



June's Program

Tech Toys



For June members and guests will be presenting their favorite tech toys. We are expecting one guest presenter who will be demonstrating a new toy based upon a helicopter which is flown and controlled by either an iPhone or iPad. The helicopter carries a video camera which sends the video signal back to the iPhone while it responds to movements of the iPhone for directions.

In addition, we will have demonstration of an air card, an online access device which allows the user to browse the internet through a cell phone technology when there isn't a public wireless hotspot around.

What's Inside

President's Column	pg. 2	Dick's Clicks	pg. 8
2010/2011 Executive Committee	pg. 3	Special Interest Groups	pg. 10
The technician set up my laptop.....	pg. 4	Flash Drive of the Month	pg. 11
COMP Library	pg. 6	June's Calendar	pg. 12
Executive Committee Report	pg. 7		



President's Column

by Larry Mobbs

COMP chooses members of its Executive Committee in June of each year. This year we are losing two long-time members who have done a lot to promote and manage the club.

Later in June the Committee will meet and decide which members will take on which functions. Naturally, we are hoping for some new faces to help with the task. Over the last several years we haven't had nomination and we've depended on volunteers offering to join to fill positions. That works for us if people want to come forward.

Typically, the Committee meets monthly September thru June to conduct any Club business and plan programs for upcoming meetings. Most members bring a fast food meal and we eat together before the meeting. This is a good time to catch up on new developments in Technology and Computers and to ask questions.

The Committee will have issues to deal with as well. In June we will decide about summer activities such as the cruise on the Huron Lady and a picnic. We also will have to plan for changes in our SIGs, the Special Interest Groups. Our three SIGs have been meeting monthly but we are finding attendance is slipping and, as a Club, we decided in April to reduce the SIGs to just one a month and to vary the topics rather than have each devoted to a single interest such as video or photography. More likely, we will adopt the format of the Explorer SIG and look at a variety of topics.

In June, we will look forward to your input and suggestions and, hopefully, a volunteer or two and round out the Committee.



71 N. Howard Ave.
Croswell, MI 48422
(810) 679-4144
<http://www.croswellcomputers.com>



The Best Vacuums You've Never Heard Of



Custom Built Computers
Computer Repair

Vacuum Cleaner
Sales and Service

Twice Buy 5 books get 6th free

Told Tales

New & Used Books

290 Wellington St, Sarnia, On
Canada, (519) 336-3307

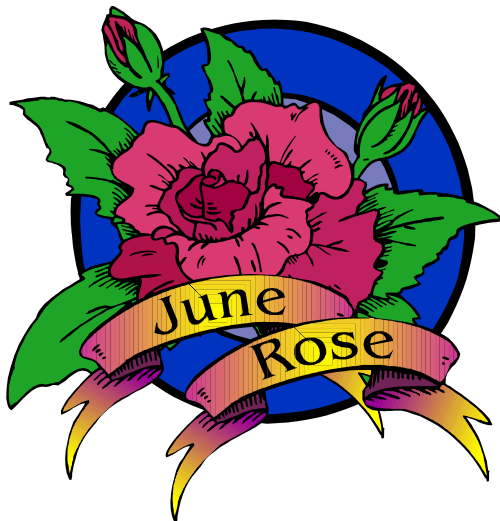
TUES- FRI 10-5 SAT 10-4

Avon & Regal
Representative

gverdon@cogeco.ca

2010/2011 Executive Committee

President	Larry Mobbs lmobbs@comcast.net
Vice President/ Program Coordinator	George Hawkins xseedman@speednetllc.com
Treasurer	Paul Cannon pauca@comcast.net
Secretary/ Newsletter Editor	Judy Callender callenderj2@gmail.com
Membership Coordinator	Jane Wheatly jwheatly1187@comcast.net
Software Librarian	Norb Demmel dasboot@comcast.net
Promotions/ Librarian	Sharon Kirby Agee hummingbird5@avci.net
Web Page Editor	Pam Raisanen phraisanen@gmail.com
Member at Large	Ann Mark c130.chick@comcast.net
Club Website	www.bwcomp.org
Club Mailing Address	C.O.M.P. PO Box 595655 Fort Gratiot, MI 48059-5655



User Group Book Programs



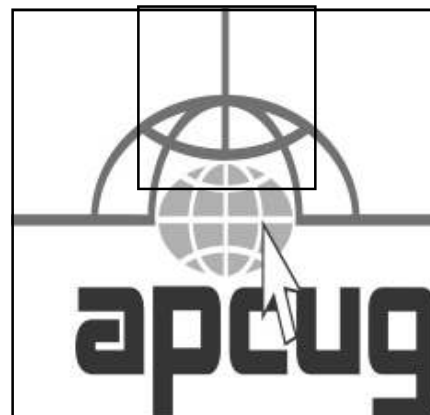
O'Reilly's site is <http://oreilly.com/>. To receive the User Group 35% discount on all titles enter the code DSUG.



Peachpit offers a 35% discount. At checkout, right before entering a credit card number, enter the user group coupon code UE-23AA-PEUF (case sensitive).

You can get a free book if you are willing to write a review. To request a book for review, or for book review guidelines, contact Pam Raisanen at phraisanen@gmail.com.

**COMP is a member of the
Association of Personal
Computer User Groups**



"The technician set up my laptop, now what do I do?"

By Gregory West, Member of the Computer Operators of Marysville and Port Huron, MI, and Sarnia Computer User Group, Canada

<http://gregorywest.wordpress.com/>
prospector16 (at) gmail.com

Ah, the wonderment of getting a new computer. No more having to watch others show off their computer skills as they demonstrate their new digital slide show, or listen about how they talk with relatives across three oceans for hours at no cost. With your new computer you are ready to join the online communities around the globe.

Three gigabytes of random access memory, 500 gigs of hard drive, a one year subscription to some antivirus / malware protection software utility and you are "good to go," says the clerk in the computer store.

"But does it come with a manual," you ask?

"The manual is in the OS software," the clerk says as he gets you to sign his copy of the credit card slip. "Have a nice day," he hollers as you lug the computer through the doors towards home.

"Ya right," you mutter under your breath

So many choices, too many decisions, but at least you finally got it home. Once you open the lid and go to turn on the new computer you realize that you have no idea what you are doing. In fact, you don't know a gigabyte from a Tyrannosaurus Rex, and you couldn't care less. All you want is to go on the Internet and check your email, surf some websites and maybe learn how to get those 265 photos from your digital camera.

"So now what," you say aloud to yourself? "Where do I begin," you ask your dog in desperation as she gives you that puzzled look.

There is an easy way to learn the various computer functions you need to catch up with your computer geek of a neighbour. First, you can take a formal course at your local college. These courses usually range from beginner to advanced. You can also take online courses (courses offered over the Internet), but this takes a special skill, as many people are not used to working alone and need to get out into a classroom set up with real humans. You can also join a local computer group. Here you will find people with similar interests who provide various seminars on tech-related issues.

I have been on a computer since 1972 where an IBM System/360 Operating System was the popular system in data processing centres. Over the years I have received computer training from all methods mentioned about. In fact, today I am taking two computer courses from books that came with DVD training programs.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

However, if you simply need to know one certain function on the computer, learn a software program, or how to troubleshoot a problem in your computer, I suggest Google's YouTube videos. Computer instructors, tech companies, libraries, schools and many knowledgeable individuals upload training videos to YouTube. Here you not only get free training, but targeted training. For instance, if you need to know how to install a USB flash drive in Windows 7, you simply go to youtube.com on the Internet and there will be many videos to help you through this process.

One tip for searching within YouTube for help, try using the term: "tutorials" with your search. Sometimes this will give you a full training course on the particular subject you are interested in learning. I use YouTube all the time when I need help with a particular computer program. But it doesn't stop there either. I wanted to learn how to winterize my RV and save the hundred dollar fee, so I searched for videos on YouTube and have winterized my own trailer ever since for only the cost of antifreeze

Gregory West is a Mac Instructor for Lambton College. He is also Webmaster at Central United Church, the home of Sarnia's new Community Computer Training Centre at: <http://goo.gl/76H15>. This is free and open to the public as a community service. Learn at your own speed.



WILSON'S
RUBBER STAMPS
1 DAY
FAST SERVICE

YOUR NAME HERE
1000 ANY STREET
EVERYTOWN, U.S.A.

YOUR NAME HERE
1000 ANY STREET
EVERYTOWN, U.S.A.

NO STAMP PAD REQUIRED

EASY ORDERING BY PHONE:
TOLL FREE IN MICHIGAN
1-800-328-1535
MON-FRI 9-5:30
SAT 9-2

810 987-2621
FAX # 810 987-6128

- SELF INKING STAMPS
- ENGRAVED NAME PLATES
- SIGNATURES AND LOGOS
- STENCILS & SUPPLIES
- CORP & NOTARY SEALS

WHOLESALE - RETAIL
MARKING PRODUCTS FOR
INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL
RESIDENTIAL
MANUFACTURED HERE
IN OUR SHOP

RON WILSON

4265 LAPEER Rd. PT HURON
1/4 MILE EAST OF RANGE

COMP Library

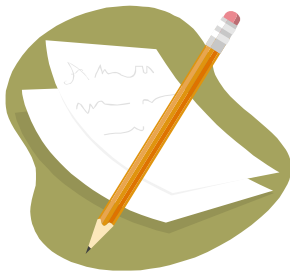


- Adobe Photoshop CS3 (one on one)
- Adobe Photoshop Elements (classroom in a book)
- Windows 2000 Professional
- Windows 2000 Professional-Bible
- Microsoft office 2007
- Creating Hollywood style movies
- Building the perfect PC
- Windows Vista (illustrated)
- Slide.ology
- How Computers Work
- Corel Draw 8 for Dummies
- The Digital Shoebox
- Power point 97
- HTML
- The Windows Vista Book
- Publisher 2003
- Adobe Photoshop 7.0
- Digital Image Suite
- How to use Adobe Photoshop 7
- Cortez Peters Keyboard Drills
- Photoshop 7 for Dummies (both windows & Mac)
- Computer Friendly
- Learning Microsoft Office 97
- Corel draw studio techniques
- Technology & Procedures for Administrative Prof
- Internet Explorer
- Word 2000
- Microsoft Windows 7
- The Photoshop Elements 7 Book
- The Photoshop Elements 8 Book
- Facebook Me
- How to Design Cool Stuff
- Color Management without the Jargon DVD
- Adobe Photoshop CS5 Classroom In a Book
- Color Management DVD
- Microsoft Windows Vista - Quick Reference
- HTML 5
- Microsoft Office 2010, Visual Quickstart Guide
- Photoshop for Video
- Getting Started with Camera Raw
- Adobe Photoshop Elements 9: Learn by Video

The COMP Library is available to members only. Books or DVD's can be checked out for a month at a time.

COMP members can donate or check out books or DVDs by contacting Sharon at hummingbird5555@gmail.com

(No out-of-date donations, please!)



Executive Committee Reports

March's Executive Committee meeting took place 5/17/11 at Jane Wheatly's home. Present were EC members Larry Mobbs, Norb Demmel, Paul Cannon, George Hawkins, Jane Wheatly, and Judy Callender. Walt Ludington was also present.

Program for June—Tech Toys. Possible "toys":

- Go Pro Camera from Larry Mobbs
- Helicopter toy from Paul Cannon's friend
- Facetime on i-Pad?
- Other tech toys to be determined

Future Programs—Norb Demmel will see if he can get a Microsoft Representative to make a presentation to the Club.

Pam Raisanen will not be on the Executive Committee when the Club starts up again in September. Some of the work she has performed that needs to be re-distributed:

- Peachpit provides a library book to our Club once a month, and will sometimes provide a free book to a member in return for a review. They also have DVDs for libraries or a review. Someone needs to work with them—they will only deal with one person. (Note: Peachpit has Adobe Press and Apple books.)
- O'Reilly provides books for a review, and may occasionally give a book for free. Someone needs to work with them. (Note: O'Reilly has Microsoft programming and the "Missing Manual" books.)
- Need an APCUG Representative—the Representative would need to send to APCUG a list of officers, membership list, and Club dues once a year. (Note: APCUG also provides live meetings and presentations "in a box" that might be able to be used in future programs.)
- SEMCO Representative is needed to contact them about 1-1/2 months ahead of time to let them know what and when our upcoming programs will be, so this information can be published in their Newsletter. *Judy Callender volunteered to do this, and to send a pdf of the COMP Club's Newsletter each month*
- Someone is needed to take over the Club's Post Office box (Pam will hand over the keys to whoever takes this over).
- Summer Picnic has been held at Pam Raisanen's home the past few years, but she does not know if she will be around this year (or in future years) at the time of the Picnic. The Club will have to decide when and where to hold the Picnic, possibly in a Park such as Goodells County Park.
- Someone is needed to take over the Club website.

Christmas Party

A Club member has made TENTATIVE reservations for the Club Christmas Party at the Dorsey House—there is NO OBLIGATION at this time. The Club will decide on the Party details in September. In the meantime, the Dorsey House will contact the Club member if someone else wants the evening of the first Wednesday in December, and that member will then give the Executive Committee a heads up. If we choose the Dorsey House, they want a \$100 refundable deposit, the Club would get the whole 2nd floor (an elevator is available), and members would order off the menu.

****COMPUTER CLUB ELECTIONS ARE IN JUNE! ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—PLEASE SPEAK UP!****

Dick's Clicks

By Dick Ramette, President, Computer Club of Green Valley, AZ

February 2011 issue, Green Bytes

<http://ccgv.apcuq.org>

Rwramette (at) mindspring.com

"Sam" likes being technophobic. He grew up happily without PCs, cell phones, and credit cards, and is amused by those who flaunt their myriad electronic devices. He quotes Clifford Stoll: "Why is it drug addicts and computer aficionados are both called users?" But, in reality, there is no such thing as a "nonuser," because of how computers permeate most aspects of modern society.

Sam's not impressed with how stores use computers to scan price codes, manage inventories, and arrange for shipping. He's uninformed about how modern medicine is highly digitized, from storing personal records to advanced diagnostic tools, as are all bank accounts, newspapers, magazine subscriptions, telephones and public library accounts. Travel relies on the computers of hotels, restaurants, cruise ships and airlines, and all newer cars are governed by built-in computers. The USPS and the phone system could not function well without computers, nor could law enforcement and fire fighters. Even the aerobics machines in GVR fitness rooms are computerized.

At the other extreme from Sam are the true technophiles, like the few elites in CCGV, whose computer expertise dwarfs that of the typical user. Nothing will do except the latest version of hardware and software. Some golfers are even using GPS devices to plot strategy during a round.

I'm more in the common mainstream, I guess. My two computers do enrich my life on a daily basis. My son in Wisconsin sent me an email with a video of wild turkeys near his property, and I was able to inform him, thanks to Google, that a group of turkeys is called a gang, a posse, or a rafter. See: <http://www.thealmightyguru.com/Pointless/AnimalGroups.html>.

I enjoy the Astronomy Picture of the Day, my favorite comics (those not included in the AZ Star, like Judge Parker), opinions on NYTimes and Huffington Post, and I sample the thousands of reader comments. I play Wordscraper with a daughter and a grandson, but do nothing else with Facebook. I download the NYT crossword, check movie reviews on <http://www.imdb.com>, look at political cartoons on <http://www.washingtonpost.com>, and note obituaries on <http://www.gvnews.com>. All my Pima Library reserves are by computer. I have links to the menus of my favorite restaurants.

I use Open Office spreadsheet to keep statistics for the GVR Shuffleboard Club, and I manage my photo collection with Windows Explorer and Photoshop Elements. I'd hate to do without email.

I'm content with Wordpad for writing things, including this column. I still write useful little programs using the antiquated QBasic. I measure my walks by GPS. But I ignore Skype, Picasa, Windows 7 and online banking, though I do order stuff from <http://www.amazon.com>.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

With my new BFF, the iPod touch, I play the Scramble word game, listen to music, take photos and go online. I marvel that such technology can be bundled in such a small package: it holds my lifetime music collection and my lifetime photo collection. And, as we heard at the CCGV meeting in January, the Apple iPad is even more amazing, now with 300,000 apps.

This month I bought a Blu-Ray DVD player and a 50" plasma TV, and I'm astonished by all the functions that were not available on my 22-year-old Sony, including wireless access to all the photos on my computer, and free streaming of Netflix movies. The old Sony still works, so make an offer.

And yet—and yet—I know that many among us, like Sam, are living happy and rich, productive lives at a more leisurely pace, without the comfort of a personal computer. Recently an AP story told of a NY mother who "unplugged" her kids for six months, with clearly beneficial effects on grades and use of spare time. Kinda like the way we all were three or four decades ago. I imagine them having coffee with friends, hanging out at the library, reading books, writing hand-written letters, enjoying family phone calls, pursuing all sorts of personal hobbies, blissfully unaware of all the richness of living in a computer-dominated world. And they don't send \$600/year to an ISP. Should I pity them in their technical austerity? Or should they pity me, for embracing the Church of Google?

Quotes of the month:

"Computers make it easier to do a lot of things, but most of the things they make it easier to do don't need to be done."

Andy Rooney

"There is a computer disease that anybody who works with computers knows about. It's a very serious disease and it interferes completely with the work. The trouble with computers is that you 'play' with them!"

Richard P. Feynman

"No one ever said on their deathbed, 'Gee, I wish I had spent more time alone with my computer'."

Danielle Berry



Special Interest Group News

SIGs are geared for members to share their interests and abilities in areas that range from intense study to coffee, donuts and conversation. Don't miss the opportunity to come early for dinner and tech talk.

Watch your email for updated news and dates.



Photo SIG

The Photo SIG will be meeting on the second Thursday of the month at the home of Paul Cannon. Bring photos or tips to share. We will continue to look at what photo editing programs can do. Bring your dinner at 6 PM or come for the meeting at 7 PM. For directions or more information contact Paul at paucan@comcast.net.

Video SIG

The Video SIG meets on the third Thursday of the month at Norb Demmel's home. Creating, and editing skills are covered. Bring your own dinner and come at 6:00 PM. The meeting starts at 7 PM. For additional information email Norb at dasboot@comcast.net.

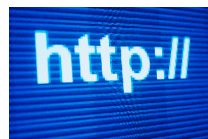


Explorer SIG

The Explorer SIG meets on the fourth Thursday of the month hosted by Ron Walters. Topics vary to meet the groups needs. To request program topics and location, contact Ron at ronaldw152@sbcglobal.net. Meet at Croswell Computers N' Vacuums by 6pm to go out to dinner. The meeting starts at 7 PM. (Enter through the front door.)

Web SIG

We will be taking our laptop computers to meet during the day at Vantage Point in Port Huron. Time will be scheduled on an as requested basis. If you are interested in joining us, contact Pam Raisanen at compinfo@greatlakes.net.

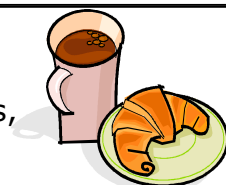


Pig Sig Dinner

This social event meets at 5:30 PM before the club meeting. This SIG is located at Tony's Food Paradise, 502 Huron Avenue, in downtown Port Huron.

Donut SIG

Come for coffee and donuts or just to chat after the club meeting at Tim Horton's, 3829 Pine Grove Ave, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059.



Flash Drive of the Month

by Norb Demmel

GetFoldersize

GetFoldersize is a free windows tool for determining which programs are taking up your hard disk space. GetFoldersize shows you which folders are eating up the most space on your PC.

<http://www.getfoldersize.com/>

Image Inc. 1.2

Turn your photos into art.

Some photographers like to blend two pictures together. Turning two separate images into one photo can create interesting effects. In the film days, this required darkroom tricks or a camera capable of multiple exposures. Now, with digital software, you can do this entirely on the computer.

Image Inc. is a free program that can help you combine multiple photos. You can use it to stack two images on top of each other. You get controls for the opacity, position, and scale of each photo. You can also add masks to isolate certain areas.

Image Inc. 1.2 : The purpose of this utility is to blend existing images in a very fast and easy way, using a layer mask for transparency. The process is simple ... load the base picture followed by a top layer image, then add a mask and the program automatically merges everything together. Ideal for anyone who doesn't want to use a major graphics application for this task.

<http://www.giveawayoftheday.com/soft/4843972/>

Advanced Computers Computers Sales & service, service, service

Computer, Printers Upgrades
Computer Training, Internet Pro-
vider

Hours

Monday— Friday 8—7

Saturday—9—5

984—3488

918 Pine Grove Ave.

Port Huron, MI



Northward Images

Photography Photo Restoration Instruction

by

Paul Cannon

***Individual training provided by
Appointment.***

Contact Paul at :(586) 291-9764

Email to: pauca@comcast.net

<http://northwardimages.com>

June's Calendar

Wednesday 6/1/11—General Meeting

- 5:30pm—7:00pm Pig SIG at Tony's Food Paradise, 502 Huron Avenue.
7:00pm—9:00pm COMP Club General Meeting at the Acheson Community Resource Center, 514 McMorrان Boulevard.
9:00pm—??????? Donut SIG at Tim Horton's, 3829 Pine Grove Ave., Fort Gratiot (the north-end Tim Horton's).

Thursday 6/9/11—Photo SIG

- 6:00pm—7:00pm get-together at Paul Cannon's home before the Photo SIG (bring your own meal).
7:00pm—9:00pm Photo SIG at Paul Cannon's home, 7200 Drexler Rd., St. Clair.

Tuesday 6/14/11—Executive Committee Meeting

- 6:00pm—7:00pm get-together at Jane Wheatly's home before the COMP Executive Committee Meeting (bring your own meal).
7:00pm—??????? COMP Executive Committee Meeting at Jane Wheatly's home, 1952 Harvey Rd, Kimball.

Thursday 6/16/11—Video SIG

- 6:00pm—7:00pm get-together at Norb Demmel's home before the Video SIG (bring your own meal).
7:00pm—9:00pm Video SIG at Norb Demmel's home, 2605 Riverside Dr., Port Huron.

Thursday 6/23/11—Explorer SIG

- 6:00pm—7:00pm Meet up at Ron Walters' store by 6pm to go out to dinner at a local restaurant.
7:00pm—9:00pm Explorer SIG hosted by Ron Walters at Crosswell Computers N' Vacuums, 71 N. Howard Ave., Crosswell.



APCUG Annual Computer Conference 2011

The conference takes place in Cleveland, Ohio on July 16 & 17th with a pre-conference get together on Friday, July 15th. Special hotel rates are \$79 a night. Look for further information both in this newsletter and the APCUG newsletter on COMP's website at <http://bwcomp.org/newsletters.html>.