities in the location of the distressed person and they get there just in time to save them.

There is literally unlimited uses for social networking. But, alas, along with the good comes the bad.

Protect yourself with strong passwords and up-to-date and enabled virus protection.

In this day and age there is absolutely **NO EXCUSE** to let your guard down when on -line.

If you do, and get nailed with a virus or serious malware, you only have yourself to blame.

Here's the link to see all the social network icons and brief descriptions that were used at the presentation:

<http://tinyurl.com/kx7vtye>

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## The Amazing PIXEL

Jim Cerny, Director, Sarasota PCUG, Florida

October 2012 issue, Sarasota PC Monitor

[www.spcug.org](http://www.spcug.org)

[jimcerny123 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:jimcerny123@gmail.com)

Years ago my daughter had a toy called “Lite-Brite” where you made your own “digital” image by putting colored plastic pegs into a black board that had a light bulb behind it. We had to view it in a dark room to see the colorful image. It was crude, but each peg really was a “pixel.” You probably have heard the term “pixel” before, especially if you have purchased a digital camera. But what exactly is a “pixel” anyway? And what do you really need to know about it?

As technology furiously changes everything we are comfortable with (and leaves us in the dust with the dinosaurs) it introduces many new words into our vocabulary. There is no better example of this than how digital photography and computers have changed the way pictures are taken, stored, viewed, shared, edited, and printed. Goodbye film, goodbye Brownie camera (remember them?) and hello digital and hello pixel. A brief definition of a “pixel” would be: the smallest element of a digital photograph or image which has only one specific color.

So a digital photograph is composed of pixels. Millions of them. Each pixel (usually a tiny square in shape) can be only one color. Digital photos are usually measured by the number of pixels,, either the total number of pixels in the photo (such as an 8 mega-pixel photo) or by the number of pixels horizontally and vertically (a 1,000 by 1,000 pixel photo is the same as a 1,000,000 or 1 mega-pixel photo). The greater number of pixels, the higher the resolution of your photo. Usually more expensive cameras give you more pixels in the photo, and this is a good thing. The number of pixels per photo that your camera is capable of is shown on the front of the camera. When you take a photo, each pixel is saved in computer memory with its exact location in the photo

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and its specific color out of about 16 million colors possible. (By the way, I believe the human eye can distinguish around 10 million colors, so our technology used here is already beyond our sense of sight). No wonder a single photo can take up many times the space of a document in computer memory! It is at this point that I want you to imagine a “Lite-Brite” toy the size of a football field and a choice of about 16 million colors for the pegs. Work as fast as you can to create an image. And, so you don’t forget, write down the exact location of each peg and the color you selected. You will need this information to copy or do anything with your image. This is basically what a digital camera does in a fraction of a second when you press the button.

To see a single pixel, try opening a photo on your computer (go to “My pictures”, find a photo and double-click on it with your left mouse button to open it – it will probably open in the “Windows Photo Viewer” program if you are using Windows 7). When you are viewing a picture in a program look for a magnifying glass icon or click on “view” to get to a zoom option for your photo. If you zoom in far enough you will see the small squares that make up your photo – each square is a pixel. So, if your photo has a curve or an arch in it and you zoom in far enough you will see that the curve is really made up of tiny squares. So in this sense, computers really are “squaring the circle”!

How you view or look at a photo is dependent upon the hardware device (monitor or printer) or the software program (Windows Photo Viewer, Adobe Photoshop, Picasa, etc.) you use. Fortunately today both monitors and printers are very capable of dealing with high-resolution photos.

I guess the bottom line is that we will let the computers and the printers do their magic and we won’t worry about pixels at all. But here are a few tips that may help anyway:

1. Always save the original photo before you start messing with it. Only play with a copy.

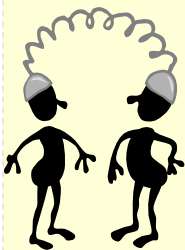


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2. If you crop a photo you are deleting the pixels you do not want. The cropped photo will have fewer pixels and take up less computer memory space.
3. Reducing the size of a photo may be helpful if you want it to take up less computer memory. Suppose you reduce the photo to 25% of its original size. That would mean that you are replacing four pixels with one pixel. You will have lost resolution but your photo will now take up only 25% of the computer memory space as the original. Why would you want to do this? Well, it is easier and faster to send them in emails and also many more photos can fit into those “digital picture frames”, on CDs, and on those little “thumb” drives.
4. You can print an image almost any size you want but you cannot “add pixels” to the image and get more resolution. (But I bet there are some programs out there that can do a good job of trying this trick.)

If you want to find out more information, go to Google, of course, and enter “pixel”. If you have lots of time on your hands, you can pretend that you are a digital camera -- just find one of those old “Lite-Brite” toys and make your own picture. It gives you a whole new appreciation for technology, doesn’t it?

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**The Computer Guys**, , *Ell Fullmer*, and *Jim Glass* will be meeting on the

SECOND Thursday of the month, July 9th

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon — Second Floor — La Fetra Center

Without a specific location designated in the Save In field, often the destination selected for a previous document will appear, in which case the document will be saved to that same location. If you are saving an existing document with the same name (as opposed to using Save As and providing a different name), you will overwrite the existing document with your newly saved document, so it should reside in the same location as the “original” document.

If you truly can't locate a saved document, run a Windows Search via Start > Search > For Files and Folders and you will be able to find it, as long as you can remember either the name of the file or a specific word or phrase within the document itself.

**Q. I just switched to Windows 7 from XP and I want to create an icon on my Desktop that would allow me to go straight to a Web site. Can you help me with that, Mr. M?**

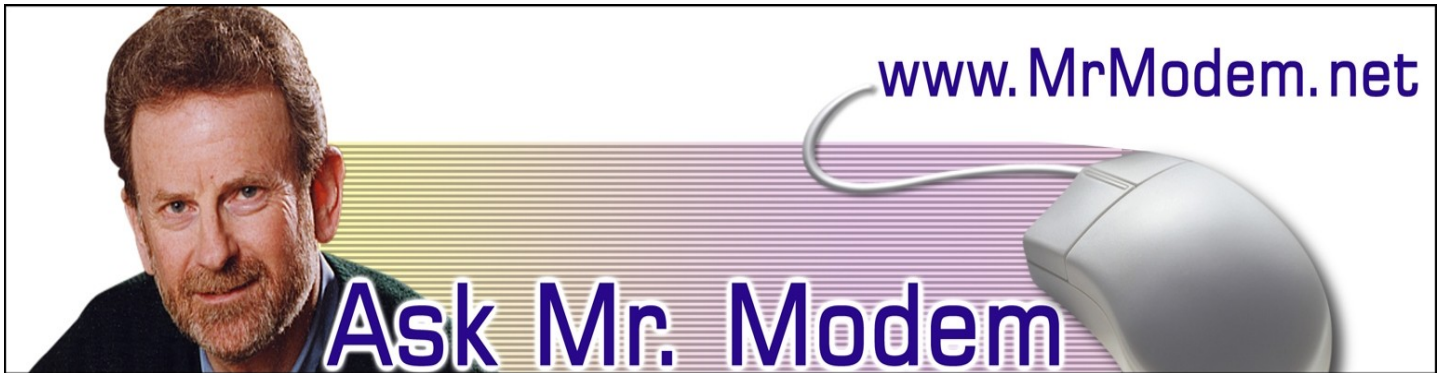
A. Start by going to the Web site to which you would like to create a shortcut. Make sure that the window in which it appears is small enough so you can see part of your Desktop.

Look for a little icon next to the address of the Web site as it appears in your browser's Address bar. Click and drag that icon to your Desktop and voila! A shortcut is born! To rename the shortcut, click to select it and press F2.

**Q. Do flash drives have a limited lifespan? Do they deteriorate after a couple of years?**

A. The general consensus is that flash drives are good for a maximum of ten years. That estimate depends on the manner in which the device is stored, as temperature, humidity, proximity to electro-magnetic devices, small animals that chew things, and small children that flush things, can also adversely affect the useful life of a flash drive.

I've seen flash drives fail in less than a year, though that can also happen to CDs



[www.MrModem.com](http://www.MrModem.com)

### Who Regulates the Internet?

**Q. Is there a governing body that regulates the Internet in the United States?**

A. No one person, company, organization or governmental agency oversees the Internet at this time, though that is certainly subject to change. There are some individuals who feel the Internet should be overseen by the Government, much like a public utility. At present, however, it is a globally distributed network comprised of many voluntarily interconnected autonomous networks. It operates without a central governing body with each constituent network setting and enforcing its own policies. However, to help ensure its operation, several key technical and policy aspects of the underlying structure and the principal "name spaces" are administered by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), which is headquartered in Los Angeles. ICANN is a very influential agency whose employees adhere to the philosophy, "ICANN if I think ICANN."

**Q. Where does Microsoft Word save a document if all you ask it to do is to save it? I forgot to use "Save As," and now I can't find the saved document.**

A. It depends. If no destination location is selected -- in other words, if the "Save In" field is blank, the default is usually Documents or My Documents, but that can vary, depending how Word was configured originally. You can check the default location by going to Tools > Options > File Locations and see what it shows as far as the default location for Documents. (You can also use Word's Help to search for "File Locations.")

and DVDs. Some CDs claim a shelf life of 100 years, which is silly, since CDs weren't mass produced until 1980, so it's pure speculation if they will last 100 years.

I would avoid relying on flash drives for long-term data storage. 10 years is an industry "best guess," but failure can occur in far less time. I wouldn't place all my digital eggs in one basket. I replace storage media approximately every five years, just to keep it current.

### **Mr. Modem's DME (Don't Miss 'Em) Sites of the Month**

#### **Pack**

This is a fun social media site with a focus on dogs. You can become the leader of your pack today and create a page for the pooch in your life. When you arrive at the site it begins by asking you if you have a dog. Just answer the questions as they appear and have fun!

<http://packdog.com/>

#### **Veteran Owned Businesses**

A comprehensive directory of more than 21,000 veteran-owned businesses. If you're a veteran and would like to add your business, click the red "Sign Up Now" button and select the Basic Listing, which is free. Fill out the online forms and click "Submit Your Listing." Be sure to visit this site often and support our veterans!

[www.veteranownedbusiness.com/](http://www.veteranownedbusiness.com/)

#### **Virtual Tours of Historic Britain**

Quicktime videos of many historic sights, including The Beatles' Abbey Road, Leeds Castle, Gloucester Cathedral, Stonehenge, the Master Modemshire Pub, the Tower of London, Oxford and more. Once the images load, drag your mouse cursor across them to view the entire panorama. Images require the free Quicktime Player at

[www.apple.com/quicktime/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/).

<http://britishtours.com/360/>

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DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR OUR TECH GUYS, *ELL FULLMER* and *JIM GLASS*

Fill Out the Form Below & Bring it to the Meeting

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cptr Operating System: Windows XP \_\_\_ Windows Vista \_\_\_ Windows 7 \_\_\_ Windows 8 \_\_\_ Mac \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

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Elected Officers

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Have a New

Email Address?

Please Notify Membership  
Chair: Helga Djordjevic

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Please submit Newsletter Arti-  
cles by the last Friday of the  
Month.

Type GSCC in Subject Line.

Email to Dan Leddy  
**ranchitoave(at)yahoo.com**

Committees & Chairpersons

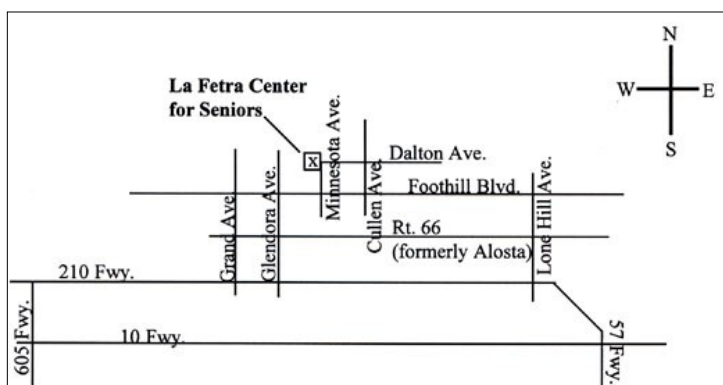
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