



MAY 2014 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 19 Issue 5

Memorial Day May 26th



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

May 14th
Windows 7, 8, + 8.1
Eil Fullmer

May 28th
Glendora Library
Gaetano Abbondanza

The Association of Personal Computer User Groups (APCUG) will hold its 2014 annual meeting on Saturday, May 3rd. The online meeting will start at 4:00 PM Eastern Time and is being held in conjunction with our 2014 Spring Virtual Technology Conference. Reports about your organization will be presented for your benefit. All member groups are urged to attend.

To attend the annual meeting, you must register

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May 2014

for the Virtual Technology conference by going to

<http://tinyurl.com/lcqkeu7>. Follow the instructions to register for the conference

In addition to the meeting, you will also be registered to take part in the 2014 Spring Virtual Technology Conference where you will be able to attend presentations on subjects like Photoshop Elements, printing and printers, Windows 8.1 and more, given by leaders in the user group community.

We look forward to you attending the meeting

David Seward
Secretary, APCUG

The members of the Glendora Seniors computer club send their condolences to the family of longtime club member Anita Sifrig

SERVICES: May 17th,
11:00 AM,, ST LOUISE DE
MERRILAC Catholic
Church, 1728 E. Covina
Blvd, Covina, Calif.



May 2014

GSCC General Meeting Minutes 'April 9, 2014

President Barbara Denny welcomed members and guests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Program **"Blast"** will go to paid members only now.
- 2) **Computer Guys** tomorrow (Thurs 10th)
- 3) Thanked **Jim Glass** for today's cookies.

Program Chair Annemarie turned the program to **Jim Glass**.

Jim's Presentation "What is an App.?" Application software is all **the** computer/phone/tablet software that causes a computer/phone/tablet to perform useful tasks beyond the running of the computer/phone/tablet itself. A specific instance of such software is called a software application, application program, application or app.

Jim mentioned two types of Apps – Android and Windows many are free but cautioned:
TANSTAAFL – "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch."

Some links for apps include:

- 1) **Gizmo Android Apps**
- 2) **Dottech.com**
- 3) **Makeuseof.com**
- 4) **Dripler – top Android updates**

Classes:

IPad Class is in its second week runs through May 8th Thursdays 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Beginners Class for Windows 7 May 15th thru July 3rd Thursdays 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

BREAK:

Q & A Ell Fullmer asked that questions be submitted in writing at the beginning of the meeting and answered questions on the following topics:

- 1) Membership lists – how to make Hyperlinks.
- 2) XP Security – “DON’T go on the internet!” DO NOT run as “administrator.”
- 3) Printer updates.
- 4) Wirecutter.com – a site for tech shopping.
- 5) Heart Bleed Virus

Other - The 50/50 Drawing was won by **Luis Martinez**.

Next meeting Wednesday April 23rd Glenda Gano and Barbara & Dale Houston will bring cookies.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm

Submitted by:

Secretary Ruthann Mayrose

Approved By:

President Barbara Denny

GSCC General Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2014

Possible future programs:

- 1) Team Viewer – remote access
- 2) Inpaint – Photo editing software – removing unwanted items from pictures

Today’s Presentation:

Videos Internet Connections on the Road with Geeks on Tour

- 1) Internet access while on the road Hi Speed Internet (Satellite, Celler, & Wi-Fi Hot Spots)
- 2) Facebook – Newsfeed Page, Wall, Help Page, Security and Privacy.

BREAK:

May 2014

Q & A Ell Fullmer asked that questions be submitted in writing at the beginning of the meeting and answered questions on the following topics:

- 1) Internet Security with Windows 98
- 2) Facebook Security

Other - The 50/50 Drawing was won by **Glen Moore**.

Next meeting Wednesday May 14th

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

Submitted by:

Secretary Ruthann Mayrose

Approved By:

President Barbara Denny

CLASSES

May 15th the Beginners Class will start and runs through July 3rd. During week one, you will get acquainted with each other and the computer. In all fairness you must have a computer at home to practice on. You will learn to change fonts, color of type, spell using the dictionary and many other useful items that can apply to letters, spreadsheets or that book you're going to write some day.

File management (what's that), will be covered so you can find your **MANUSCRIPT** somewhere inside that computer.

GSCC Club members are being offered it first, so sign up. The price is \$40.00 and includes a book. After that, it goes public. *Remember*

Submitted APSUG Articles

Furnished by Judy Taylour, Santa Clarita Computer Club

The Tip Corner

Bill Sheff, Novice SIG Coordinator, Lehigh Valley Computer Group, PA
December 2013 issue, The LVCG Journal

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How Often Should I Shut Down My Computer?

This question comes up quite often. Unfortunately there's no easy answer. Are you concerned about your electric bill? How important is it to have immediate access to your computer? What about your own personal preference?

Electricity Costs vary based upon how many watts of power your computer uses as well as what the local utility charges per kwh. Some say it costs roughly \$25 per month, however I do not think it actually runs that high. But if conservation and economics are important to you shut it down each night.

Wear and Tear does play a part, however today's hard drives usually stop spinning when idle and fans don't work as hard in sleep mode.

Many Processes continue to run which has the potential to cause memory losses.

The bottom line? When I researched this tip, the suggestion was to shut your computer off when not in use. However, I very seldom shut my computer off. I put it into sleep mode before I go to sleep. So I guess this tip was not too helpful for most of you. But just be aware there are many different opinions out there, so no matter what you do, some will agree and others won't.

Laptop Abilities

Here are a few items you might want to consider when searching out your next laptop. By this time, we know that Windows 8 is here and alive and well. But if you

still prefer the Windows 7 look, Classic Shell and Pokki are two apps that will give you that comfortable Win7 look. And speaking of apps, you can get an app that turns your laptop camera into a surveillance system that will automatically start recording when someone enters the room, or even set it up so you can turn on your camera from a remote location and view a live feed.

You can also download a face recognition app, which uses the camera to scan your face during startup to ensure that it's really you who is logging on to your machine. But, while this is more fun than punching in a password, it's a little less secure. Holding a photograph of you in front of the computer would work. There are other apps that can turn your laptop into an easy-to-use photo booth. Look for one that lets you accessorize portraits with digital costumes, add thought-bubbles, and even alter the color to make the photos look old-fashioned. These apps and software are usually not pre-installed, so until you download them, your camera will be less functional.

Many of the laptops, and all the tablets utilize a touch screen. There are finger and hand-swiping commands to be learned. Different brands can have different movements, so look them up to learn how to switch between programs and windows, shrink and zoom in, drag-and-drop, and more. Lenovo's 10-point multi-touch displays offer a wide-range of intuitive gestures that use up to all ten of your fingers. And, if you have Windows 8, you can use Customized Flicks to create your own touch screen commands.

Look for a laptop that has as a minimum an HDMI port, USB drives, headphone output, microphone input, and a DC-in. An SD card reader slot would be useful also, however USB connections could do.

If your plans also include an external USB3 device, you want your new laptop to come with a USB 3.0 port. Data transfer is up to ten times faster with a USB3. And you may want to see if there is a firewire port so you can hook up digital cameras. But whatever they have, take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with all its capabilities.

You might have noticed I did not comment whether it should be a Mac or PC. Today both contain almost all the programs you need. The cost of a Mac and associated programs are usually more expensive than the PC. This is because there are a lot more PCs out there which make it cheaper per unit. Most young people prefer the Mac, but that is because of the great marketing job done by providing Macs in the

schools. If your laptop is also going to be used in business, it should be compatible with the equipment at the office.

CTRL + ALT +DELETE

Occasionally a program gets stuck. It stops working and will not close no matter what you do. The answer is CTRL + ALT +DELETE. This opens a window with a few options: Lock, Switch User, Log Off, Change Password and Start Task Manager. The Task Manager will show all programs that are in use. Sometimes you can see that a program is not functioning if it says 'not running', however it might show that the program you are having trouble with is still running. This can be true or not. It could be hung up in a memory loop, or really just taking a very long time to respond. In any event you can just highlight the program you are having trouble with and click on End Task, and the program will be shut down. Using the Task Manager means you do not have to shut down the computer in an incorrect manner.

CryptoPrevent (4.2.4)

There is a bad program going around called Cryptolocker which locks up your files and you can only unlock them by paying money. CryptoPrevent is a tiny utility to lock down any Windows OS (XP, Vista, 7, 8, and 8.1) to prevent infection by the Cryptolocker malware or 'ransomware', which encrypts personal files and then offers decryption for a paid ransom.

Additionally, due to the way that CryptoPrevent works, it actually protects against a wide variety of malware, not just Cryptolocker!

You can get it here: <http://www.foolishit.com/vb6-projects/cryptoprevent/>

This tip was provided to me by one of my readers. Thanks.

Has Your Browser Been Hacked?

Many of you have noticed that without warning, a new toolbar appears in your browser. Or when you click on a site, you get misdirected to another site touting some product.

Since there is no such thing as a free lunch, and many legitimate companies are allowing this to happen, what can we do to minimize this unwanted intrusion?

Some times this comes from a cookie or temp file that ended up on your computer due to a casual click in a site. More often than not, it appears when you are installing an update from a legitimate program. In more simpler times when an update is downloaded, all we had to do is install it normally. We never thought of clicking on the custom update button. But that is what we have to do. If we click on the normal update button, bundled with the update are all the Advertising, Loading toolbars, Redirection, and other marketing tools. Sometimes the boxes to add toolbars are shown in the opening screen, but more and more they appear within the custom install, and there we are able to decline to add those pesky toolbars. So what you have to do is read everything you upload. The advertising media is big money and doesn't seem to be going away soon.

Fortunately, most of these marketing bullies can be uninstalled or deleted quite simply. So if you see some new icons show up in your browser, try to figure out what they are. Depending on your browser, there should be a section on "add-ons". Visit that and see if some strange toolbars are installed there. And go to the Programs and Features in the Control Panel to uninstall. Just remember: it is all about money.

Windows 8.1, iOS7 and Other Updates

By Sandy Berger, Compu-KISS

www.compukiss.com

sandy (at) compukiss.com

Winston Churchill once said, "To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often." It seems that this is the mantra of today's high tech world. The quest for perfection brings almost constant change. If you use Windows 8 or an Apple mobile device, you will want to read about the changes you need to make.

You get up in the morning and find that your Gmail looks different than it did yesterday. You get an announcement that there is an update to another program that you use every day. Get used to it. Change in the high tech world is inevitable. Most of

the time the upgrades and updates bring added security, so you don't want to stay with the old. You must move on.

This is what many people found with two recent updates. Apple updated their mobile operating system to iOS 7, and Microsoft updated Windows 8 to 8.1. Both of these updates are free for users who owned previous versions. Both add excellent features and increased security. However, both require the users to learn about how to use the new functionality. And, as usual, the user is given no instructions on how to upgrade or how to manage the new programs.

With previous upgrades of Windows, Microsoft performed the update for you if your computer was set to receive automatic updates. Windows 8.1 is different. You must visit the Microsoft Store to initiate the update. Just look for the green Store tile in your Start Screen. Then click on the Windows 8.1 banner in the Store.

Allow at least an hour for the update. When the installation is complete, you will be presented with the familiar color tile Start screen, but there are many subtle differences. First, if you want to search for something, you simply start typing what you want to search for. The search window automatically appears. What is different is that now Windows will search everywhere for you. You no longer have to tell it to search apps, files, etc. Windows will even search the Internet for you and present you with the results in one window.

Another change in Windows 8.1 gives you the ability to boot directly to the Desktop instead of the colorful Windows Start screen. Unfortunately, this option is fairly hidden. To turn it on, you will have to go to the Desktop and right-click on the toolbar on the bottom. Choose the Navigation option where you will see the choice to go to the Desktop instead of Start on sign in. You will also see other new choices in this area. They can be turned on and off at will, so feel free to play with them, if you like.

Several apps have also changed with Windows 8.1. One important change is that if you install a new app, it won't automatically show up on the Start screen. You will have to go to the All Apps page, right-click on the app and choose "Pin to Start" to have it show up there.

Apple's new operating system also brings many changes. If you are using a newer iPhone or iPad and you see a small red circle with a number in it above the Settings icon, this is the indication that there is an update available for your operating system.

Tap on Settings, then General, then look for the update and give your permission to download and install it.

If this is the update for iOS 7, once complete, you will notice that the icons and screens look quite different. This is a good thing since they have improved the clarity of the text and icons. Again, however, there are a few things to learn. In previous versions of iOS, you quit apps by double-clicking the Home button and holding down icons until they jiggled. Now when you double-click Home, you will be presented with all of the running apps as rectangular "cards". To stop an app, just put your finger on the card and flick it off the screen with an upward motion.

The Search on these Apple devices has also changed dramatically. You used to search by moving to the page to the left of the home screen, but that page is gone in iOS7. In order to start a search on your iPhone or iPad with iOS7, put your finger in the middle of the screen and swipe in a downward motion. This will bring up the Search screen and keyboard where you can enter your search terms.

Actually, all of these changes are good. Just keep repeating that to yourself as you encounter frustrations at the new way of doing things. Remember change is good and you are on the path to perfection!

THE ROBOT

A father buys a lie detector robot that slaps people when they lie.
 He decides to test it out at dinner one night.
 The father asks his son what he did that afternoon.
 The son says, " I did some schoolwork."
 The robot slaps the son.
 The son says, " Ok, Ok. I was at a friend's house watching movies."
 Dad asks, " What movie did you watch? "
 Son says, " Toy Story."
 The robot slaps the son.
 Son says, " Ok, Ok, we were watching porn."
 Dad says," What? At your age I didn't even know what porn was."
 The robot slaps the father.
 Mom laughs and says," Well, he certainly is your son."
 The robot slaps the mother.
 Robot for sale.





www.MrModem.com

Working with Folders

Q. I want to create a new folder in my Documents folder so I can consolidate several folders into one. The problem is, when I create a new folder, it appears at the top of the list of folders, and the ones I need to move into this new folder start with a “W.” I cannot drag the “W” folders to the top of the list to get them into the new folder. Do you have a solution for me, Mr. M? (Silly me. Of course you do!)

A. Folders will appear alphabetically, so click the column heading and it will sort A to Z. Click the heading again and it will sort from Z to A. You cannot, however, drag to reposition files within folders or folders within their own alphabetical hierarchy.

If you want to force a folder to appear in a specific order, you can do that by changing the name of a folder to anything that places it in the desired sequential (alphabetical) order. For example, if you had files named Aardvarks.doc, Apples.doc and Argyles.doc, and you wanted to insert a new file -- let's say you had another Apples file and you wanted it to appear after the existing Apples file, all you would have to do is rename the existing Apples.doc file to Apples1.doc and name the new file Apples2.doc and presto, everything will be exactly as you want it to be. If you want the Argyles.doc file to always appear at the top, above all other files, rename it Aargyles.doc or !Argyles.doc or any other naming convention that makes sense to you, but accomplishes the same purpose.

To rename a file or folder, click to select it and press F2 or right-click it and select Rename.

Q. Can I have too many devices running on a wireless router? At my house, when all the grandkids are here, we have two Xboxes, a laptop, a couple of iPads that are in use at one time or another. My wife wants to purchase two additional tablets, so would it be

better to add another router? Thanks for your always good advice, Mr. M.

A. A typical router can accommodate 50 to 100 computers and/or devices, so what you describe would not cause your router to swoon. Internet access speed, of course, will depend on the bandwidth available to you from your Internet Service Provider, so the more devices online, the more the existing bandwidth is being shared among all devices. Adding a router would not accomplish anything because you would still be sharing the same amount of bandwidth.

Q. I'm getting a pop-up that asks if I would like to use Windows Live Photo Gallery to open .JXR files? What are .JXR files and are they safe to open?

A. The .JXR extension is an infrequently used file format, developed for professional photographers. It yields higher bit depth and compression without loss of quality. JXR files aren't particularly popular due to the widespread use of Adobe PhotoShop and other products that do not support that file type. The .JXR file format itself presents no unique risks.

Mr. Modem's DME (Don't Miss 'Em) Sites of the Month**10 Life Hacks From 100 Years Ago**

Originally printed on cards used to strengthen cigarette packaging during the late 1880's, it wasn't long before these cards were used for advertisements and even inspirational and informative messages. During the 1910s, Gallaher Ltd. of London printed a "How-To" series, with hints for everyday living that provide a fascinating glimpse into life more than 100 years ago. Just keep in mind that these tips were written a very long time ago, so use your good common sense before trying any of the ancient advice provided on this site.

<http://bit.ly/1ehHnMQ>

Animated Engines

If you are fascinated with how gizmos work, as I am, this site provides animated explanations how any of 21 different types of engines function. Select an engine and you will learn when it was invented, what fuel it requires, and as you scroll down the page, it breaks down how each of the various engine components function.

www.animatedengines.com/

SwitchCam

SwitchCam aggregates the best concert footage (political events and conferences) from the Web, making them easy for you to find and enjoy. When you watch a concert for the first time, a pop-up explains the interface to you. Click the Okay, Let's Get Started button to make it disappear or you can click the X. If there are multiple camera angles for an event you are watching, you can switch between them (hence the name SwitchCam) by clicking a selected view as you are watching. You can use the set list at the left to skip to your favorite song. Use the Search field at the top to find your favorite artists quickly. This site is in beta (test version) as I write this, but it promises to be an up and comer.

<http://switchcam.com/>

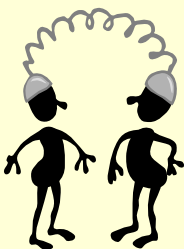
Use Promo Code MODEM when entering your six-month subscription to Mr. Modem's award-winning weekly computer-help newsletter and receive one month for free! Visit www.MrModem.com.

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

SECOND Thursday of the month:

May 8th

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



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 98 ___ Windows XP ___ Windows Vista ___ Windows 7 ___ Mac ___ Other ___

Question: _____

Elected Officers

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| President | Barbara Denny | dennyandassoc(at)verizon.net |
| Vice-President | Wayne Gue | wa212gue(at)verizon.net |
| Secretary | Ruthann Mayrose | ruthannmeister(at)gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Rita Norkin | rin369(at)live.com |
| Tech Advisor | Ell Fullmer | pakratt(at)gmail.com |
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Have a New

Email Address?

**Please Notify Membership
Chair: Helga Djordjevic**

**hdjordjevic(at)
verizon.net**

Committees & Chairpersons

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
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| Set-Up Chair | Bill Hart | Bobbibill(at)peoplepc.com |

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

Type GSCC in Subject Line.

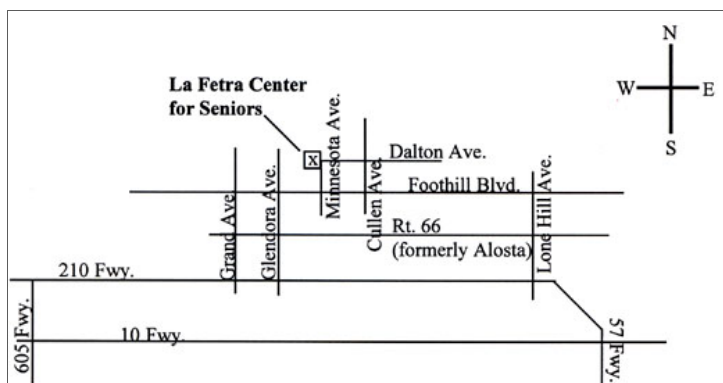
**Email to Dan Leddy
ranchitoave(at)yahoo.com**

Thank you to the following mem-
bers for help in this
month's Newsletter::

Helga Djordjevic



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We're On The Web

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