



November's Program

FACEBOOK

presented by Wing Thiele

For our November meeting we are pleased to announce that Ms. Wing Thiele, owner of Independent Floor Covering, and a Certified Interior Decorator, will present Facebook to our members.

Ms. Thiele works extensively with Facebook in her roles as Co-Chairman of the Blue Water Festival and as President of the Fort Gratiot Businesses Association. She was recommended to me by a mutual friend and will show how she utilizes Facebook to promote the two mentioned organizations.

I've mentioned to Ms. Thiele that few of our members were active on Facebook but likely we have children and grandchildren who are and we should be acquainted with how to stay in touch with family with the service.

Secondly, postings on Facebook are available immediately as compared to our website which is usually only update once or twice a month. You might remember that during Paul Cannon's presentation on Fine Art America in October he mentioned that updates on his website there are displayed on his Facebook page automatically.

As a guest we will have Ms. Thiele make her presentation just after our formal opening of the meeting so please be on time—and why not bring a guest?

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President's Column

by Larry Mobbs

I've had an idea for the club to counter our diminishing attendance at the monthly SIGs (Special Interest Groups). We've maintained SIGs on Video and Photography for a number of years but we would like to have more attendance. My thought was that rather than do a monthly meeting on a subject like Video, why not have a mini-seminar series of three weekly meetings in a row?

The format would allow a presenter to show a technique and answer questions from the attendees. Then, the attendee would have a week to try out the ideas and bring their product back a week later. Hopefully, the seminar's shorter schedule would keep the interested members attention rather than lose it over a period of a month.

We'll talk about this at November's meeting and then, if the interest is sufficient, it will be discussed at our November Executive Meeting.



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2011/2012 Executive Committee

President	Larry Mobbs lmobbs@comcast.net
Vice President/ Program Coordinator	Jim Sanderson jim-donnas@att.net
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
Club Website	www.bwcomp.org
Club Mailing Address	C.O.M.P. PO Box 595655 Fort Gratiot, MI 48059-5655



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by
Paul Cannon

*Individual training provided by
Appointment.*

Contact Paul at :(586) 291-9764
Email to: pauca@comcast.net
<http://northwardimages.com>



Facebook Changes - Why?

By Gregory West

SENIORS NOW GET FREE HELP at: www.alternatecloud.com

Gregory (at) alternatecloud.com

Cyberspace is alit with flare-ups from all of us using Facebook this past while. People are screaming that they are quitting Facebook and going to Google Plus (many are doing just that) while others have already switched to other social media spots such as Twitter and LinkedIn. I personally believe, even though the Internet is amassed with complaints about Facebook's new changes, people will stay with Facebook. They will click their way into learning the new Facebook and any other changes they may throw at us. Why?

The adage of "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" doesn't hold water anymore, at least not in the online world where many of us now reside much of the time. Like it or not, we necessitate change online. We demand things work faster, easier and are activated from anywhere, anytime, and by anyone. Plus, these online companies are no different than "brick and mortar" businesses: they all need to make money to survive. Facebook is moving into a new arena where they can make even more money. "The company is expected to bring in \$3.8 billion in worldwide advertising revenue this year and \$5.8 billion in 2012, according to research firm eMarketer." (Washington Post)

While discussing Facebook, people admit that it is the first website they check when going on the Internet in the morning, even before any news sites or email programs - Facebook is many people's first choice for keeping up; keeping connected is very important to many of the 800 million users who now use Facebook. The Post says that, "Facebook is a technology company that wants to keep improving its products so that people keep using it and it doesn't grow stale."

I remember reading a book in college by Alvin Toffler: "Future Shock" wherein Toffler described how people would not be able to accept the rate of change. Toffler wrote, "too much change in too short a period of time". I believed this would happen, but it never did. The book was written before the Internet was born, although ironically, Toffler "popularized the phrase information overload" (Wikipedia).

We are a connected society now. One just has to look to the streets, to the malls, along sidewalks and in grocery store lineups. What is it you see? People staring at their smart phones, connected in a "brave new world." These are the people who are learning to tolerate and navigate through the rough seas of change, be it a computer, a tablet or a smart phone. It is so much part of our lives today that these devices, once called "toys" are now a major necessity. We are, and we will, continue to live with change - I believe deep down we must thrive on change, otherwise Alvin Toffler would have been correct back in 1970.

If you have a computer problem or a great tip, please pass it along to Greg at First Monday and he will post it in the next issue.

COMP Library

Members may donate or check out items
by contacting Sharon Kirby Agee
hummingbird5555@gmail.com

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
PowerPoint 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
Mastering Exposure in Digital Photography: Video
Get Your Photography on the Web
Understanding Adobe Photoshop CS5
Microsoft Windows XP (for home users)



Executive Committee Report

October's Executive Committee meeting took place 10/18/11 at Jane Wheatly's home. Present were EC members Larry Mobbs, Norb Demmel, Paul Cannon, Jane Wheatly, Jim Sanderson, and Judy Callender.

Christmas Party

For members who wish to attend the COMP Christmas Party in December, \$5 per person is due at the November General Meeting. Members can sign up and pay Jim Sanderson at the meeting. If a member wishes to attend the Christmas Party but cannot make the November General Meeting, they can call Jim Sanderson at (810)364-3962.

COMP Club Anniversary

The COMP Club's 30th Anniversary is in 2012. Committee members discussed ways to celebrate the anniversary, and to bring in new people. In the past, COMP members have attempted to get information about our meetings into the Times Herald, with only occasional success. So the Executive Committee discussed paying for advertisements of a COMP Club meeting/celebration of our anniversary. Suggestions for advertising the Club included:

- * An ad in the Port Huron Civic Theater's brochure
- * An ad in paper placemats (found in a number of restaurants)
- * An ad in the Weekly Jester (distributed by a number of businesses and restaurants in St. Clair County)
- * An ad in the Blue Water News Network (a daily paper found in a lot of restaurants in the area)

Future Programs

November—Facebook

December—COMP Christmas Party

January—iTunes on Your PC

Possible Programs

- * Computer Piracy
- * The St. Clair County library system will be loaning eBooks starting in 2012
- * A computer instructor from the St. Clair County Library

Membership

As of 10/27/11 the Club has 27 paid members, and 7 or 8 members who have not yet paid.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The SIG in November will be the Photo SIG at Paul Cannon's home on the 3rd Thursday—11/17/11 at 6pm if you bring dinner, 7pm for the meeting. There will be no SIGs in December.

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.

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.

Read this month's Executive Committee Report for info on the SIGs.



Photo SIG

The Photo SIG meets 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 pauca@comcast.net.

Video SIG

The Video SIG meets 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.



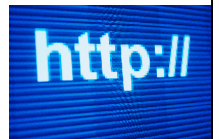
Explorer SIG

The Explorer SIG is hosted by Ron Walters. Topics vary to meet the groups needs. Meet at Crowell Computers N' Vacuums by 6pm to go out to dinner. The meeting starts at 7 PM. (Enter through the front door.)

To request program topics and location, contact Ron at ronaldw152@sbcglobal.net.

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.

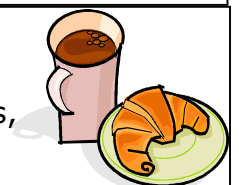


Pig Sig Dinner

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.





Merry Christmas

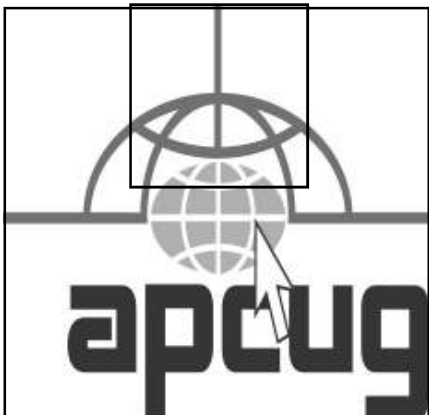
REMINDER:

The COMP Club Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at the Dorsey House restaurant.

MEMBERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND NEED TO SEE JIM SANDERSON AT THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING TO SIGN UP AND TO PAY \$5 PER PERSON (TO BE REFUNDED AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY).

If you will not be attending the November General Meeting, you can contact Jim Sanderson at (810)364-3962 to make reservations and arrange for the \$5/person payment.

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Flash Drive of the Month

by Norb Demmel

doPDF

PDFs are a great format for sharing documents with friends or for business purposes. You don't have to worry about file size, computer platform or what programs the recipient has available. That's because PDFs are usually small and you can open them on any computer. The only tricky part is creating them.

You could get Adobe's Acrobat program. They're also easy to convert using InDesign. But those programs come with a hefty price tags and you're paying for many programs you probably don't need. Fortunately, there are ways to create PDFs that are both easy and free.

One good option is doPDF. This program adds a PDF creator to your list of printers. Once it's installed, you simply select the PDF option from the printer list, and you have generated a PDF within seconds. It works with any Windows program.

You'll end up with a file to share that's formatted just the way you want. Your PDF will even have selectable text, meaning you'll be able to search the PDF for specific sections or words.

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

Scribus

A free desktop publishing program.

Have you ever wondered why word-processing programs have "cut" and "paste" commands? These commands go back to the old days of page layout. Designers would cut out parts of pages and rearrange them. When things were complete, the parts would be glued down.

Aren't you glad you can use a computer program to do this? Of course, word-processing programs aren't the best layout tools. Sure, programs like Word are very capable. But, for a print publication, you need something more powerful. You need a page-layout/desktop-publishing program.

There are several such programs on the market. Microsoft Publisher , Adobe In-Design, and Quark are the most popular. However, these can cost several hundred dollars. Instead, try downloading Scribus. This powerful page-layout program is free. Many of the features you'll find in paid software are included. And it is being improved all the time.

<http://www.scribus.net/canvas/Scribus>



APCUG Beta Virtual Conference



APCUG has been holding conferences in various cities in the United States since it was initially formed in 1989; this will not stop. With a Virtual Conference, the Regional Conferences in the real world are being augmented with a conference in Cyberspace.

At a virtual conference you don't have the face-to-face networking experience you have at a physical conference but in the virtual conference we are going to have the same type of presentations you would attend at a physical conference.

The *Beta* Virtual Conference will be on Saturday, November 12, and will run from 1:00pm-5:00pm Eastern time, 12:00pm-4:00pm Central time, 11:00am-3:00pm Mountain time, and 10:00am-2:00pm Pacific time. The time for members in Arizona will be 11:00am-3:00pm.

The *Beta* Virtual Conference will have two "Tracks," or two "Conference Rooms," so you will have a choice of two presentations you can attend at any time. You can pick one of those presentations and "go to that room" and watch and listen to a 45- to 50-minute presentation and ask questions of the speaker by typing your questions into a "public chat area." The presenter may respond to questions during his/her presentation or he/she may choose to wait until the end of the presentation. At the end of the presentation you will have 10 or 15 minutes before the next presentation starts. Take a bathroom break, get a cold drink or cup of coffee from your own kitchen, and then return to your computer to watch the next presentation in that track. If a presentation in the other track interests you more, you can close your current connection and click on the link for the other "Conference Room" and reconnect to iLinc in that webinar session.

In order to attend the *Beta* Virtual Conference you will need to go to <http://snipurl.com/apcugwebinar> and register.

Cyberspace is growing more important in the world of technology and this is APCUG's first attempt to hold a Virtual Conference. We hope you join us in this innovative adventure.



Deadline

The deadline for submissions for October's Newsletter is Wednesday, November 30, 2011. Submissions can be e-mailed to callenderj2@gmail.com, subject heading: COMP Newsletter.

November's Calendar

Wednesday 11/2/11—General Meeting

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

Tuesday 11/15/11—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 11/17/11—Video 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.





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